

Hidden Harbour Lake Association Annual Meeting Minutes

Date: May 28, 2024

Time: 7:00 PM - 8:00 PM

Location: Springfield Township Hall

I. Welcome and Introductions

II. Approval of Minutes

- P. Irving requested approval of the April 18, 2024 meeting minutes. J. Siotkowski approved and Tom Andrews seconded.

III. General

- **Lake Quality Report**
 - P. Irving reviewed the 2023 Lake Quality Report from Aquadoc.
 - No significant improvement in sediment layer during 2023. We have decided to do one more year of MuckBiotics to see if there is any trend before exploring alternative options for dealing with the sediment.
 - Trophic State Index(Measurement of biological productivity in a lake) was measured at 42.8(SD) and 45.2(TP) indicating a mesotrophic state(intermediate level of productivity). No significant changes since we began measuring in 2017 which is a good sign.
 - Main 2 target weeds right now are Eurasian Milfoil, a nuisance weed that can suffocate out other plantlife, and pondweeds, impedes recreation and can outcompete other plantlife while providing poor habitat. Not treating the southern naiad as it stays low and is generally good for the lake.
 - A member brought up the fertilizer situation and expressed concern regarding over fertilization. P. Irving reiterated that we have Lawn and Fertilizer Guidelines and asked everyone in the community to follow them. A large focus needs to be put on communicating to the companies that we hire to manage our lawns to ensure they are following our guidelines.
 - Main recommendation: Follow best practices to reduce Phosphorus loading!
- **Water Level Update**
 - P. Irving reported that the water level is currently at 11.75 inches above the outlet which is .75 inches higher than the April board meeting.
 - Some basement and crawlspace concerns were brought up with the high lake level. P. Irving reiterated that basement and crawl space sump pumps running is caused from the significant rainfall in April and the rise in groundwater. This is the same reason the lake is high but the lake level is not the cause but rather just a correlation from the same cause. The majority of members agreed that their sump pumps have slowed or stopped running since April while the lake has maintained its level.

- **Goose Management Plan**
 - P. Nowak reviewed the goose management plan and how we got here. In summary, the resource previously used from the University of Toledo is no longer offering their services. We have been working with Buckeye Wildlife Solutions to addle eggs this year paying a fee per nest. The board is pursuing a fully managed approach for next year which includes relocation of geese.
 - A member brought up concerns about muskrats and felt muskrats should be included. P. Nowak mentioned that Buckeye Wildlife Solutions does have muskrat services and that we would get a quote for an all inclusive service.
 - P. Irving briefly discussed the rough cost of these services and the need to raise dues if we want to pursue this. He asked the members if they want us to continue to pursue a fully managed approach to geese and muskrats and the overwhelming majority agreed that it was needed. The board agreed that we would finalize quotes and send a formal vote to the community via email for approval since this will result in increased dues.
- **Fishing & Fish Stocking**
 - P. Irving suggested a fishing sub-committee be formed to help steer the board for budgeting and stocking decisions. Multiple members spoke to the quality of fishing in the lake and the consensus was that we have seen a decline in the quality of fish. Multiple members seemed open to supporting the sub-committee. P. Irving will send an email out requesting volunteers and will help coordinate the creation of the committee.
- **Leaves, Grass Clippings, and Soil in the Lake**
 - P. Irving discussed observations/complaints of residents/contractors blowing leaves and grass clippings into the lake and reiterated the importance of keeping organic materials out of the lake as much as possible.

IV. Financial Report

- **Budget**
 - P. Irving reviewed the current status of the budget which is on track for 2024. The only expected cost over budget for 2024 will be the additional cost for goose addling which was previously discussed. P. Irving spoke again about the tightness of the budget and the need to raise dues should we decide to do anything additional or add any additional services to the lake. We briefly discussed the reason for saving money for longterm expenses and what those expenses are (Potential dredging, paving of the baja access, and tree cleanup) however P. Irving noted that we still aren't in a position that we are saving as much as we need to cover future costs.

V. Board Members

- **Members terms expiring**
 - Jan Siotkowski(Condo) - Retiring
 - Paul Irving(HOA) - Willing to stay on

- **Member Vote**

- Jenna Yeager spoke to the group regarding her desire to be on the HHLA Board of Trustees.
- Denny Long spoke to the group regarding his desire to be on the HHLA Board of Trustees.
- Vote resulted in a tie. Decision to hold a revote to be communicated via email.

VIII. Meeting Adjournment

BOARD MEMBERS CONTACT:

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