



## Harsen's Island St. Clair Flats Association

Minutes June 9, 2018

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

**Excused:** Susan Bryson, Neva Covalle, Paul Stieler, Lois Whipple;

**Guests and Members Present:** Artie Bryson, Charles Hahn, Dolores Jackson, Bernardo Licata, Kenneth Roth, Ruth Roth, Joanne Shirkey, Skip Tornow, Sue Tornow.

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

The May 2018 meeting minutes were presented. **David Martin made the motion to approve the May 2018 meeting minutes, Leonard Verlinden 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 May 2018. Harold reported that the balance in the checkbook for May 31, 2018 was \$41,838.01, with total cash on hand being \$64,926.03. Full copies of the monthly Treasurer's Report are available by contacting Harold at stiebha@gmail.com.

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

**Secretary Report:** Of the 906 membership letters that were sent out, so far only 489 paid memberships for 2018 have been received to date. There have already been 34 paid entries received for the Car Show this year. Reminder cards will be issued to those who have not responded.

**Communications:** A donation of \$150 was received by the Association in memory of Denne Osgood.

**Government Affairs:** A resolution was made by the Clay Township Board of Trustees to include dates that Township meetings will take place on Harsen's Island at the Lions Hall. There are five dates that have been established for 2018-2019. These dates are July 16, August 20, and September 17, 2018. For 2019 the dates are May 20 and June 17. A copy of Resolution 2018-21 can be seen in the Appendix of this document. Additionally, work is still ongoing to keep the freighter speeds down and protect our properties.

Clay Township Supervisor Artie Bryson was present and stated that this past Thursday the fire department ratified their contract that was presented to them. Artie believes it is a good, fair contract which makes them the highest-paid part-time fire department in St. Clair County. Work is still being done pushing for bond approval in August for capital equipment only. The township will be seeking a two million dollar bond which will be 0.33 mils, so if you have a \$200,000 house with a taxable assessed value of \$100,000, it will cost \$33/year. The primary use of this



capital funding will be to purchase tankers, pumpers, and other necessary equipment. For reference, the useful life of a fire truck is approximately 20 years, with a possible additional 10 years as a backup or secondary truck. The newest fire truck in Clay Township's fleet (which is located on the Island) was purchased in 2005 (but will not be sold), but all other vehicles in the fleet are over 20 years old and one is actually over 30 years old. The previous policy in place was to purchase used equipment which requires sinking a lot of money into repair year after year, and this has not been proven to be an effective policy. Going forward, the plan will be to buy four engines, and sell five. This will be downsizing the fleet a little bit, but new boat motors will be purchased as well. The township will be replacing two-stroke engines with four-strokes, since the current two-stroke engines are pushing around 2000 hours on each. Fire boats don't get a chance to adequately warm up and are ran hard immediately which is very hard on the engines. Anything left over will be put into capital improvements for the buildings. The goal of getting the equipment up to speed is hopefully to draw personnel to wanting to work for our township. Part of the contract is that a requirement will be to serve a specific number of man-hours on a duty shift, or respond to at least 25% of all-calls.

Supervisor Bryson went on to talk about the proposed Krispin Drain kayak launch, stating that he was invited to speak in front of the trust fund board, which typically indicates that it is extremely likely that Clay Township is going to receive the grant to purchase the land for the kayak launch. Another grant was allocated to Clay Township called 360 Terrain: this is providing a virtual tour of kayaking trails in the state of Michigan. Three blue-ways have been selected in our township, and one of them is the Krispin Drain. This will be taking place in July, so you will see someone in a kayak with special cameras to create a virtual tour for all to see.

Browne's Field: Patrick Feighan stated that he noticed there has been chloride placed on the dirt roads around the Island, and he asked Supervisor Bryson whether the county can do the same to Browne's Field while they are here. A lot of other maintenance has recently taken place by the volunteer committee: grass mowed and trimmed, pavilion power washed and cleaned, picnic table power washed and placed around the field, and a new pavilion bulletin board installed. Rubber mulch was acquired to replace the padding around the bottom of the children's structures along with new landscaping surrounding. Neva has collected a list of volunteers, but it may be required to hire out this work because it is legitimately going to be a large task that may be beyond the scope of volunteers. A suggestion was placed about service programs (e.g. Boy Scouts) to fulfill some of their service time to assist with these projects. A representative from the Garden Club confirmed that the mulch that has been selected for Browne's Field has been wonderful at the triangle maintained by the ferry. The yellow perimeter posts need to be painted and volunteers are needed for this project. Pat is also working with some people to repair/replace the dock on the pond. The tennis court fencing also needs to be repainted.

## **OLD BUSINESS**

- *Island Cleanup:* This event took place last weekend on Saturday and Sunday June 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> at Browne's Field. This was a great success again this year.
- *The Delta News:* The Delta News for 2018 is still currently underway and is at the printer for layout and design. If anyone has any articles they would like to submit, please contact Barbara Crown.
- *Survey Committee:* Volunteers for this committee need to be established to set a date to get started.
- *Browne's Field Trunk-to-Trunk Sale:* The Trunk-to-Trunk Sale event will take place at Browne's Field on Saturday, June 16, 2018 from 9am-12pm. Participants can arrive as early as 8:00 am to begin setting up for the sale, and there is a \$10 entry fee per car. Mike Hilla is asking for volunteers to assist with this event.
- *3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Car Show:* A committee meeting for this event is taking place immediately following this Board of Directors meeting, in the Den of the Lions Hall. The Car Show will be taking place next month on Saturday, July 14, 2018.



- *Field Day Meeting:* A committee meeting took place with Cindy Pilato regarding the Field Day event and many details have been decided to keep this moving forward. Harold added that the raffle license has been sent in, and Dennis stated the beer and wine distributors are lined up for this event. Harold entertained a motion to process the application for alcohol license for the three big events coming up. **Harold Stieber made a motion for the Harsen's Island St. Clair Flats Association's application for a special license to serve alcohol on the above-mentioned dates (July 14, August 4, September 15) to be located at Browne's Field; Patrick Feighan seconded. Ayes: 17, Nays: 0. All in favor; motion carried.**
- *Bates Cut Water Station:* Jerry Freeman has been working with people near The Flats and they have done some work on the pump and hopefully the volunteers will continue to volunteer and this service will remain active until volunteerism ends.

### NEW BUSINESS

- *Playscape landscaping:* As stated previously, volunteers are needed for this task and may need to contracted out depending on the number of volunteers that come forward and are capable of handling such a large job.
- *Free Shredding Event:* There will be another Shred-for-Free day to be held today, Saturday, June 9, 2018 from 9am-12pm at Browne's Field. This event is sponsored by Dianne Huber of Keller Williams Realty. Bring your old documents and shred them for free.
- *Silent Auction:* Prizes are needed for the Silent Auction at Field Day this year (and every year!). Please contact Susan Bryson and Kathy O'Connor if you have items to donate.
- *Blight Discussion (Ruth Roth):* A loose organization has been formed (Harsen's Island Citizens Association to Prevent Blight) to help fight blight on the Island. The Township is lacking a lot of funds to maintain this on the island. There is not a specific blight complaint form within the Township, so the organization made their own form, and people are able to take them, make copies, fill them out, and return them to the Code Enforcement department at the Township. Alternatively, you can hand them to Ruth and she will take them to the township. Trailers are an issue, and there is no specific ordinance regarding trailers, but it is being worked on. Doris Jackson was able to find the St. Clair County Health Department blight form, and on there is a category for sewage complaint. These trailers being placed on properties on the Island obviously do not have septic tank and the concern is where the sewage is going. The County Health Department is a place to complain about sewage, and there is an address on the bottom of the form. Copies of these forms will be scanned and made available with these minutes in the Appendix. Doris mentioned several points with respect to trailers being used on lots/properties. The concern is not over trailers that are simply being stored because there is already an ordinance for that. The concern is camper-type trailers that are being used as temporary dwellings which are taking advantage of issues like sewage, utilities, taxes, inspections on permanent structures, and city services like police, fire, etc. Charles Hahn asked what is the definition of blight, and Supervisor Bryson stated that it is stated in the ordinance #135.



Additional comments from directors or guests:

- ✓ Rosemary Wieczorek asked what was going on with the broken popcorn machine with the events coming up. Patrick Feighan asked whether we should buy a new machine, so Rosemary is going to investigate how much a new one will cost. There is also a possibility of sharing the popcorn machine with the Lions Hall.
- ✓ A framed piece of art was received during this meeting from Woodside Bible Church for a donation for the Silent Auction.

Next meeting will be Wednesday, July 11, 2018 at **5:00 pm** at the Harsen's Island Lions Hall. Please note that this is a unique date and time for this event ONLY due to the conflict with the Charity Car Show occurring on Saturday, July 14<sup>th</sup> at Browne's Field.

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

Respectfully submitted,

Melanie Most, Recording Secretary

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



## APPENDIX



**RESOLUTION 2018-21  
SETTING THE TOWNSHIP OF CLAY  
County of St. Clair and State of Michigan  
BOARD MEETING DATES**

At a regular meeting of the Township Board of the Township of Clay, County of St. Clair, Michigan, held in the Township Hall, in said Township on Monday 4<sup>th</sup> day of June, 2018 at 7:00 o'clock p.m., Eastern Standard Time.

**PRESENT:** Supervisor Artie Bryson, Clerk Cindy Valentine, Treasurer Kristi Hiltunen, Trustee Sandee Kuhfeldt, Trustee Joanne Shirkey, Trustee Chris O'Regan, Trustee Mark Borchardt  
**ABSENT:** None

The following Preamble and Resolution was offered by Clerk Valentine and supported by Trustee O'Regan:

**WHEREAS**, the provisions of Michigan law and statute as provided, Clay Township Board of Trustees, Saint Clair County, Michigan, establishes that there will be two (2) regular monthly meetings on the first and third Mondays except:

- First meeting in September which will be held on a Tuesday due to observed Labor Day.

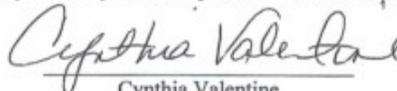
**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT:** meetings on the following dates for the 2018-2019 year. Meetings will begin at 7:00p.m. and will take place at the Clay Township Hall, 4710 Pte. Tremble, Michigan 48001 – unless posted otherwise.

<b>Monday, July 2, 2018</b>	<b>Monday January 8, 2019</b>
<b>Monday, July 16 – Harsens Isl.</b>	<b>Monday January 22,</b>
<b>Monday, August 6</b>	<b>Monday February 4</b>
<b>Monday, August 20 – Harsens Isl.</b>	<b>Monday February 18</b>
<b>Tuesday, September 4</b>	<b>Monday March 4</b>
<b>Monday, September 17 – Harsens Isl.</b>	<b>Monday March 18</b>
<b>Monday, October 1</b>	<b>Monday April 1</b>
<b>Monday, October 15</b>	<b>Monday April 15</b>
<b>Monday, November 5</b>	<b>Monday May 6</b>
<b>Monday, November 19</b>	<b>Monday May 20 – Harsens Isl.</b>
<b>Monday, December 3</b>	<b>Monday June 3</b>
<b>Monday, December 17</b>	<b>Monday June 17 – Harsens Isl.</b>

**ROLL CALL VOTE WAS AS FOLLOWS:**

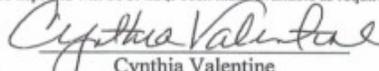
**AYES:** Supervisor Artie Bryson, Clerk Cindy Valentine, Treasurer Kristi Hiltunen, Trustee Sandee Kuhfeldt, Trustee Joanne Shirkey, Trustee Chris O'Regan, Trustee Mark Borchardt  
**NAYES:** None  
**ABSENT:** None

**This Resolution adopted by the Clay Township Board of Trustees on June 04, 2018**

  
Cynthia Valentine  
Clay Township Clerk

**CERTIFICATION**

The undersigned Clerk of the Township of Clay, hereby certifies that the foregoing constitutes a true and complete copy of a Resolution adopted by the Clay Township Board of Trustees of the Township of Clay, County of St. Clair, Michigan at a meeting held on June 04, 2018 at which seven (7) members of the Township Board were present and voted as indicated, that said meeting was held in accordance with the Open Meetings Act of the State of Michigan, being Act 267, Public Acts of Michigan, 1976, and that the minutes of said meeting were kept and will be or have been made available as required by said Act.

  
Cynthia Valentine  
Clay Township Clerk



## **CITIZEN'S BLIGHT COMPLAINT FORM**

### **CLAY TOWNSHIP, MI**

Blight Ordinance # 135

Address for Complaint/Problem

Description of Complaint/Problem

Your Name and Address (Optional)

Your Telephone and EMail

Mail to: Code Enforcement, Clay Township, 4710 Pointe Tremble, P O  
Box 429 Algonac, MI 48001 Phone 810- 794-9320 FAX 810-794-1964

