



Harsen's Island St. Clair Flats Association

Minutes July 10, 2021

Directors Present: Craig Baloga, Lucy Burby, George Covalle, Donna Halacoglu, Jim Laethem, Margaret Marchwinski, David Martin, Melanie Most, Harold Stieber, Dennis Szymanski, Jerry Thiel, Leonard Verlinden, Lois Whipple;

Excused: Deborah Addy, Susan Bryson, Jerry Freeman, Steve Gartland, Steve Lawrence, Jane Mount, Kathy O'Connor, Rosemary Wieczorek, Terry Wiggins;

Guests and Members Present: Mike Balan, Artie Bryson, Fred Cardinali, Neva Covalle, Karen Nihranz, George Rose, Linda Schoonover, Joanne Shirkey, Jim Stieber.

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

The June 2021 meeting minutes were presented. **David Martin made the motion to approve the June 2021 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 June 2021 Treasurer's Reports. Harold reported that the balance in the checkbook for June 30, 2021 was \$47,170.33, with total cash on hand being \$119,535.68. Full copies of the monthly Treasurer's Report are available by contacting Harold Stieber at HaroldS@hiscfa.org.

Dennis Szymanski made the motion to approve the June 2021 treasurer's reports, Jerry Thiel seconded to approve; all in favor, motion carried, reports to be placed on file.

Secretary Report: Margaret Marchwinski reported that we're winding down on our membership renewals. There are currently 696 active members, and memberships continue to slowly roll in throughout the rest of the year. The raffle tickets for Field Day have been sent out to the members, and The Delta News is going through the final proof and should be wrapped up this week or next. The publication will be handed out at Field Day on August 7, 2021.

Communications: There were no official communications received this month. Several questions have been coming in regarding usual HISCFA business like last-minute additions to The Delta News and inquiries on the advertising sign.

Browne's Field: Dennis Szymanski reported that the apron/entrance to the parking lot at Browne's Field was successfully regraded this past Wednesday. A couple of loads were added near the portable toilets to fill in where there is a lot of foot traffic. Dennis is looking to get the water department out to assess the issue of where water continues to pool up. The lawn mowing continues to be in great condition and they are very careful to watch the weather to be mindful of field conditions.



Government Affairs: Lois Whipple reminded everyone to take advantage of tuition assistance that is available through the State of Michigan.

Guest Speaker, Clay Township Supervisor Artie Bryson: Supervisor Bryson stated that gravel has been brought in by the County to resurface some Island roads that are in need of repair. Jobbie Nooner was a bit of a wash this year due to the weather. Tonight is Music in the Park at Browne's Field. The Algonac-Clay Community Foundation has given away \$250,000 in grants and scholarships since its inception and is funded solely by raffles and fundraisers. The principal keeps on rising, and they only spend the interest. Their latest fundraiser is for a gas-powered golf cart and tickets are \$20 each or 6 for \$100, with the winner being announced in August. The kayak launch site on Harsen's Island is in the middle of design and engineering. Unfortunately there won't be room to have an archery range due to the wetlands status of the property, but the walking path is still on. The lookout platform will be categorized as a birding platform based on the availability of a grant specifically for that purpose. The DNR intends to repair the launch sites scattered around the Island, but only when the funds become available – it seems that it will not happen this year. MDOT approached Supervisor Bryson about doing a ¾" slurry surface on M-154, but Supervisor Bryson suggested that it does not have a good enough base to support it. Instead, he suggested it needed a minimum 2" base to support this endeavor. The timing on this proposal is TBD. If MDOT does this in a timely manner, the County could do Golf Course Road at the same time. Cottage Lane is a local road, and it would be easier to do that road at the same time as well. The material is available, but the timing is a concern. A weight restriction was posted on the bridges, and now the County (and other heavy delivery services) won't go over the private bridges to Bruckner Island based on the posted weight restriction because they would be liable for any damages. In order to get these private roads taken over by the County, each road would need to be brought up to the current road specifications.

Guest Speaker, Clay Township Fire Chief George Rose: During the month of June, Chief Rose attended three meetings: the HISCFA meeting and the St. Clair County Fire Chief's Association where general business was discussed. He also attended a meeting with the US Coast Guard and agencies involved with the Jobbie Nooner event in June. The Clay Township Fire Department is starting to receive the new equipment that they ordered for the new engines. The hope is to have them in-service by the end of July. The radio was installed in the new airboat, and they are waiting for the quote from Magic Graphics to letter the boat. Jobbie Nooner was cancelled this year due to severe rain. Chief Rose would like to thank Mr. & Mrs. Bob Bryson for allowing us to use their property for staging. The fire department was geared-up for the 4th of July holiday; they assisted the Algonac Fire Department on two events: the fireworks stand-by and kids' fishing contest. All fire department equipment is currently in service.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

- *Browne's Field Restrooms / Fundraiser:* Craig Baloga stated that there have been several lines thrown out to various contractors, two of which were rejections. It appears that labor is difficult to schedule and many business are either unable or unwilling to support this project at this time. Neva Covalle asked whether it even made sense to try to go forward with this project due to the cost of construction materials. Craig mentioned that it makes sense to obtain quotations when prices are high in order to get the "most bang for the buck" when applying for grants. Dennis Szymanski added that most contractors are only guaranteeing prices for 14 days anyways due to the rapid change in pricing.



- *Status of Grants:* Craig Baloga stated that there wasn't an opportunity to submit for any grants at this time due to lack of quotations coming back from requests.
- *Car Show Update:* Jerry Thiel reported that there have been many donations received for this event. Jerry seems to be expecting 250-300 cars this year. Tomorrow at 2 pm will be a volunteer meeting at Browne's Field to discuss what is needed for the day of the event (job assignments, etc.). The Friday setup (day before the show) will begin at 12pm and some volunteers are needed to get everything prepared for Saturday (day of the show).
- *Field Day update:* The 3rd prize kayak is still outstanding and needs to be purchased. Craig Baloga indicated that he will set out to purchase it this week. Craig will be sending out a notice for a weekday meeting as a follow-up on the status of Field Day and to tie up loose ends.

NEW BUSINESS

- *Sans Souci Memorial Relocation:* Craig Baloga spoke about a proposal to relocate the stone cube memorial that is currently located across the street from the Sans Souci Landing. It was discussed to move it onto Browne's Field, but more discussion will be needed on this topic. The reason for this discussion is that with the impending sale of the Landing (and with the Crowns no longer being the owners upon its sale), it was thought for the benefit of the community to move this to a more community-based location.

Additional comments from directors or guests:

- ✓ Melanie Most reminded everyone that the Concert in the Park will take place tonight at Browne's Field from 6:30 – 8:30 pm featuring the Detroit Blues Band with Jim McCarty. If you are unable to make it tonight, you can catch the next one on Saturday, July 24th (same time) featuring Ten Beach Drive.
- ✓ At the Music in the Park events, the C.A.T.T.A.I.L.S. will be selling light concessions at the pavilion.
- ✓ Karen Nihranz asked for the plaques on the donated benches at Browne's Field to be cleaned up. David Martin indicated that he completed one, but was unable to finish due to time and weather. The other one will be cleaned up soon.

Next meeting will be Saturday, August 14, 2021 at **9:00 am** at the Harsen's Island Lions Hall. ***This will be the annual membership meeting, when all members are encouraged to attend.***

David Martin made the motion to adjourn; Leonard Verlinden seconded. All in favor; meeting adjourned at 9:59 am.

Respectfully submitted,

Melanie Most, Recording Secretary

MelanieM@hiscfa.org



APPENDIX

Fire Department Incident Reports for Harsen's Island (June 2021)



Clay Township Fire & EMS

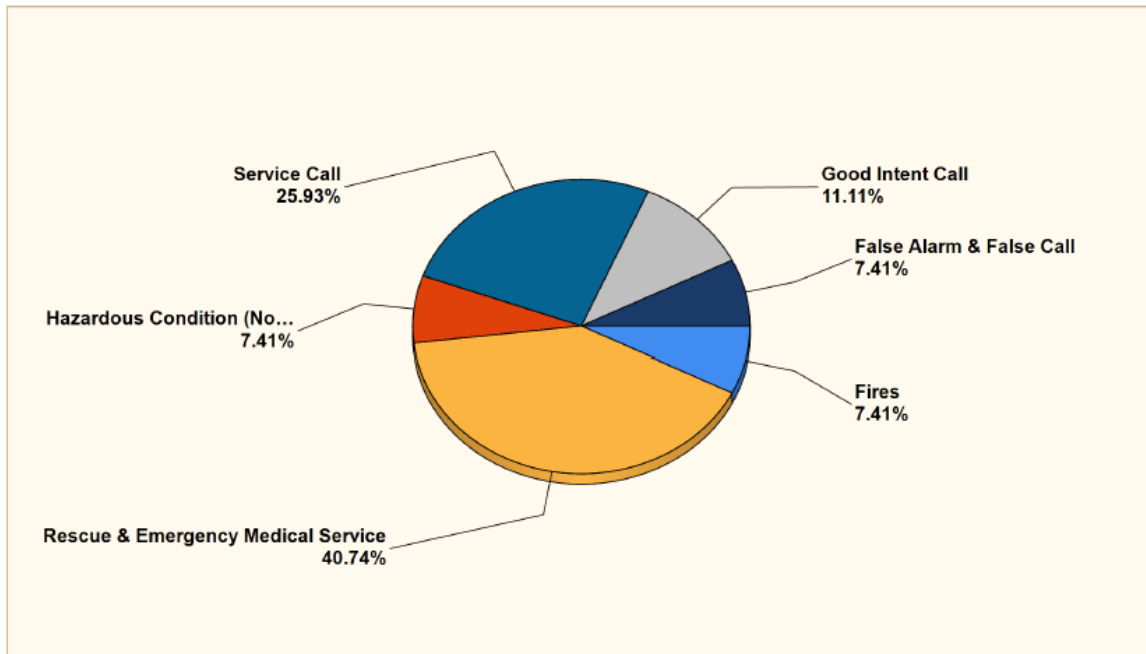
Clay Township, MI

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Breakdown by Major Incident Types for Date Range

Zone(s): 3 - HARSENS ISLAND | Start Date: 06/01/2021 | End Date: 06/30/2021



MAJOR INCIDENT TYPE	# INCIDENTS	% of TOTAL
Fires	2	7.41%
Rescue & Emergency Medical Service	11	40.74%
Hazardous Condition (No Fire)	2	7.41%
Service Call	7	25.93%
Good Intent Call	3	11.11%
False Alarm & False Call	2	7.41%
TOTAL	27	100%

Detailed Breakdown by Incident Type		
INCIDENT TYPE	# INCIDENTS	% of TOTAL
140 - Natural vegetation fire, other	1	3.7%
142 - Brush or brush-and-grass mixture fire	1	3.7%
311 - Medical assist, assist EMS crew	3	11.11%
321 - EMS call, excluding vehicle accident with injury	8	29.63%
444 - Power line down	2	7.41%
500 - Service Call, other	1	3.7%
554 - Assist invalid	1	3.7%
571 - Cover assignment, standby, moveup	5	18.52%
611 - Dispatched & cancelled en route	1	3.7%
631 - Authorized controlled burning	2	7.41%
715 - Local alarm system, malicious false alarm	2	7.41%
TOTAL INCIDENTS:	27	100%