

Horsehead Lake Association Meeting
May 13, 2023 10:00 am at Martiny Township Hall
Meeting Minutes

Call to Order: Mike called the meeting to order

Roll Call

| | | | | | |
|----------------|---------|------------------|---------|---------------|---------|
| Terry Bakewell | Present | Jerry Devenbaugh | Present | Mike Munsell | Present |
| Karen Bakewell | Present | Charlie Foster | Present | Donna Rutter | Present |
| Kathy Battle | Present | Dave Haywood | Remote | Tracey Thelen | Present |
| Dan Carpenter | Present | Fred Kuebler | Present | Dom Theodore | Present |
| Bruce Costen | Present | Frank Masotta | Present | Jade Wilson | Excused |

Introduction of Guests: There were no guests

Public Comments: Dave Haywood had some residents ask if the H.L.A was involved or contributed any funds to the dredging project in the channel. ***The H.L.A is not involved in any way.***

Review and approval of April meeting minutes: After a few changes to the guest list the minutes were approved. Motion – D.R. / Second – F.K. – Unanimous

Review and approval of Treasurer’s report: . Motion – D.T. / Second – D.R. – Unanimous

Lake Ecology/Fish Management: Terry B reported that MiCorps' Cooperative Lakes Monitoring Program (**CLMP**) testing begins w/o May 10 and continues through September. We test for water transparency weekly, dissolved oxygen bi-weekly and chlorophyll monthly. This is recorded and submitted to CLMP on an annual basis. There was a discussion on the weed control program. Frank M. asked if the current weed kill program is also killing other vegetation in the lake. Terry B. mentioned that there is some collateral damage to the other vegetation. It was also mentioned that Eurasian Milfoil grows faster than the other lake vegetation in the spring so it does appear that there may be more kill off than there really is. Terry did mention that the first time we treated the lake it was the entire lake, then we have gradually decreased the treatments as the weed problem decreased. Last year we treated only 40 -50 acres. Bruce C mentioned that we switched treatment chemicals from 2-4-D to ProcellaCOR last year. This is important because, even though more expensive, ProcellaCOR does a better job of targeting only EWM.

There was discussion on the future of the fish management program. In prior years, up to and including 2023, we have used funds only to plant walleye. There was discussion on the need to invest not only in fish planting but also improving fish habitat based on the rationale that artificial habitat might replace natural plants that have been impacted by herbicides. There is some concern that HLA members that contribute to the fish management program will be upset by this change in spending. Terry will be writing an article for the newsletter explaining how we may plan to change how we spend the funds and the need to increase habitat.

Community Outreach Items for Newcomer Flyer: The door hangers are complete and they look great. Kathy B. and Donna T. will put together a door hanger packet that will include the door hanger, magnet, a copy of the newsletter and a membership form. ***Thanks for your hard work on this project Kathy and Donna!***

Membership: We currently have 184 members. This is an increase of 62 members from the same time last year. Karen B. is sending out a second mailing out to 183 residents that we have not heard from. ***Thank you Karen!***

Communication/Newsletter Feedback: Nothing new to report.

Goose nest and egg destruction final results:

- 5 goose nests located
- 3 clutches of eggs totaling 17 eggs were collected
- 1 nest raided by natural predator
- 1 nest hatched.

Thanks to all of the volunteers who helped out on the program!

There has been a report that we have only seen a pair of geese with 7 goslings. This is a great improvement over the past few years!

Update on Lake Levels: The lake is currently at 12.3 feet, just slightly over the statutory level of 12.0 feet.

Committee for 2023 Annual Meeting: Kathy B, Dom T. and Mike M will meet on May 15 to continue to plan our annual meeting.

Board Seats up for elections

Karen Blackwell

Kathy Battle

Dan Carpenter

Frank Masotta

Tracey Thelen

If we have more candidates than board openings, we need to vote on future members prior to 60 days before the annual meeting.

Frank Masotta will be resigning from the board due to an increased workload at his job. ***Thank You Frank for being part of the HHL board!***

MLSA Conference May 5-6: Terry B. and Mike M. attended the conference. Below are some conference highlights;

A bill will be introduced to regulate septic tanks on lakefront property.

One failed septic tank will produce 1000 lbs. of algae in a lake

There currently is no legislation on wake boats in Michigan but there is a recommendation that a wake boat should not operate no closed than 500 ft from the shore and in depths no shallower than 15'

Terry and Mike did meet with a GVSU professor, Dr. Mark Luttenton, who has a grad student that is conducting a thesis on **using** benthic barriers to control Eurasian Milfoil. This student is currently working with a group that is studying benthic barriers on Lake Leelanau. Terry volunteered Horsehead Lake as a spot for future study. That suggestion is under consideration and we hope to meet with professor soon.

Terry B mentioned that Micro plastics was another topic that was discussed at the conference. Studies show that almost every lake has water that contains micro plastics and that the plastic contaminates the fish populations. That plastic is then absorbed into the fish flesh. There is also a proposal to add the \$0.10 deposit to water bottles in Michigan to help to reduce plastic water bottle waste and increase recycling.

Boat cover recycling: Deb Cox is taking over the boat cover recycling program. EMS is now accepting the recycling bags.

Adjournment: Motion – C.F. / Second – T.B. – Unanimous