

## **SLIA Meeting Minutes - 6/21/23**

### **Countryside Fire Department**

Meeting called to order at 7:33 pm by Cliff Gartner

Board members present: Cliff Gartner, Kim Del Bene, Jeremy Vale, Sarah Owen, Laurie MacKay, Ed Meltzer, Tom Truffer

Homeowners present: Al Grandt, Bob Mihel, Jon and Kathy Schwerman, Conner and Natalie O'brien, Kathy Rockett

Approval of the May minutes motion by Kim seconded by Ed

### **Member Forum**

- Al brought up the weeds in the lake. Now that the lake isn't being drained he asked what we're going to do about it. Bob Mihel had the same question.
- Bob asked that the board publish their plan to address the invasive weeds that are thriving in the lake right now
- Kathy Schwerman said that the lilies and weeds are keeping them out of the water and they can't get their boat out.
- Bob had a question about if there was a policy regarding a buffer zone between lawn and the lake. Thinking specifically about fertilizer. There is a rule stating only nitrogen fertilizer should be used.
- Sarah has complained about a house with a bright light pointing toward the lake, the same house has dogs barking excessively.
- Natalie asked about the aerators in the lake and if they are currently on. Tom will look into it.

### **Vice President's Report - Cliff Gartner**

- Initiated conversations with our insurance agency to get quotes for this year. The underwriter is looking to raise the general liability. If that's the case we may need to get additional bids.

### **Treasurer's Report - E. Meltzer**

- Ed found someone to do the QuickBooks audit. It will be complete in a few weeks.
- We are down to 6 homeowners that have not yet paid their association fees. New invoices will be sent out July 1st.

### **Lake Report - T. Truffer**

- We are still in a holding pattern because of the lake potentially being drained. He's reached out to several lake dredging companies for sediment testing but hasn't received any replies back yet.
  - Tom is still looking to get info on a company that can do sediment testing
- We are in a drought, most likely the lowest the lake has been in a long time
- Water clarity is good, even without a lot of water flowing in and out
- We have algae but it's good algae, it's collecting on anything at the top of the lake.

### **Recreation Report - L. MacKay**

- Wendy and Dan K donated sand for the volleyball courts
- We have 11 teams for volleyball this year. It's the most we've had in a while

### **Beach Report - P. Lind**

- Beach sign has gone missing but there was discussion of where it might be
- Ed fixed the toy box

### **Parks and Easements Report - S. Owen & Kim Del Bene**

- We still need more gravel at Schwerman park but this will wait until we are able to get a border installed
- There is a slide at Schwerman park that will be installed this weekend
  - There is not rotting underground on the main park structure which is great

- We did not get enough support on clean up day. We're looking to change things up next year. We need to get more people in to make sure all of the work can be done
- Discussing Blue Heron to see where a pier should go. Steps will most likely be required.
  - We need to start by getting a group out there to remove invasive species growth

## Unfinished Business

- Updated Electric Watercraft rules
  - Would like to send these rules to the community at the end of July for two week feedback period, then member discussion during our August board meeting. Vote would be at the Sept annual meeting.
- Fallen tree in Ravina Bay
  - Dear Sylvan Board Members; as I was waiting for the lake to be lowered to remove the rest of the tree, I contacted Trees R Us to remove the rest of the tree. Their charge is \$1800 to come and remove the rest of the tree from the lake. Since the lake will not be lowered until sometime later, and our property extends out into that area of the lake, and due to their expenses and others I have, I have decided to just let it be for now. When the lake is lowered it will be easy to remove the remains of the tree.  
Sincerely, Mary M. Harroun
- Sediment testing
  - Board should research bio-dredging. Loch Lomond is performing bio-dredging with early success. See the following:
    - <https://clean-flo.com/bio-dredging/>
    - <https://www.solitudelakemanagement.com/bio-dredging-dredging-with-bacteria/>
    - [https://www.killlakeweeds.com/products/aquaclear-pellets?gclid=Cj0KCQjwnMWkBhDLARIsAHBOfToOppSpnheRNqNfRPVp6BUD-puCHH3B2aGhrxvNDLgRB0WyeA4csuoaAhpIEALw\\_wcB](https://www.killlakeweeds.com/products/aquaclear-pellets?gclid=Cj0KCQjwnMWkBhDLARIsAHBOfToOppSpnheRNqNfRPVp6BUD-puCHH3B2aGhrxvNDLgRB0WyeA4csuoaAhpIEALw_wcB)
- Weed analysis – Non-native, Native, appropriate levels
  - Need a balanced approach. Yes, they're good for water quality and fish, and we need plant life. But we're also a lake for boating and swimming.
  - With the way the Dam project is progressing, there's no guarantee the lake will be lowered soon. We can't keep putting weed management on hold.
  - Curly leaf is getting worse and can spread to the entire lake if not managed. This is not a weed that we want to leave unchecked. Loch Lomond has had issues with this weed spreading to the entire lake and had to hire a company to rake in all the curly leaf weeds with a specialized boat. And that's a cost that didn't even address root cause. We should look into managing this weed prior to lowering the lake. Board vote to move forward.
    - **The board voted on if we should take action to manage the curly leaf as it's an invasive species. The board voted unanimously to take action. Tom will work on making a plan and it will be published.**
  - New algae is on the lake. It floats and attaches itself to existing plant life in the lake. What is it? Native/Non-Native? Is it treatable?
  - Lily pads are getting progressively worse just within the last year. I suspect it's due to more muck on the bottom (observed near me), which is prolific with weed roots. This should not be left unmanaged, and we need a treatment plan. Not remove entirely, but a balanced approach to managing maybe in combination with bio-dredging. Board vote to move forward with lily-pad management.
    - **The board voted on if we should have professionals like Scientific Aquatic come make recommendations and a bid regarding lily pads. The board voted unanimously in favor.**
      - **We discussed getting an email out asking for community volunteers to help clear lilies from the beach area for the 4th of July**
    - Path created for boats from the bay docks out to the bay openings by Scientific Aquatics, status?
      - Tom will follow up now that we know the lake won't be drained this year
  - Weeds are starting to encroach in the beach swimming area. The beach area should be clear for swimming for safety and visibility. Board vote to move forward with treatment this year.
    - **We're going to let volunteers handle this in the immediate timeline and expect to get a bid from a professional company**
- There is still stuff on the side of the beach shed, some of it will be used but some of it is trash. We'll look to get the garbage thrown away.

## New Business

- Maple Park Shoreline – Board already agreed to move forward with managed shoreline work. Make it formal with vote if necessary.
  - The work has already begun. Currently there is work to control the invasive species on the shore.
- Kim had a community member bring up the idea of getting a discount on their HOA fees for volunteering. We need to discuss this further.
- There are a number of boats around the lake that need to be cared for. We will most likely need to check boat stickers and ask owners to engage.

Closing of meeting: Motioned by Ed seconded by Tom

Next Board Meeting will be in 7/19/2023

Respectfully submitted, Jeremy Vale, Secretary