



## Harsen's Island St. Clair Flats Association

Minutes November 14, 2015

**Directors Present:** Todd Brady, Susan Bryson, Barbara Crown, Pat Feighan, Donna Halacoglu, Carol Johanson, Art Koster, MaryAnn McLane, Kathy O'Connor, Dennis Szymanski, Rosemary Wieczorek, Lois Whipple;

**Excused:** Jerry Freeman, Mike Hilla, Jim Laethem, Nancy LaMastus, David Martin, Denne Osgood, Leonard Verlinden;

**Guests and Members Present:** Melanie Most, Harold Stieber, George Crown, Nancy LeClair, Diane Stieber, Stephanie Spencer, Barb Feldman, Jeanne Burczycki, Fred Cardinali, Jacob Bryson, David Carruthers, Kelly Glowski, Ilene Bischer, Greg Bischer, Joanne Shirkey.

Barbara Crown brought the meeting to order at the Lion's Hall at 9:03 am with the Pledge of Allegiance.

The October minutes were presented. **Pat Feighan made the motion to approve, Barbara Crown seconded; motion carried, minutes to be placed on file.**

### Executive Committee Reports

**Treasurer Report:** Rosemary Wieczorek reported the balance in the checkbook for October 31, 2015 was \$16,607.32, with total cash on hand being \$39,310.40.

**Pat Feighan made the motion to move the approval of the October treasurer's reports; Mary Ann McLane seconded to approve; motion carried, reports to be placed on file.**

**Secretary Report:** Donna Halacoglu reported the total number of memberships for 2015 was 812. Last year this time there were only 781 members.

### OLD BUSINESS

- *Bonfire (new annual event):* The association hopes to make this a new annual event. A total of 135 people attended this event, and everyone seemed to enjoy it. Hopefully everyone will want to do it again next year. Previous fall parties were not intended as a fundraiser, so it was nice that a profit was made this year. Comments from the floor indicated that the food was a success as well.

### NEW BUSINESS

- *Motion to appoint Harold Stieber as new director (replace vacancy of Cindy Pilato):* **Pat Feighan made the motion to appoint Harold Stieber as a new director; Lois Whipple supported; all in favor, motion carried.**



- *Motion to accept Rosemary Wieczorek's resignation as Treasurer (motion needed):* **Pat Feighan made the motion to accept Rosemary Wieczorek's resignation as Treasurer; Susan Bryson seconded; all in favor, motion carried.**
- *Motion to appoint Harold Stieber as Treasurer (replacing Rosemary Wieczorek):* **Pat Feighan made the motion to accept Harold Stieber as Treasurer; Susan Bryson seconded; all in favor, motion carried.**
- *Motion to add / remove directors from bank documents:* A correction to the signature cards at Talmer Bank for the checking account, removing Rosemary Wieczorek and adding Harold Stieber. Also at Talmer Bank for the CD, removing Whitey Simon and adding Harold Stieber and Barbara Crown. For the CD at Northstar Bank, removing Whitey Simon and adding Harold Stieber and Barbara Crown. **Lois Whipple made the motion to accept the aforementioned changes; Pat Feighan seconded; all in favor, motion carried.**
- *Results of new officers ballot; motion to accept ballot for new officers:* **Pat Feighan made the motion to approve the results of the ballots; Lois Whipple seconded; all in favor, motion carried.**
  - President: Denne Osgood
  - Vice President: Jim Laethem
  - Treasurer: Harold Stieber
  - Executive Secretary: Donna Halacoglu
  - Past President / Chairman: Barbara Crown
- *Committee Reports:*
  - *Communications (Donna Halacoglu):* Donna reported that part of the communications is sending and receiving letters to members regarding events and other items. The only letter that has been received so far has been for the car show coming up in 2016. An annual letter is sent out in February and has yet to be composed. Todd Brady also assists with email communications to the online database to send bulk messages to members.
  - *Governmental Affairs (Pat Feighan):* A Clay Township meeting is coming up this Monday night on November 16, 2015. A representative from the HISCFA attends various other meetings around the county and state and reports back to the association regarding local and state concerns that affect the island. Artie Bryson reported that Clay Township received a large grant for the fire department to have a duty shift 24/7 on the island. A paramedic and an EMT are stationed on the island now. Also, only 10-12% of the calls coming in are related to fires, and the rest are related to medical situations. Additionally, there is a letter of commitment from the road commission to return to the island in the spring to finish up and remediate the remaining roads that need to be addressed. Clay Township Chief of Police is going to be retiring at the end of this calendar year. Sr. Lieutenant Mike Coach will possibly be appointed as interim chief in the meantime. There is also a cadet program for high school students to come over to the police / fire training which is proving to be an excellent program to assist with some students who may not have graduated from high school otherwise.
  - *Browne's Field upkeep and future development (Pat Feighan):* This past year was a big year! The association was trying to evaluate about which features to spend money on to repair / replace. The tennis courts have been upgraded to host pickleball, and will be reevaluated in the spring for further upgrades. Delude construction completed the directional boring for the water line to get water to the pavilion, and the township assisted with the costs. Pat Feighan and Jim Laethem completed the plumbing for the pavilion which now helps to attract more field rentals. The next step is to investigate what will be needed to finally get permanent restrooms in the pavilion with regards to septic and plumbing. Additionally, moving the water station to Browne's Field would save between \$5,000-7,000 per year in operational costs. Currently, the water station property is leased to the HISCFA. A large quantity of trees was planted at the field this year, and the Garden



Society has assisted with that. The need for a walking path on the island is also something that will need to be explored. The baseball field has been upgraded quite a bit with respect to field leveling and upkeep on the bleachers. Finally, the Trunk-to-Trunk sales as well as the Pig Roast were great events to keep awareness / interest in Browne's Field.

- *Browne's Field rental of the field, pavilion, and kitchen (Rosemary Wieczorek)*: Rosemary will be coordinating upcoming field rentals.
- *Browne's Field special events for upcoming year & calendar*: Rosemary will be keeping a calendar for upcoming rental coordination.
  - *Trunk-to-trunk*: Dates to be announced in 2016.
  - *Car show July 16, 2016*: Information has been provided by Jerry Thiel, and will be posted on Nextdoor once details are completely sorted out.
- *Water station*: The card system seems to be working well currently.
- *Advertising sign (Barbara Crown)*: The Wieczoreks have donated their time and lights for both the advertising sign and also for the fire station. Norman Rhodes handles the artwork for the signs as well as updating the digital marquee.
- *Delta News (Barbara Crown)*: Art Woodford and Barbara Crown have done a little work on next year's Delta News, and Donna Halacoglu will be assisting more in the spring.
  - *Advertising (Donna Halacoglu)*: Donna requested that if anyone is available in assisting, she is open to volunteers.
- *Community – Installation of new lights at the fire station (Motor City Electric)*: The Wieczoreks have donated their time and lights to this cause.
- *Krispin Drain status (Pat Feighan)*: Artie Bryson reported that the Krispin Drain (habitat preservation) project will likely be finished up within the next couple of weeks, and will need to return in the spring to finish some plantings and miscellaneous other items. The phragmites will continue to be treated for an additional two years, and beyond that the county will be responsible for the treatment. A decision will be made in the summer of 2016 with respect to the DNR allowing the Krispin Drain to be opened up all the way through the DNR property to go out to Muscamoot Bay. Artie also reported that he has documented the condition of the roads prior to the start of the project so that the conditions can be returned to the way they were.
- *Annual letter*: A date needs to be set and will be prepared to mail in February 2016.
- *Christmas party at Sans Souci Landing, December 12, 2015*: Mark your calendars! Drinks and appetizers will be served at 6pm, with dinner to follow at 7pm. There will be a buffet dinner of prime rib and sides, catered by a local person on the island.

Additional comments from directors or guests:

- ✓ Pickleball: Ilene Bischer reported on behalf of the group who play pickleball regularly. This group of people would like to assist with the improvement of the courts. They have stated that even just one existing tennis court can be converted into 4 total pickleball courts. Ilene is also a member of the CATTAILS, so she has been informed that if a fundraiser can be organized, whatever funds are raised could be allocated only for the courts. **Dennis Szymanski made the motion to support the CATTAILS with a fundraiser to establish funds for safe pickleball courts; Susan Bryson seconded; all approved, motion carried.**
- ✓ Ilene Bischer also mentioned how helpful it will be if all of the island organizations use a central calendar so that events don't overlap. Susan Bryson volunteered to get some of the key people on the island involved in organizing a calendar going forward.
- ✓ Joanne Shirkey made a comment that she's very pleased with the way the HISCFA is moving forward and being proactive members of the community.



- ✓ Dennis Szymanski commented about the Thanksgiving Day dinner event at the Lions Club on November 26, 2015 from 1-5pm. **Barbara Crown made a motion to provide a \$100 donation to the Lions Club to support this dinner; Pat Feighan seconded; all approved, motion carried.**

**Pat Feighan made the motion to adjourn, Barbara Crown seconded. All approved; meeting adjourned at 10:19 am.**

Respectfully submitted,

Melanie Most, Recording Secretary