

Harsen's Island St. Clair Flats Association

ANNUAL MEETING Minutes October 11, 2014

Directors Present: Todd Brady, Susan Bryson, Barb Crown, Pat Feighan, , Mike Hilla, Carol Johanson, Jim Laethem, Dave Martin, Denne Osgood, Cindy Pilato, Dennis Szymanski, Lois Whipple, Rosemary Wiczorek,
Directors absent/excused: Kathleen O'Connor, Jerry Freeman, Donna Halacoglu, Nancy LaMastus, Mary Ann McLane, Leonard Verlinden, Paul Wargo,

Guests Present: Artie Bryson, Township Supervisor, Jim Neuman, Bernard Licata, Larry Ortel

Barbara Crown, President, brought the meeting to order at 10:08 am. Pledge of Allegiance was said and all were welcomed to the Annual Meeting.

Old business:

Treasurers report from Lois Whipple distributed, highlights reviewed: gross income for: membership dues \$31,930, donations \$1885.00, field day \$11039.60, delta news \$5460.00, electronic sign \$ 7340.00, water station \$775.26, water station donations \$590.00, misc income \$51.56, welcome packets \$75.00. **Pat Feighan motion to approve treasurer report, Dave Martin second, all approved, carried**

Secretary report from Donna Halacoglu, via Barb Crown, 795 Members for 2014, up from last years count. No correspondence to be read at this time.

Welcome packets for new Island residents discussed, we have Township new addresses, Barb Crown will be contacting them for membership, meeting invites, packet distribution, etc. reviewed items inside packet, from: garden club Cookbook, fire dept, HISCFA, Delta News, map, Save The South Channel Lights, Lions Turkey Shoot book, Discover the Blue. Jim Neuman indicated he would like to put something in from Riverside Grocery. This is a good start to a Welcome Program. More to be explored this year.

New Business

Barbara Crown wanted to review and approval all new executive directors for 2016. Motion made by Barbara Crown to approve newly elected Executive Board members, Barbara Crown, President, Jim Laethem, Vice President, Donna Halacoglu, Executive Secretary, Rosemary Weiczorek, Treasurer, and Pat Feighan, Past President and Chairman of the Board, Artie Bryson Seconded, and Jim Neumann seconded, Motion carried and approved.

Barbara acknowledged Artie Bryson, Clay Township Supervisor, who asked if he could present to the board. He was given the floor.

1. Clay Township Fire Department is now ALS Certified. They can transport patients now, right to a hospital, with quicker and increased transport and access to equipment.
2. Krispin Drain: The project has been halted. Estimate came in at 300% over budget for the drain project. This process will be halted for now until the next budget cycle. He noted that the delisting process is starting, and this would remove the St. Clair River, from an area of concern, once this happens, things will start to progress again.
3. Roads – The M29 project had some delays, but next week the work will start and be completed by the end of October.
4. Payroll Audit at the Township level is being performed, and currently under investigation. He said that the Dept. of Treasury has been contact, as the Attorney General, audits are to be verified, and the State Police are investigating the Township payroll back to 2006. He is unable at this time to make public all that is going on, but wanted us to know that it is being investigated and we will soon learn what this is all about.

Bernard Licata recommended a letter be written to the EPA from HISCFA, expressing disappointing results on the Krispin Drain postponement. He suggested a possible Island grass roots letter writing campaign from Island if no response from

the EPA is obtained. **Jim Neumann** suggested to get with the MBIA, Michigan Boating Association, to get a foothold with Washington on funding for these projects.

Barbara Crown introduced the working committees of the Association.

Browne's Field Jim Laethem: Complete rebuild on gazebo is done summer 2014. Gazebo new panels were under warranty and supplied no charge from vendor. Bid from barefoot lawn services was approved and signed for 2 years, \$300 per cut for 2015, and \$310 per cut for 2016. From 2-4 cuts per month maximum. Vegetation cleanup discussed
Park and ride cleanup discussed

Transportation Pat Feighan Bates road paving project still on track for 2015. North channel repaving slated for 2017. Road designation list passed out for attendees to see. Purchase of electronic radar speed warning signs being investigated. Road lines have been re painted. Missing speed signs have been replace. Champion ferry has no plans for near or long term rate increases. New ferry crew shack is slated to be purchased by Champion. Fuel tanks on the main land side are being moved also by ferry company

Field day By Cindy Pilato Had excellent turnout this year 2014. Great children turnout, 125 kids playing games, 150 total children. Weather was great. Next year 2015 will be looking for new market to partner with due to Weavers closing. Concert in the park was discussed and tabled.

Water station Barb Crown

New Card system discussed and reviewed, 46 active cards. All working well with reporting on who uses entry and for how long. This has been a positive step forward in helping to contain the costs of the water station. Next year we will look at a new coin system.

Technology Todd Brady Reported on electronic sign, a little glitchy but functional. Reported on facebook, Mailchimp, website, nextdoor, all are growing and gaining traction with users increasing steadily. Fielded questions about linking HISCFA website and social media pages with Island business owners discussed email and website hosting and growth and future need for budgets for these items,

Delta New Barbara Crown Ideas discussed on raising ad prices, cutting down paper and color choices, etc. It was decided not to sacrifice the quality of the magazine, but look at some cost saving methods. Jim Neumann raised idea of getting state funding or advertising for possible state help producing magazine. We indicated State help had been applied for in the past with no luck, since we are not a 501 C3

Bylaws and articles for HISCFA Pat Feighan Reviewed changes made to bylaws originally drafted in 1946, with this years changes, they are all done, filed with the State of Michigan and copies are available on website.

As per David Martin, Comcast is selling the Island footprint to Charter Communications, Comcast service will be changing in name only.

Dave Martin made a motion to close the meeting at 11:28 am, motion seconded by Pat Feighan, all approved.

Respectfully submitted,

Todd Brady, Acting Secretary

