



Harsen's Island St. Clair Flats Association

Minutes June 10, 2017

Directors Present: Barbara Crown, Mike Hilla, Art Koster, Jim Laethem, David Martin, Melanie Most, Kathy O'Connor, Harold Stieber, Dennis Szymanski, Leonard Verlinden, Lois Whipple, Rosemary Wieczorek;

Excused: Todd Brady, Susan Bryson, Neva Covalle, Patrick Feighan, Jerry Freeman, Donna Halacoglu, Denne Osgood;

Guests and Members Present: Artie Bryson, Jeanne Burczykcki, Ken Podolski, Ken Roth, Linda Schoonover, Stephanie Spencer.

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

The May 2017 meeting minutes were presented. **David Martin made the motion to approve the May meeting minutes, Jerry Thiel seconded to approve; motion carried, minutes to be placed on file.**

Executive Committee Reports

Treasurer Report: Harold Stieber presented the treasurer's reports for May 2017. Harold reported that the balance in the checkbook for May 31, 2017 was \$42,171.24, with total cash on hand being \$65,101.67. A Costco membership was obtained to take advantage of those savings for future events. Full copies of the monthly Treasurer's Report are available by contacting Harold at stiebha@gmail.com.

Jerry Thiel made the motion to approve the May 2017 treasurer's report, Leonard Verlinden seconded to approve; motion carried, reports to be placed on file.

Secretary Report: Barbara Crown reported that there were a total of 780 members paid current for this year including the 163 Old Club members. There are 54 new members this year, and those former members that haven't contacted the Association since 2009 have been removed from the mailing list. There are 52 car show entries have been received to date as well.

Communications: Barbara Crown mentioned that reminder postcards were sent to those members who have not yet paid their dues.

Government Affairs: Artie Bryson was present to give a brief report on government affairs. There is a Town Hall meeting at the Lions Hall on Thursday, June 15, 2017 at 7:00 pm concerning the freighter wash and pleasure boat wakes regarding the high water level. Several agencies have been invited to the Island to attend this meeting including the United States Coast Guard, United States Army Corps of Engineers, the St. Clair County Sheriff Marine Division, and others. FEMA and NOAA told Clay Township Supervisor Artie Bryson that it is 100% the responsibility of the county to enforce the wake rules on the water in our area. The cost estimate for enforcement improvement is approximately \$40,000 and an additional \$8,000 for increased signage and education, both of which has been met with resistance from the county. The bottom line is that more enforcement is needed but this idea is not well-received, even when Clay Township sends about 2.5 million dollars in taxes to the county. Island resident attendance at this Town Hall meeting is highly encouraged.



Island Cleanup days were a huge success last weekend. Clay Township Fire Chief George Rose was on site at Browne's Field to assist both days and there are plans to make next year's event even more efficient. Three 40-yard containers of tires that were picked up on the island. Between eight and ten boats and a camper were collected for disposal, and eleven 40-yard containers of garbage were removed which is not including the fire pit of other items that were burned. The Browne's Field parking lot and driveway also got a much-needed topping of gravel and grading courtesy of Clay Township and the St. Clair County Road Commission.

Harold Stieber thanked Artie Bryson and Clay Township for quickly responding to a request for additional information from the State of Michigan regarding the Association and whether it was a qualified organization. This raffle license will be for the upcoming events including the car show and Field Day.

Browne's Field (upkeep and future development): A painting party has been scheduled for Monday, June 12, 2017 at 9:00 am for volunteers to begin painting and maintenance on the new addition to the pavilion including installing shelving and racks. The pressure washer was used to clean up the inside of the pavilion and the picnic tables. The bike rack was pulled out from under the pavilion and put in its place for use. Patrick Feighan sent the board a list of ongoing items that need to be completed at the field. He requested that a motion be entertained to clean up the donated boat, spending \$650 to clean it up prior to attempting to sell it. **Jerry Thiel made a motion to allocate \$650 to clean up and wax the boat in preparation for selling; David Martin supported. All in favor; motion approved.**

Pickleball: A drafted plan and cost estimation has been created regarding the reconstruction of the one tennis court being converted into four pickleball courts.

Patrick Feighan, chairperson of the Browne's Field Committee, requested that a motion be made providing the HISCFA Pickleball Committee with funding in the amount of \$6,000.00 to procure the necessary materials and supplies to complete Phase 1 of the Tennis Court / Pickleball Court refurbishment project. This includes patching the existing playing surfaces, removing the near court tennis net posts and patching, applying a new surface coating with definition striping delineating four (4) new pickleball courts, purchasing four (4) new portable pickleball nets, and an accompanying storage locker. Additionally, this amount includes contracting Anchor Bay Fence to provide and install fencing separating the remaining tennis court from the four (4) new pickleball courts. All labor and sundry expenses are to be provided by the Pickleball Committee volunteers and associates. Disbursement will be done with accompanying receipts and under the supervision of HISCFA Treasurer Harold Stieber. Upon the successful completion of Phase 1 and a thorough review of the courts' use, Phase 2 funding will be entertained by the board at that time. **David Martin made the motion to rescind the motion from August 13, 2016 and approve the above-stated motion; Dennis Szymanski supported. All in favor; motion approved.**

Browne's Field Rental: There are no new rentals at this time. The Harsen's Island Militia (H.I.M.) games are scheduled for June 11, July 23, and September 17, 2017. Next weekend is the Trunk-to-Trunk Sale, and today is the free shredding event courtesy of Dianne Huber of Keller Williams Realty.

Scholarship Committee: The Scholarship Committee would like to entertain a motion to provide Elizabeth Mack and Jamie Socia each a \$1,000 scholarship for outstanding achievements and extracurricular activities, pending completion of the first year of schooling and a minimum GPA as stated in the Scholarship requirements. Both students are maintaining over a 3.7 GPA and both are members of the National Honor Society (NHS). **Lois Whipple made a motion to award a \$1,000 scholarship each to Elizabeth Mack and Jamie Socia; David Martin seconded. All in favor; motion approved.** To clarify: one scholarship is an Orlo and Mary Ann McLane scholarship, and the other is a HISCFA scholarship.



Car Show: The date for the second annual car show is Saturday, July 15, 2017. Volunteers for this event are being requested to assist with running the show on that date. Specifically, a golf cart is needed to drive the judges around, and/or someone is needed on the day of the show to physically drive the cart. Also, for this event: judges, parking directors, registration, etc. are needed to help operate the show and keep things moving. Proceeds for this show are going directly to Browne's Field fund for the restrooms and water at the pavilion. Barbara Crown will put information into The Flyer about getting volunteers for this event.

Field Day: Neva Covalle submitted that things are moving along and there is a committee in place handling everything for the event on Saturday, August 5, 2017. Raffle tickets will be printed soon, and Barbara Crown is going to see about getting HISCFA window decals to send out with the raffle ticket mailings. Susan Bryson submitted that she is planning on running the Silent Auction again this year with the assistance of Kathy O'Connor.

Bonfire and Pig Roast: The date for this event will be Saturday, September 16, 2017. The liquor license application has been submitted for this event and is pending approval with the State of Michigan.

OLD BUSINESS

- *Board opening*: There is currently one open position on the board, and there are currently 17 members total on the board.
- *HISCFA Shirts*: The shirts have been ordered and should arrive next week.
- *Website*: Melanie Most is now an administrator for the HISCFA Facebook page (www.facebook.com/HISCFA) and has been regularly posting updates for upcoming events and other pertinent information. Todd Brady has been asked about his assistance with the website going forward.
- *Great Lakes Islands Coalition*: Harold Stieber sent some information from the DNR, and the DNR would like to form a coalition of inhabited islands around Michigan and would like information from the HISCFA. There is a meeting for this Coalition on September 25 and 26, 2017 on Beaver Island. More information is available about this project at: <https://www.northland.edu/sustain/crc/great-lakes-islands/>
- *Township Roads Report (Joanne Shirkey)*: Dennis Szymanski reported that he noticed all of the dirt roads have added about 3-4 inches of gravel onto the tops of them.
- *Trunk-to-Trunk Sale*: The first Trunk-to-Trunk Sale is scheduled for June 17th, 2017 in the parking lot at Browne's Field. Donna will assist Barb Crown with setting up this event. The second date will be determined upon the success of the first date.

NEW BUSINESS

- *Donated Boat & Trailer*: Specs on the boat need to be collected, and a motion was approved earlier in this meeting to provide funds to wash and wax the boat in order to sell it.

Additional comments from directors or guests:

- ✓ The Blueways of St. Clair's "Play in the Bay" is today, Saturday, June 10th, 2017. This is a celebratory event in honor of the Grand Opening of the Krispin Blueway.
- ✓ Clay Township Supervisor Artie Bryson is having a special Town Hall Meeting at the Lions Hall on Harsen's Island this Tuesday evening June 15th at 7:00 pm.
- ✓ Saturday, June 10th (today) is "Free Shred Day" hosted by Dianne Huber of Keller Williams Realty at Browne's Field. Bring your documents and shred them for free.



Next meeting will be Saturday, July 8th, 2017 at **9:00am** at the Harsen's Island Lions Hall.

Leonard Verlinden made the motion to adjourn; David Martin seconded. All in favor; meeting adjourned at 9:53 am.

Respectfully submitted,

Melanie Most, Recording Secretary