

Hidden Harbour Lake Association Annual Meeting

May 18, 2017

Board Members in attendance: Jan Siotkowski, Jim Nally, Steve Roberts, Michel Soubeyrand, Larry Goodheart, John Rutter, Jim Norton.

1. Welcome & Introductions of Board Members – there were approximately 14 residents in attendance.

2. Financial Report by Michel Soubeyrand. Michel reviewed the 2016 budget in detail. The budget is on track for this year with no surprise expenditures expected. A resident inquired why only one assessment was collected in 2016. It was explained that the reserves were in excess of \$30K so the board felt a waiver of one of the assessments was in order. In 2017 the fee collection will once again be carried out in both January and July. A motion was made by Ken Wolfe and seconded by Joey Apgar to donate \$500.00 to support July fireworks this year. This motion was approved. See attached Budget

3. Status of weeds in lake by Jim Nally.

a. Jim Nally reminded the residents that a weed survey had been carried out that indicated that the weeds covered 25% of the lake floor – this was deemed acceptable at the time. It was determined that perhaps we need to carry out another survey.

b. Jim once again emphasized that one of the problems we have is that fertilizer that is used to nourish our lawns ends up in the lake where it feeds the weeds. Jim recommended that our lawns were treated fewer times a year with fertilizer or had each application cut in half.

c. Aqua Doc has been hired to treat the lake weeds at a cost of \$4,900.00 per season. The advantages of using AquaDoc on a scheduled basis are that the weeds will be treated early enough in the season to be effective and the chemicals will be applied gradually rather than having large amounts of herbicide applied all at once. Eight areas of the lake have been targeted and will receive up to five applications this season. A notice will be sent out to residents prior to herbicide application. Although there is no swimming restriction after application of the chemicals, residents can decide for themselves whether to swim or not.

4. Water Quality Testing by Larry Goodheart. Larry discussed the need to put together a long range management program so that we can have a cost effective sampling regimen focusing on water quality as regards swimming and fishing. The target of testing will be herbicides, E.coli, nitrogen and phosphorous. The committee plans to meet with a vendor who offers this service in

June. In the past testing has been done by a local company with samples being taking by board members.

5. Geese Control by Jim Nally. The Department of Natural Resources allows residents to control the goose population by degrading the eggs. Shaking or punching a hole in the eggs are two of the primary strategies used. This year 40 eggs from 15 nests have been degraded. It is important not to destroy the eggs so that the geese will continue sitting on them as opposed to laying more. We are allowed to harass the geese, but not hurt them, if you find them near your home.

6. Lake Level by Jan Siotkowski. The lake level is determined by rainfall. When the area was developed, the Lucas County Engineer installed an 8-inch drain leading to the Frog Pond, which leads to the storm sewer leading to Swan Creek and eventually to Lake Erie. This controls the high level of the lake to prevent flooding in basements and crawl spaces. Usually because of seasonal precipitation patterns the lake is higher in the spring and lower in the fall in winter.

7. Update from Friends of the Baja by Karen Soubeyrand. This organization was started in 2014 with the goals of 1) removal of invasive species and 2) introduction of native plants. In 2017 there has been work at removing Knapweed from the Baja. Numerous Oak Openings native plants were purchased and planted on May 13 by volunteers. Invasive species that are challenging to the Baja include Buckthorn, Honeysuckle and Phragmites. Local native species that have been planted include Black Chokeberry, Flowering Dogwood and Wild Columbine.

8. Election – 3 positions were up for reelection with no one interested in running against the incumbents. A motion was made by Ken Wolfe and seconded by Joey Apgar to have the incumbents serve another 3 years. Siotkowski, Nally and Soubeyrand were reelected

Udo Kuehne resigned from the board. Thank you for your service.

9. Open Discussion

a. A request was made to enforce the “no foreign matter shall be introduced in to the lake” rule with regard to water balloons during the July 4th boat parade. Siotkowski will follow up with the Garden Club to communicate to residents in their flyer.

b. A resident voiced concern over the use of gasoline motors in the lake – the fire department and Aqua Doc who applies the weed control chemicals. The board felt it was for the greater good that the Fire Dept be allowed to use their own vehicles during their training. Aqua Doc uses a jet pump that pulls water from the lake and jets it out as propulsion. Where needed, chemicals are metered into this stream of water and the metering needs to be closely coordinated

with the rate of the water flow/speed of the boat. This coordination could not be done on a pontoon boat.

c. A request was made to stock the lake with minnows – it has not been done in some time. The reasoning was that the fish caught seem to be undernourished. The Board will take this suggestion under advisement.

There being no further business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned

Feel free to contact HHLA Board Members with any issues you may have:

Jan Siotkowski, President	Siotkowski@sbcglobal.net	419-265-2770
Jim Nally, VP	jbhhl@buckeye-express.com	419-866-5939
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John Rutter	Jrutter1@bex.net	419-367-1216
Larry Goodheart	landcgoodheart@bex.net	419-491-0563
Jim Norton, Villa Volunteer	None	419-861-7913

Please note: the gate code will be changed to 4532 at 8am on June 1st.