



Harsen's Island St. Clair Flats Association

Minutes July 11, 2015

Directors Present: Todd Brady, Barbara Crown, Pat Feighan, Donna Halacoglu, Carol Johanson, Art Koster, Jim Laethem, David Martin, MaryAnn McLane, Denne Osgood, Dennis Szymanski, Leonard Verlinden, Rosemary Wieczorek, Lois Whipple;

Excused: Nancy LaMastus, Kathy O'Connor, Cindy Pilato;

Guests and Members Present: Fred Cardinali, Melanie Most, Norman Rhodes.

Barbara Crown brought the meeting to order at the Lion's Hall at 9:00 am with the Pledge of Allegiance.

The June minutes were presented. **Pat Feighan made the motion to approve, David Martin seconded; motion carried, minutes to be placed on file.**

Executive Committee Reports

Treasurer Report: Rosemary Wieczorek reported the balance of \$29,901.15 on hand at the end of June. Many items were paid for this month, including a large cost for the water line. **Pat Feighan made the motion to approve the past month's treasurer's reports; Leonard Verlinden seconded to approve; motion carried, report to be placed on file.**

Secretary Report: Donna Halacoglu reported that 602 envelopes for raffle tickets were mailed out on June 26, 2015, and some were hand-selected to be delivered. So far there has been a deposit \$1,165 for tickets coming in. Additionally, 13 new/renewal memberships have been received this month.

Barbara Crown has noticed there were about 80-100 members that have not renewed their membership. Barbara asked the directorship if it would be permissible to send these former members a note to thank them for their membership in the past and to see whether they were still interested or if they misplaced their renewal, or for whatever reason they did not renew.

OLD BUSINESS

- *Raffle ticket mailing complete:* Barbara Crown will be setting up a tent in front of the Landing for Tashmoo Days to sell raffle tickets during the event. Donna Halacoglu requested that if you sell raffle tickets, please let her know because she has the stubs, or give them to Rosemary Wieczorek or Barbara Crown at the Waterfront Shoppe.
- *Water line installed and hooked up:* The pole barn is complete, and a French drain is hooked up for gray water. Hot water will also be available on-demand.
- *Lighting for advertising sign update:* Thank you to Kevin Wieczorek. Sculpture Cabinetry's sign is fading and needs replacement. The timer is set to turn lights off at 2am, so Kevin Wieczorek suggested letting him know if the association would like to adjust the timing of the lights. General consensus is that turning off the lights at 2am is fine for energy consumption.



- *Delta News update:* Proofing is underway. The date to complete is still by Field Day. Art Woodford is going to the printer with the corrections on Monday, July 13, 2015.
- *Trunk-to-Trunk sale:* The sale was very successful and brought in \$260. People liked it and wondered when the next one would be scheduled. The calendar is very busy with Tashmoo Days (7/18) and Field Day (8/1) coming up, so Barbara Crown suggested that the next one be some time in August (maybe 8/15). Volunteers are needed for parking direction, cones, etc. Maybe next year will be able to do this every month during the summer.
- *Pickleball:* Pickleball is currently set up on the tennis court. Meetings have been scheduled and advertised on Nextdoor, but the rain has led to several cancellations. One area of the court needs to be repaired soon, and Barbara Crown will be addressing it. Harry Yax will be using epoxy cement to fix the holes.

NEW BUSINESS

- *Field Day:* Cindy Pilato has a lot of things together in a list that she needs assistance with. Nancy LaMastus needs help with the cake walk, and other volunteer opportunities include bounce house attendant, kids' raffle and contest sign-up table, kids' contests, water balloons, etc. Paul Wargo volunteered to help with the pie eating and tug-of-war. Barbara Crown has a list in front of her for people to look and possibly volunteer. The Lions are going to have their workers help with the table setup under the pavilion. Dan LaMastus is going to see if the workers can come back on Sunday to help clean up and put the tables back. Cindy has all the kitchen help set up. Frank McGeorge is going to volunteer to take aerial shots of the event. Kathy O'Connor is going to bring several large coolers to use, and stated she was donating them and didn't want them back. Cindy is ordering the meat and was given some suggestion from National Coney Island: if the organization submits a letter they would be able to provide free hot dogs and coney meat. Cindy also needs help with the quick kids' games, which are generally quick and done after 2pm. Dennis Szymanski has taken care of items for the beer tent. Consideration needs to be taken whether the ground is too wet to drive trucks / trailers over the grass. We need to be careful not to rut the grass. Cakes need to be donated for the cakewalk. Monetary donations can be accepted so Barbara can purchase cakes if no one can donate. Barbara suggested another type of small game to generate money, possibly a betting game or a 50/50. Crafters will be at the field as well. Participation is key for making it successful. The Lions will be providing the tables and chairs at no rental charge. Pat Feighan suggested paying \$20 for younger people to assist with heavy lifting. Anyone who is assisting with coordination of events needs to let Cindy Pilato know so that she is aware. Outhouses are needed for Field Day. Jim Laethem will coordinate getting one handicap and two single units to rent.
- *Silent Auction:* Leave your donation prize / gift at Tashmoo Marina. An email reminder will be sent at a later date. A minimum bid will be placed for the silent auction.
- *Field Rental:* A liability contract needs to be signed by renters for both their liability and ours. More clarity is needed for responsibility of chairs and tables setup for private events (rentals) at Browne's Field.
- *Field Committee:* Water system is good to go now. Baseball field was taken care of by the Harsens Island Militia. The volleyball court was sprayed, but now the sand needs to be placed. However, with the field being so wet it can't be tilled and then place the sand because we don't want to rut the field. Jim Laethem was going to use his tiller if it wasn't going to be completed by an upcoming private field rental. Jim Mott has provided an estimate to paint the inside roof of the pavilion sky blue for \$1,960 in an effort to keep the birds out. Apparently birds won't make nests if it looks like the sky. **David Martin made the motion to approve \$2,000 for painting the inside roof of the pavilion; Denne Osgood supports; all in favor; motion carried.**



- *Nomination of Don Verslype for lifetime membership:* **Pat Feighan nominated Don Verslype and John Fannon for a lifetime membership, Dennis Szymanski and David Martin seconded. All in favor; motion approved.** Don Verslype's family decided not to have a party in his memory, but they appreciated the offer. They would prefer a plaque on the pavilion or something to that effect in his memory instead. Barbara Crown will be submitting a letter to the family letting them know about the lifetime membership, and a short memorial article will be placed in the Delta News.
 - **Criteria to be selected as a lifetime honorary member of the Harsens Island St. Clair Flats Association:**
 1. **A minimum of 15 years of service to the Association;**
 2. **Selfless dedication to their position;**
 3. **Keeping in mind the best interests of the Island and its residents;**
 4. **Volunteering to help with any of the committees and projects over the years.**
 - A combination of these criteria should be used in selecting members in good standing to be honorary lifetime members of The Association. With this in mind, a member can be selected and must be approved by the Board of Directors to receive the status of Lifetime membership. A Lifetime member will receive a paid membership, receive all mailings, a Delta News Magazine, and be allowed to vote.
 - If the member should be deceased, their spouse will receive the same privilege.
- *Township meeting update:* Chuck Miller resigned from the board of trustees. They are looking for a replacement, and this will be an interim position but then will be voted for in 2016. During public comments, Chuck made an apology for his misconduct directed towards Donna Halacoglu at the last township meeting on July 6th, 2015. Also, a new payroll company is being used, and it is no longer being done in-house. All W-2 fines that were levied against the township have been abated. IRS penalties will be paid out and reimbursed. All the liens against Clay Township have been lifted. General liability and insurance company came up for renewal, and the renewal came through last month and was 50% more than what they're paying now. If the township did not place the claim on file, the insurance company will lower their rate. Given this demand by the insurance company, the township is entertaining two new bids for the insurance. To date, they have not yet turned in a claim for Lisa White, but the current company will have to pay for this if a claim is filed since the township is insured for this type of fraud by employees. This decision will be made within the week because the insurance policy is only good through the end of this month. On August 3rd, 2015 there will be a public meeting regarding golf carts on the road. Algonac Elementary School was sold. Clay Township felt that they should have some compensation from the sale since the property was originally given to them by Clay Township. The board is still thinking about what they should get, but their thoughts are that if the new owners allow them to carry on elections in the building going forward, this may be enough payment.

Additional comments from directors or guests:

- ✓ The Sturgeon for Tomorrow group will be holding a sturgeon fishing tournament through the Pearl Beach Lions will be taking place this year in September. An excerpt from a shared post on the Pearl Beach Lions' Facebook page on June 15th, 2015 at 10:51 am states the following:
 - "St. Clair Detroit River Sturgeon For Tomorrow and Pearl Beach Lions Club have joined together to bring you the 1st ever Michigan Catch and Release Sturgeon Tournament! Details are being worked out and will be posted as soon as possible! The tournament will be September 26th and 27th, 2015 with a Captain's meeting Friday, September 25th, 2015. Stay tuned for details and



rules/registration info. If you are interested, entry will be \$200 per team. Teams can be on a boat or on a dock! Purse will be 1st Place: \$1,500, 2nd: \$750, 3rd: \$250.”

- ✓ Nothing new to report on the Krispin Drain, other than the fact that work will still be occurring in August.
- ✓ Richard Bisoski has filed a complaint about the noise and safety from the Lions Club shooting. Norman Rhodes stated the neighbors have complained many times to the Lions. Shooting has been going on for over 65 years, and all of the documents stating that shooting are allowed to occur have been shared with the concerned residents. The buffer between the properties has been overgrown with phragmites. The main complaint is the noise, but they have not come directly to the Lions board directly regarding the noise issues. They were not satisfied with taking their complaint to the zoning board, so they went to Artie Bryson. Artie then came to Norman. Legislation is in place to protect the Lions shooting club. Artie suggested that all of the neighbors get together in a neutral setting, like at a township meeting, to sit down and discuss the matter between neighbors. Artie said he would take care of setting something up, but nothing has yet been scheduled.
- ✓ Ferry update: David Bryson didn't raise his rates because he didn't ask for an increase. If he is seeking a raise in rates, he is required to provide a year's notice. He provided a year's notice, but didn't specify an amount.
- ✓ Pat Feighan wrote a letter to the MPSC in response to the information regarding the ferry, but we need a response from our directors. Donna Halacoglu doesn't feel the letter should be sent on behalf of the Association. In Pat's opinion, MDOT should be supporting the connection of M-29 and M-154. Also, perhaps the Department of Homeland Security can assist since there is such a huge presence of Border Patrol on the island. The ferry has been reclassified from the MPSC to the Motor Transport Division of the Michigan State Police. Pat will rewrite the letter to be more specific and get his main point across and everyone will read it and decide whether it should be sent on behalf of the association.
- ✓ The Michigan Disc Golf Organization approached Todd Brady about putting Browne's Field on their list of potential tournament locations. Todd was directed to provide them with Cindy Pilato's contact information for field rental.
- ✓ Member donations and Association donations to local organizations are as follows:
 - Reader's Cove: \$1,200 (paid by the Association) and \$1,025 (donation received from members with dues) for a total of \$2,225.
 - Lions: \$1,200 (paid yearly by the Association) and \$645 (donation received from members with dues). The Association is adding \$155 which will bring the total donation to the Lions Club to a total of \$2,000.
 - Fire department: \$50.
 - **Pat Feighan made the motion to pay out the donations, David Martin second; all approved; motion carried.**

Denne Osgood made the motion to adjourn, David Martin seconded. All approved, meeting adjourned at 10:43 am.

Respectfully submitted,

Melanie Most, Recording Secretary