



## Harsen's Island St. Clair Flats Association

### Minutes August 10, 2019

**Directors Present:** Craig Baloga, Todd Brady, George Covalle, Neva Covalle, Barbara Crown, Donna Halacoglu, Mike Hilla, Jim Laethem, David Martin, Melanie Most, Harold Stieber, Jerry Thiel, Leonard Verlinden, Lois Whipple, Rosemary Wiczorek;

**Excused:** Susan Bryson, Patrick Feighan, Jerry Freeman, Kathy O'Connor, Dennis Szymanski;

**Guests and Members Present:** Alfred Cardinali, Joanne Shirkey.

George Covalle brought the meeting to order at the Harsen's Island Lions Hall at 9:00 am with the Pledge of Allegiance.

The July 2019 meeting minutes were presented. **Jerry Thiel made the motion to approve the July 2019 meeting minutes, David Martin seconded to approve; all in favor, motion carried, minutes to be placed on file.**

#### Executive Committee Reports

**Treasurer Report:** Harold Stieber presented the June Treasurer's Reports. Harold reported that the balance in the checkbook for July 31, 2019 was \$58,852.55, with total cash on hand being \$82,119.72. Full copies of the monthly Treasurer's Report are available by contacting Harold at [HaroldS@hiscfa.org](mailto:HaroldS@hiscfa.org).

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

**Secretary Report:** Four new memberships have been received from Field Day, and two new memberships have been mailed to the Association. Membership is down approximately 100 people this year over last year but it is still nice to be receiving memberships into the summer.

**Communications:** No communications have been received this month. Thank-You notes have been handwritten and delivered to several people regarding their generosity with Field Day and also The Delta News.

**Government Affairs:** George Covalle reported from the Clay Township meeting that the township has decided to not increase the garbage rates, water rates, and police/fire rates for next year.

**Browne's Field:** Barbara Crown reported that due to the increased number of rentals, the pavilion at Browne's Field has been kept in top shape recently, and that the efforts to dry up the water have been successful.

#### OLD BUSINESS

- *Field Day:* Harold Stieber discussed revenues from Field Day. An official report will be available for next month's meeting. There were approximately 60 children that attended this year's event.



- *The Delta News*: Books are being passed out at The Landing both today and tomorrow. Please make every effort to pick up these books if possible since they are costly to mail. Neva Covalle is waiting to hear back from the Post Office on how to best handle the bulk mailing of the books this year. Neva, Donna Halacoglu, and Barbara Crown all agreed they will attempt to hand out as many as possible to their homes.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

- *Investments*: George Covalle stated that we are not effectively using the money we make very well. The money donated to the Association essentially just goes into the Association's checking account. George met with the Vice President of the Community Foundation of St. Clair County, Jacquelyn Hanton, and she stated that they handle around \$80 million in funds. In an effort to invest some of this money, George would like to see the Association invest its money and wanted to introduce this to the board. Several board members present at the meeting expressed interest in pursuing this as an option for the Association. George will report in more detail at next month's meeting.
- *Annual Meeting*: October 12, 2019 has been set as the date for this year's Annual Meeting. There are several directors that are up for renewal this year, and this will be addressed at that meeting. Mike Hilla's term is ending and he will not be renewing, and additionally Patrick Feighan has tendered his resignation effective immediately. His letter of resignation is included here:

*To the HISCFA Board of Directors:*

*It is with a heavy heart that I tender my resignation and retirement from the Harsen's Island St. Clair Flats Association Board of Directors and my current position of Executive Vice President. It has been an honor and a privilege to serve as your President, Vice President, and Board Chairman over these past years as well as various Committee assignments. Ours is a unique and wonderful community: North America's largest freshwater delta. Recent health issues have left Suzy and me with an almost impossible situation and we are dealing with it as best we can. We will always hold Harsen's Island and the St Clair Flats as heaven on earth. After all, Harsens Island must be heaven... Why? Because a Ferry takes you there! We have been most fortunate to have spent a lifetime enjoying that heaven and meeting the greatest people you'll find anywhere.*

*So it is our most fervent wish that you carry on the noble tradition of service to community and carry the torch to the next generation. "In unity there is strength," our founding motto, has never been more apt.*

*Peace!*

*Love!*

*Warmest regards,*

*Patrick F. Feighan*

**David Martin made a motion for the HISCFA to accept the resignation of Patrick Feighan; Jerry Thiel seconded, all in favor, motion carried.**

- *Pig Roast and Bonfire*: This event has been set for September 14, 2019 and tickets will be available at the Waterfront Shoppe and the Sans Souci Market.



Additional comments from directors or guests:

- ✓ Donna Halacoglu stated that she and Cindy Pilato will be passing out welcome bags on behalf of the Welcome Committee. Donna and Cindy will go to “new” residents’ homes and provide them with a goody bag of local and Island information.
- ✓ David Martin stated that he is handling the coordination of payment for the portable toilets with the Township. The HISCFA is paying for two, and the Township is paying for three.

Next meeting will be Saturday, September 14, 2019 at **9:00 am** at the Harsen’s Island Lions Hall.

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

Respectfully submitted,

Melanie Most, Recording Secretary

[MelanieM@hiscfa.org](mailto:MelanieM@hiscfa.org)