



Harsen's Island St. Clair Flats Association

Minutes November 10, 2018

Directors Present: Craig Baloga, George Covalle, Neva Covalle, Barbara Crown, Patrick Feighan, Jim Laethem, David Martin, Melanie Most, Harold Stieber, Dennis Szymanski, Jerry Thiel, Lois Whipple;

Excused: Todd Brady, Jerry Freeman, Donna Halacoglu, Mike Hilla, Kathy O'Connor, Leonard Verlinden, Rosemary Wieczorek;

Guests and Members Present: Christine Baloga, Linda Schoonover, Joanne Shirkey, Debbie Thiel, Robert Wishart.

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

The October 2018 meeting minutes were presented. **David Martin made the motion to approve the October 2018 meeting minutes, Jerry Thiel 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 October 2018. Harold reported that the balance in the checkbook for October 31, 2018 was \$37,193.36, with total cash on hand being \$60,323.67. Full copies of the monthly Treasurer's Report are available by contacting Harold at HaroldS@hiscfa.org.

Patrick Feighan made the motion to approve the October 2018 treasurer's reports, David Martin seconded to approve; all in favor, motion carried, reports to be placed on file.

Secretary Report: Neva Covalle stated there are currently 776 members, and of the 167 members at The Old Club, 20 are brand new members.

Communications: Neva Covalle stated that there were no communications received this month.

Government Affairs: The results of the local election were discussed. Island resident Sue Jarvis-Zobel has been busy coordinating the next CPR class on the Island which is set to take place on Saturday November 17, 2018 from 9am – 1pm at the Harsen's Island Lions Hall.

Browne's Field: Portable toilets are going to be taken care of at Browne's Field by taking one of them away to be placed at the ferry on the mainland, and leaving the handicapped unit at Browne's Field through the winter. The units are serviced every Thursday. There was additional damage done to the driveway in front of the advertising sign at Browne's Field. Patrick Feighan came to an agreement with the party who created the damage and they have agreed on a solution for its repair. The permanent fix is going to have a culvert pipe put in place. Also, recently the battery was replaced in the lock to the door of the kitchen in the pavilion.



OLD BUSINESS

- *Board of Directors Christmas Party:* The Board of Directors annual holiday party is scheduled for Saturday December 8, 2018 at Club Capri. The start time is 6pm and it will include the white elephant gift exchange again this year. This is taking place in lieu of a meeting in December as usual.
- *Clay Township Fire Advisory Board:* Definitions have been completed for the roles of the fire department personnel and a presentation/report has been put together to be published. There will be a meeting on the Island at the Lions Hall next week on Wednesday November 14th, 2018 at 7pm to discuss all the activity that has been taking place with this advisory board. Supervisor Bryson and Fire Chief Rose have gone through the presentation/report and will be providing paper copies for those who lack access to the electronic copies. Susan Bryson mentioned that you can drop off a message at the ferry office and they would be willing to post an announcement about this event on their digital sign. George Covalle stated that he would provide the text to the ferry prior to the event.
- *Membership Letter:* The 2019 Annual Membership Letter is going to be prepared by Jerry and Debbie Thiel this year. If you have any ideas for articles, please get with them.
- *Survey Committee:* Melanie Most, Christine Baloga, and Barbara Crown have formed a committee for this initiative and will be meeting after today's Director meeting to discuss the path forward and create a plan for deploying the survey to the members.

NEW BUSINESS

- *Grant research / writing committee:* Harold Stieber has a source that has come forward that would like to assist with the grant writing process in the future for the Association. Joanne Shirkey mentioned that Cindy Babisz at the Clay Township Building Department is very active in writing grants as well as attending seminars on the topic, so she might be a good resource to tap for relevant information. Linda Schoonover asked to participate in the grant writing process when they are to take place in the future.
- *Goals for 2019:* There was some discussion about what is going to be an attainable goal(s) for the Association for 2019, and many Directors expressed interest in establishing a walking path around Browne's Field. Originally the idea of a walking path was put on hold because the Township had plans to construct a walking path around the proposed kayak launch, but since there are delays with the grants that the Township were hoping to receive, many Directors wanted to proceed with the path at Browne's Field instead of waiting. However, the estimated quotation for this project is around \$60,000, although Dennis and Patrick both think that it can be done for about a third of that cost if done and sourced ourselves. Another idea was to either fix or remove the floating dock on the pond at the Field. Completing a few grants might be another goal that could be attainable for next year. Any ideas for goals are welcome and will be entertained.



Additional comments from directors or guests:

- ✓ The Harsen's Island Lioness' 4th Annual Soup Cook-Off will be taking place at the Lions Hall tonight at 6:00 pm. Detail are available on Nextdoor.
- ✓ Christine Baloga reminded the group that the electronic sign at Browne's Field needed to be updated to reflect the Daylight Savings time change.
- ✓ George Covalle wanted to say Thank You to the Association President (Barbara Crown) for all her hard work this year, and Barbara Crown thanked everyone for all of their hard work as well.

Next meeting will be Saturday, January 12, 2019 at **9:30 am** at the Harsen's Island Lions Hall.

Lois Whipple made the motion to adjourn; Jerry Thiel seconded. All in favor; meeting adjourned at 9:46 am.

Respectfully submitted,

Melanie Most, Recording Secretary

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