



## Harsen's Island St. Clair Flats Association

### Minutes August 11, 2018

**Directors Present:** Craig Baloga, George Covalle, Neva Covalle, Barbara Crown, Mike Hilla, Jim Laethem, Melanie Most, Harold Stieber, Paul Stieler, Jerry Thiel, Lois Whipple, Rosemary Wieczorek;

**Excused:** Todd Brady, Susan Bryson, Patrick Feighan, Jerry Freeman, Donna Halacoglu, David Martin, Dennis Szymanski, Leonard Verlinden;

**Guests and Members Present:** Christine Baloga, John Cameron, Judith Jessup, Linda Schoonover, Denise Stieler, Bill Tackonis, Debbie Thiel.

Barbara Crown brought the meeting to order at the Harsen's Island Lions Hall at 9:01 am with the Pledge of Allegiance.

The July 2018 meeting minutes were presented. **Jerry Thiel made the motion to approve the July 2018 meeting minutes, Mike Hilla seconded to approve; all in favor, motion carried, minutes to be placed on file.**

#### Executive Committee Reports

**Treasurer Report:** Harold Stieber presented the treasurer's reports for July 2018. Harold reported that the balance in the checkbook for July 31, 2018 was \$50,904.68, with total cash on hand being \$73,992.70. Full copies of the monthly Treasurer's Report are available by contacting Harold at [HaroldS@hisca.org](mailto:HaroldS@hisca.org).

**Lois Whipple made the motion to approve the July 2018 treasurer's reports, Jerry Thiel seconded to approve; all in favor, motion carried, reports to be placed on file.**

**Secretary Report:** Of the 875 membership letters/forms that were sent out, there are 584 paid members to date, not including the 168 members of The Old Club. Additional membership forms were received at Field Day and are not included in this count. Former members from 2014 and earlier who have not renewed were removed from the mailing list. Many addresses came back undeliverable so those were removed from the list as well.

Communications: No communications were received this month.

Government Affairs: Patrick Feighan was not present to report on this topic at this time, but he has provided a statement saying that since the fire department bond issue was not passed, he would be assisting Clay Township Supervisor Artie Bryson by serving on an advisory committee to help the township board come up with a plan B.

Browne's Field: Field Day 2018 was a great success, and Barbara Crown thanked all the volunteers for making it a great event once again. The full financial report for Field Day will be available next month.

The Delta News: This year's publication is available for pickup at the Sans Souci Landing on Friday, Saturday, and Sunday until they are mailed out, probably next month. Members are advised to make every effort to pick it up in person as it will be costly for the Association to mail them out due to their thickness this year.



## OLD BUSINESS

- *Survey Committee:* The Survey Committee met on June 27 for a preliminary meeting to discuss and create a template for a survey to send to members. The committee will be meeting before next month's meeting to get a plan in place to deploy the survey.
- *Concert in the Park:* The next Concert in the Park series occurring at Browne's Field is going to be Friday, August 24, 2018 at 6:30 pm.
- *Annual Meeting:* The Annual Membership Meeting will be taking place during next month's HISCFA Board of Directors meeting, on Saturday, September 8, 2018 at 9:00 am at the Harsen's Island Lions Hall. The date is being pushed forward in an effort to be more accommodating for those who are not near/on the Island in the winter months.
- *Fall Party – Bonfire and Pig Roast:* Susan Bryson is the committee chairperson for this event. An ad has been placed in The Flyer, and the event is taking place on Saturday, September 15, 2018. A live band will be playing at this year's event.

## NEW BUSINESS

- *Division of Duties:* Barbara Crown would like to see if anyone else would like to take charge of the following duties that she takes on every year. Barb will send a follow-up email to the directors to see who is willing to take on these tasks.
  - *Membership letter – writing and distributing*
  - *Advertising sign – contracts and collecting money*
  - *Water station – collecting money and issuing access cards*
- *Next year's executive board:* At the Annual Membership Meeting next month, votes will be taken on next year's executive board. Barbara Crown wishes to *not* be President next year, so she's hoping to sit as past President on the board and for someone else to step up.
- *Pickleball:* A request came in to seek permanent nets to be established at the pickleball courts. The nets that are being used at the courts are portable nets and are somewhat delicate, and need to be carefully set up and taken down upon each use. The current situation is that all nets are locked in a bin that belongs to an individual. That individual and a few others have access to the bin, but not everyone, or anyone not belonging to the group of people who play often, have access to it. Two of the nets belong to / were donated on behalf the Association. A request was made to either acquire another bin to hold the nets belonging to the Association, and/or investigate the possibility of setting up permanent nets. Barbara Crown has been in contact with a company to get some costs to complete the job and see whether it is financially feasible to do.

Additional comments from directors or guests:

- ✓ John Cameron, an honorary member of the Association, took part in building the Water Station when it was first built. He would like everyone to know that the Island won't have what it has today (and in the future), if everyone doesn't get involved and take part. More people need to volunteer to keep this Island great.
- ✓ Great Lakes Islands Alliance (formerly Great Lakes Islands Coalition) is hosting a webinar on Wednesday, August 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2018. This webinar will discuss water levels in the Great Lakes and the target audience will be



solely islanders and they will try to tailor the discussion specifically the needs of islands. Details of this event will be posted on the Association's social media sites.

- ✓ Mike Hilla would like to know whether the Association can purchase tables to use at Browne's Field and keep them there, as opposed to borrowing tables from the Lions and having to collect them and bring them over.
- ✓ September 29<sup>th</sup>, 2018 is the 3<sup>rd</sup> annual Sportsman's Swap Meet and Duck and Goose Calling Contest. The Facebook event has been added to the Association's Facebook page and list of events.
- ✓ Melanie Most suggested to have some sort of "barometer" graphic or chart of some kind to show the progress of where the Association is with fundraising for permanent restrooms at Browne's Field.
- ✓ Mike Hilla suggested perhaps using Browne's Field as a boat storage yard or other use that a field would do in order to generate some extra revenue for the Association.

Next meeting will be Saturday, September 8, 2018 at **9:00 am** at the Harsen's Island Lions Hall.

**Jerry Thiel made the motion to adjourn; Mike Hilla seconded. All in favor; meeting adjourned at 10:15 am.**

Respectfully submitted,

Melanie Most, Recording Secretary

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