

SLIA Meeting Minutes - 7/19/23

Countryside Fire Department

Meeting called to order at 7:30 pm by Dan

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

Homeowners present: Tom Powell, John Hynds, Jon and Kathy Schwerman, Glen and Mariann Mortensen, Marlene and Nick Kirby, Ton and Dawn Owen, Lynn Simet, Alyssa Casey, John and Ellen Miller, Patti and Al Burmeister, Olga and Vlad Zavialov, Nancy Hanson, Karen Doane, Jean Gartner

Approval of the June minutes motion by Cliff seconded by Kim

Member Forum

- Nick Kirby wanted to know when Oktoberfest will be. He also wanted to share that he can't use his boat because of the lily pads.
- Marlene Kirby said there is a chemical that does not hurt the fish or the lake and even physical chopping tools that can be used to cut lily pads.
- Patty Burmeister brought a poster with pictures of before and after lily pads and algae mat. They can't swim off of their dock. She is asking that we come up with a solution for both the amount of lilies and algae. She has a petition with over 30 homes that have signed it asking for action. She is also concerned about the bugs on the lily pads.
- Dawn Owen said that everyone that has come to share the same sentiment. Tom Owen shared that it's gotten out of hand. They have been here for 11 years and this is the worst they have seen. Dawn asked about the level of algae and why it's more than they have seen in 11 years.
- John Miller, the lily pads keep the water still which allows for the algae blooms. He's concerned about the value of his home. Asked if we can come to an agreement that we're not waiting for the dam project anymore. Asked if there was an option to get rid of all of the lily pads.
- Kathy Schwerman, the lake used to not be this way, lily pads were planted in her bay without her permission.
- Nancy Hanson, the grill at the beach is not working well and she's hoping for a solution. It's missing pieces and not heating equally. She had someone come and take a look and it requires custom parts.
- Lynn Simet, every Monday she tries to clear the lily pads near her dock. She can't clear the algae. She spends 2 hours a week trying to take care of it. She asked how much we're willing to spend to care for the lake.
- Ed Meltzer shared that the curly leaf is non-native and is a concern. He is concerned that if we treat the lily pads with chemicals and they turn brown it doesn't make our immediate situation better.
 - Dan shared a history of the board's involvement with lilies to this point and the options we've discussed. In early June when we found out that the lake wouldn't be lowered we determined to get some estimates for weed management options. What are all of our options, how much does it cost, how many plants do we need to keep a healthy eco system and what is native vs non-native. Shared that we're looking into bio dredging. Pellets are put into the lake to dissolve the muck at the bottom of the lake.
 - Tom Truffer shared that scientific aquatic has been coming out and they have not seen a need to treat the lake with chemicals. We've had a serious drought and this has allowed the algae to grow to the levels that we have now. There is a difference between the algae we have and the blue green algae that we have not seen this year.
- John Hynds shared that the lake was dead in the 70's. This is the first year since the 80's that we haven't had to use chemicals for the blue green algae. Shared that Lake County Health has been waiting until the lake is drained until they come out to test it. He warned that the eco system is very fragile in the lake.
- Al Burmeister asked that the board keeps the community informed on what our plan is with the lake. There are too many lily pads on the lake
- Alyssa Casey asked about the testing from Lake County and if they only test at the beach does it mean the whole lake or only parts of the lake are clean/dirty? Asked what we can do when the lake is lowered and if we can make a plan around it for the good of the lake.
- Marlene Kirby has asked if anyone has investigated a trolling motor option to cut the lilies
- Karen Doane Asked what kind of timeline we are working with to take action? Asked if we're looking at a short term and long term solution.
- Glen Mortenson asked that we find a mechanical solution which should keep the lake healthy. He wanted to share that he would appreciate it if trolling motors are allowed, that there would be an exception for those handicapped to be able to use their boats.
- Mariann Mortenson asked who will be making the final decision regarding the lily pads, algae and weed management

- Olga Zavalov encouraged the board to meet the homeowners in the middle on this issue

Vice President's Report - Cliff Gartner

- We're still waiting on 2 insurance quotes for the general liability and umbrella policy. All other quotes are in.

Treasurer's Report - E. Meltzer

- Still has the consultant working to balance the books
- There are still 4 homeowners that have not paid their association fees
 - Motion from Dan to move to collections, second by Cliff. **All of the board in approval**

Lake Report - T. Truffer

- Need to get a spare part for the aerator

Recreation Report - L. MacKay

- Volleyball is going well. We have 3 more weeks. August 12th is the tournament

Beach Report - P. Lind

- Not Present

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

- We are waiting to get more slides to be sandblasted and picked up. Some have already been installed.

Unfinished Business

- Electric Watercraft rules
 - Will be sending 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.
- 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
- Weed Management
 - Have reached out to two companies to assess our lake and recommend a weed management plan
 - McCloud Aquatics – Referral from Loch Lomond. Met with them on Jun 30th. Quote expected this week.
 - Aquatic Ecosystems Management – Referral from Tall Grass Restorations. Spoke with them on Jun 28th and they were going to assess our lake and get back to us. Follow-ups have been sent and are waiting for their response.

New Business

- Beach Rules sign is missing and we're looking for it
- Beach was closed due to high levels of E. Coli. Reassessment will be done by Lake County Health Dept and will notify us when the beach can be re-opened.
 - Beach is now open
- The doors were painted on the shed but there are shingles that fell off. Peter may be in the process of fixing it but we need to confirm.
- The grill at the beach - Many of the burners don't work, the knobs for the burners aren't there so you have to use a wrench, 2 burners do not work, it's got a lot of rust. We're going to get a quote to repair it before looking into renting or purchasing a new one.
- Tentative date for Oktoberfest is Saturday 10/7

Closing of meeting: Motioned by Dan seconded by Kim

Next Board Meeting will be in 8/16/2023

Respectfully submitted, Jeremy Vale, Secretary