



Harsen's Island St. Clair Flats Association

Minutes May 9, 2015

Directors Present: Barbara Crown, Pat Feighan, Jerry Freeman, Donna Halacoglu, Carol Johanson, Art Koster, Jim Laethem, Nancy LaMastus, David Martin, Mary Ann McLane, Kathy O'Connor, Denne Osgood, Leonard Verlinden, Rosemary Wiczorek;

Excused: Cindy Pilato, Dennis Szymanski, Lois Whipple;

Guests and Members Present: Dan LaMastus, Joanne Shirkey, Artie Bryson, Melanie Most.

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

The April 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: Treasurer Rosemary Wiczorek reported the balance of \$57,597.87 on hand at the end of April. **David Martin made the motion to approve the past four (4) months of treasurer's reports; Pat Feighan seconded to approve; motion carried, reports to be placed on file.**

Browne's Field account and donations: The building fund in Northstar Bank for \$1,927.44 is allocated for this purpose. Additional money will be provided from the CATTAILS from the Old Club Fashion Show on June 12th, 2015, and it may be as much as \$5,000. Donna has donations from generous members. Some people request to add funds to specific or generic allocations for additional donations with their member fees. There is \$880 (cumulative) in the present General fund; the Browne's Field balance is \$2,150. Requests for clarification as to where each of these donations are shown on the treasurer's report: it is shown in the checkbook account. A generous donation was made from Gwendolyn Bates for \$1,000 to "use the funds to continue the great work you do." Pat Feighan stated the funds should be put into the General fund account if they are not specifically allocated for something else. The directors will use their discretion to decide where it should be applied after that. Thank-you notes are sent to anyone who provides a donation.

Secretary Report: Donna Halacoglu reported that membership now has 729 members, including the Old Club. Reminder cards were sent on April 20th, 2015. A total of 573 reminder cards were sent. A total of 87 members have sent renewals. Last year's membership was 661 members around this time of the month.

OLD BUSINESS

- **Barbara Crown made a motion for the beer license** prior to the Field Day at Browne's Field on August 1st, 2015; **Denne Osgood seconded. Total number of people approved = 16.** Treasurer Rosemary Wiczorak will send a copy of the May 2015 meeting minutes to the state for the beer license.



- Raffle ticket number assigned; tickets to go to PDQ for printing.
- Lights for advertising sign: Jim Laethem to work with AJ Leo to count number of lights and when to install. Pat Feighan asked Rosemary Wiczorek about the updated lights and wiring for the sign. And whether she could ask her contact Kevin if he has any recommendations of what is needed.
- Pat Feighan indicated new work is still needed at the water station.

NEW BUSINESS

- *Clay Township Trustee Meeting Report*
 - The Old Club had applied for a no-wake petition in the area. Dale Cooper submitted, and then withdrew, the request for the no-wake petition. Pat read the letter of withdrawal to the group.
 - Small blurb about the legal case including Lisa White.
 - Pearl Beach rehab of the public pier (Phase 1) was started last week and should be completed by May 9th, 2015. Lots of other recreation items are also coming along.
 - Recycling seems to be coming along nicely. One of the main initial problems is people not getting bins picked up. People thought the same waste haulers would pick up the recycling. This is not the case. There are two separate crews: one to pick up the waste, and one to pick up recycling. Part-time residents wanted to have disposable bags to use instead of bins due to the part-time residents not being home during the week to put their bins away. There is a source and agreement with Emterra to make bags available at the township. Two (2) sizes will be available. Pat will find out when they will become available at the township. Plastic grocery bags will NOT be picked up by Emterra.
 - The Island Cleanup for June 6-7th, 2015 from 9-5pm was also discussed. A new addition this year is a pickup of e-waste: computers, TVs, household batteries, etc. can be brought to island cleanup and be hauled away. E-waste will be picked up ONLY Saturday 10am-1pm during the event.
 - When Pat Feighan and Jim Laethem were at the township, they talked to Artie and they formally discussed about loads of gravel received. DPW spread the gravel at the Browne's Field parking lot. Support from DPW has been spotty, and Artie said he'd do everything he could to make it happen. Resurfacing will eventually occur on all of the current dirt/gravel roads in the township. Culverts are rotting away, and permits are required to fix them. None of this is covered under the Michigan roads funds.
- *Scholarships* (Mary Ann McLane): There were only four (4) graduates this year, and only 1 application was filed, and it was for a technical school. He didn't include his transcript, and requested it be for a technical school, and his GPA from Algonac High School was 1.400. The scholarship application states you must have at least a 2.0 GPA. This may be the year that no scholarships are granted. Generally 30 or 35 applications are received, but this time it was 16.
- *HISCFA Recording Secretary*: Melanie Most has accepted this role and was welcomed to the group.
- *Pickleball*: George Crown is going to meet everyone at Browne's Field at 11:00am today. He has made diagrams and definitions of Pickleball. Awaiting to see what sort of interest there is, and if there's enough interest to go forward with this activity.
- *EBW.TV spot in Port Huron*: Barbara Crown did a couple-minutes spot on Field Day. This episode to be aired on June 27th, 2015. It's a local online-only television program. <http://www.ebw.tv> Artie Bryson was also there and spoke about the township, the island, and the DNR and other items of interest.
- *Bicycle Tours*: The Blue Water Ramble Bicycle tour is on June 20th, 2015 and part of this tour is on the island and it starts at Algonac High School. Also, the Pickerel Tour is going to do a bicycle tour on the



island on July 5th, 2015. Art Koster asked how Islanders would know when these bike tours are coming to the island. Barbara Crown stated she's going to post it on Nextdoor and the Flyer.

- *Field Committee, (list of work needed to be done)*
 - Volleyball court needs to be reconfigured: one post will be rotated 90 degrees so that it doesn't interfere with the soccer field. Current plan is to rototill it and get a bunch of sand and re-top the volleyball court. Want to rototill the baseball diamond and put new sand on it. Looking to get a professional-grade (not a walk-behind). They are able to be rented.
 - Horseshoe pits need to be re-dressed.
 - Baseball diamond bleachers are warped and need to be replaced.
 - The east tennis court has been scaling and needs repair (smoothed-over).
 - Pickleball: David Martin actually brought this idea to HISCFA's attention about 3 years ago. Barbara Crown pointed out that it's much smaller than a tennis court. What it comes down to is labor and money. Money is there, but we need volunteers and how much interest there's going to be. People have told us what they want, but come to the meeting and show us. Pat Feighan proposed to the board to see how much actual interest is there before moving forward.
 - Water and restrooms at Browne's Field are needed as a big tipping point to make people want to come and use it. Many other items will fall into place, but city water needs to be brought in first. The current state is to fill the huge water tank on a trailer and transport the water to the field. This is very cumbersome. Barbara Crown said that Cindy Pilato indicated she is unable secure rentals at Browne's Field because there is not running water to wash hands, for food preparation, and cleanup. Recently, a relatively new island resident approached Barbara Crown about advertising on the sign: they happen to do directional boring. Jim Laethem and Pat Feighan met and talked with them, and they proposed to run a line from the water main (on the other side of the road; bore underneath the road near the entrance to the park). Further technical information is available in DeLude Construction's proposal, including a map with their plans. A cleanout and blowout is going to be available for winterizing. Long-term goal is to build a restroom facility. Current plan is to have water coming to the pavilion to get running water in the kitchen, and also a line to the pole barn to have a wash tub. Proposal is for approximately \$6,500 which is just getting the pipes in the ground and into the wall for the kitchen. Down the line, a septic system will need to be installed for restrooms. Hooking up to the township is not included. Jerry Freeman wants to make sure we do not piece-meal it because there are several parts to this huge plan. The problem is until we get the boring done, no one will quote anything else. **Denne Osgood makes a motion to support; Kathy O'Connor seconded. All in favor; motion carried.** David Martin, Jerry Freeman, and Leonard Verlinden have volunteered to help Pat Feighan to put together quotes to keep this project moving. Artie Bryson requested that the board send him a letter to request to waive tap-in fees from the township for water.
 - Maintenance on the volleyball courts, horseshoe pits, baseball diamond, and tennis court / pickleball is needed. Approximately 60 yards of sand and 60 yards of pea stone is required. Funds would be split up as: \$500 for sand delivery/dispersal for volleyball/horseshoe; \$500 for sand delivery/dispersal for the baseball diamond; \$500 for paint/materials to strip and set up a pickleball court on the existing west tennis court. **David Martin made the motion. Denne Osgood seconded. All in favor; motion carried.** David Martin said that Dan LaMastus said we could use the Lions' Club diesel tractor (which has a blade and a bucket) to use at Browne's Field on these items.



- Volunteers needed: Nextdoor has proven to have good qualities to get interest and get the word out. Volunteers are needed to do things like raking the horseshoe pit. Hopefully putting these events on Nextdoor will draw some attention to them and people will volunteer (not just people who are committee members).
- Artie Bryson stated he could try to get a quote to seal over the driveway at Browne's Field from the crew doing the road work this summer. Road construction this summer date to start is TBD. Shortage of cement and stone getting to the island is the current holdup.
- Picnic tables need to come out of the barn. Jerry Freeman can use his pickup truck to help haul them.
- Barbara Crown said that she and David Martin were at the special meeting for the Save Our South Channel Lights. The HISCFA made a \$300 donation to the S.O.S.C.L. The organization is looking for donations and members to help straighten out the next lighthouse. They have raised over \$900,000 through donations and grants to complete this effort. Something will be posted in the Delta News about the organization and their efforts.
- Flags are needed at Browne's Field and to fly downtown. They are getting tattered and needs replacing.
- Trunk-to-Trunk Sale (Nancy LaMastus and Barbara Crown). This summer the HISCFA would like to have a flea-market type event called Trunk-to-Trunk to bring people to the field. Pat Feighan said he would help. Once a month would be a good start, and start the first one after the Island Cleanup Day. Second Saturday of the month is the HISCFA meetings, so the first meeting will be on June 20th, 2015, tentatively from 9 am - 1 pm.
- Fashion Show is being put on by the CATTAILS at the Old Club on June 12th, 2015 at 11:30 am. Applications and tickets are available with Barbara Crown. Proceeds for this event will go to the HISCFA. Tickets are \$30 each. The Women's Life Insurance Society will match the first \$500 raised.

No additional comments from the floor.

Leonard Verlinden made the motion to adjourn, Pat Feighan seconded. All approved, meeting adjourned at 10:15 am.

Respectfully submitted,

Melanie Most, Recording Secretary