



Harsen's Island St. Clair Flats Association

Minutes November 12, 2022

Directors Present: Craig Baloga, Lucy Burby, Steve Gartland, Steve Lawrence, Margaret Marchwinski, Melanie Most, Linda Schoonover, Harold Stieber, Leonard Verlinden, Lois Whipple;

Excused: David Martin, Dennis Szymanski;

Unexcused: Susan Bryson, Jerry Freeman, Kathy O'Connor, Rosemary Wieczorek, Terry Wiggins;

Guests and Members Present: Joe Bosy, John Dickson, Shelly Dickson, Roger Favrow, Sandra Favrow, Sue Konkel, Kurt Marchwinski, Jane Mount, Dan Neumann, Karen Nihranz, Cindy Pilato, George Rose, Jim Stieber, Bob Wasil, Randy Wildner.

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

The October 2022 meeting minutes were presented. **Steve Lawrence made the motion to approve the October 2022 meeting minutes, Linda Schoonover seconded to approve; all in favor, motion carried, minutes to be placed on file.**

Executive Committee Reports

Treasurer Report: Harold Stieber presented the October 2022 Treasurer's Report. Harold reported that the balance in the checkbook for October 31, 2022 was \$69,966.86, with total cash on hand being \$128,910.16. A full report for the recent BBQ & Bonfire will be coming next month. Full copies of the monthly Treasurer's Report are available by contacting Harold Stieber at HaroldS@hiscfa.org.

Leonard Verlinden made the motion to approve the October 2022 treasurer's reports, Steve Lawrence seconded to approve; all in favor, motion carried, reports to be placed on file.

Secretary Report: Margaret Marchwinski reported that she has been reaching out to members and buttoning up the mailing list as things come back through the mail. One new membership has been received this month. There are three new panels that have been reassigned that are going up at the advertising sign board at Browne's Field, and a few businesses that are still on the waitlist.

Communications: No official communications have been received this month.

Browne's Field: Craig Baloga indicated that the Bates Cut water station has been closed and winterized for the season. The main water station outdoor faucets will also be closed and winterized within the next week or so. The pickleball courts resurfacing (paperwork) will continue to be worked on during the winter so that it can be executed efficiently in the spring when weather permits. Linda Schoonover indicated that a local community service worker needs some additional hours, so Linda will supervise the worker a few times a week while she cleans the portable toilets and walks the field picking up any trash and dog waste.



Government Affairs: Lois Whipple recited some of the water level facts that have been posted by Paul Wargo recently, including that the water levels are down about three feet from its highest levels recently. Lois read an excerpt from a press release from Governor Whitmer's office on November 4, 2022 about home heating credit payments. The full press release can be found here:

<https://www.michigan.gov/whitmer/news/press-releases/2022/11/04/gov-whitmer-announces-nearly-210000-michigan-households#:~:text=LANSING%2C%20Mich..help%20keep%20their%20homes%20warm.>

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

- *Grant Update:* Jane Mount and Harold Stieber met to discuss the criteria of grants that the HISCFA may be eligible for. Harold contacted the Community Foundation for Southeast Michigan (CFSEM) directly to discuss the qualifications of grants. The HISCFA does not meet the criteria for qualifications because their grants do not cover capital expenditures as part of their general grant program. Property and equipment, which are considered capital expenditures, are primarily why the HISCFA is applying for grants in the first place. The contact at the Foundation further explained and refined the qualifications, and one of the subdivisions of the CFSEM that he mentioned was under the Ralph C. Wilson *Legacy* fund, under which the HISCFA can qualify. This "Legacy" fund is administered by the CFSEM which is particularly focused on things of our (HISCFA's) nature like parks development, and is different from the previously-applied Ralph C. Wilson grant. It appears that the HISCFA would qualify for this, but the HISCFA must subject our financials to some sort of financial review (for a cost to the Association) and the maximum available grant will be \$50,000. This particular program's application is due December 12, 2022, and the results will be available in April 2023. Harold and Jane will work together, along with a financial expert, to see whether this grant can be awarded to the HISCFA. In order to make our grant application more competitive, the HISCFA will need to expand on the greater community / number of people that will be served and the huge need for our Island (not just HISCFA members), including tourism and neighboring communities including mainland Clay Township and beyond.
- *Pavilion Vandalism:* Craig Baloga spoke with Clay Township Police Officer Tenbusch last night. He gave Craig all of his contact information, and explained that what the HISCFA needs to do is get invoices for the new lights and new grate that will be purchased, and include the labor costs on the invoice(s). He needs that information because the prosecutor's office asked for it in order to proceed with this case. The dollar amount will go towards the severity of the charge against the perpetrators. Lois Whipple, Harold Stieber, and Steve Lawrence will assist with pulling together this information to provide invoices to Officer Tenbusch.

NEW BUSINESS

- *Director Christmas Party:* There is no director meeting in the month of December, but directors should "Save the Date" for Friday, December 16, 2022 as the tentative date to have a Director Christmas party at the Schoolhouse Grille. More details will follow for HISCFA Directors via email.

Guest Speaker, Clay Township Fire Chief George Rose: During the month of October, Chief Rose attended two meetings: the St Clair Flats Association, and St. Clair County Fire Chief's Association where general business was discussed.



Pump testing was conducted on Engine #1, Engine #2, Engine #3, Tango-3, and Water Tender-1 in October. All vehicles passed their pump tests. Safety inspections were also completed on all department vehicles.

October was Fire Prevention Month, and the fire department conducted classes for the Algonac Childcare Center, Millside Elementary, and Algonquin Elementary, with over 450 kids participating. Chief Rose would like to thank Sergeant Carr, and Firefighters Devroy and Lee for giving the classes.

The Clay Township Fire Department held a Fire Safety Day at Channel View Mobile Home Park. Firefighters gave out handouts and set up the smoke trailer. Additionally, the Fire Department did stand-by at the Pearl Beach Lions' annual Halloween Bonfire.

The AEDs have come in, so cabinets are being looked at to support the mounting and alarm/communication of these devices. The township's severe weather sirens are still waiting on permits; there is currently one on the mainland at Bluebill and Dyke Road that is located on township property; a total of 4 will be going in on the Island once the permits from St. Clair County come in. Hopefully this will be complete by the end of this month.

Fire Department support lately on the Island typically averages about 4-5 days of 24-hour periods.

Melanie Most reminded everyone that a breakdown of the Clay Township Fire Department calls/incidents are always included in the Appendix of these HISCFA meeting minutes each month.

Additional comments from directors or guests:

- ✓ Lucy Burby indicated that Donna Horvath requested either payment for or return of the hay bales that the HISCFA used from the BBQ/Bonfire. These are currently being stored in the pole barn at Browne's Field. The directors discussed and the hay bales will be returned to Donna in order to free up space in the barn since they are no longer needed. Lucy will return them to Donna at her earliest convenience.
- ✓ Several people in attendance requested feedback about the status of the recent chip seal jobs done on several road surfaces on the Island. At the October HISCFA meeting, Supervisor Bryson indicated that there was going to be two additional applications performed on the chip seal, but the company sourced to complete the work came out and striped over what was currently there and didn't actually perform the final two applications. Supervisor Bryson was not in attendance at this November HISCFA meeting to provide any feedback. Furthermore, an Island resident indicated that he attended a recent Clay Township meeting where Supervisor Bryson was asked about the status, and he indicated it was out of his control. Meeting attendees discussed possible options to pursue formal complaints with the county road commission to see what can be done with our local complaints. Craig Baloga will draft a letter and it will be provided to directors to fine-tune prior to sending it up the chain.
- ✓ The Lioness Lions Soup Cook-Off is at 6pm tonight at the Harsen's Island Lions Hall.

Next meeting will be Saturday, January 14, 2023 at **9:30 am** at the Harsen's Island Lions Hall.



Lucy Burby made the motion to adjourn; Linda Schoonover 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 (October 2022)



Clay Township Fire & EMS

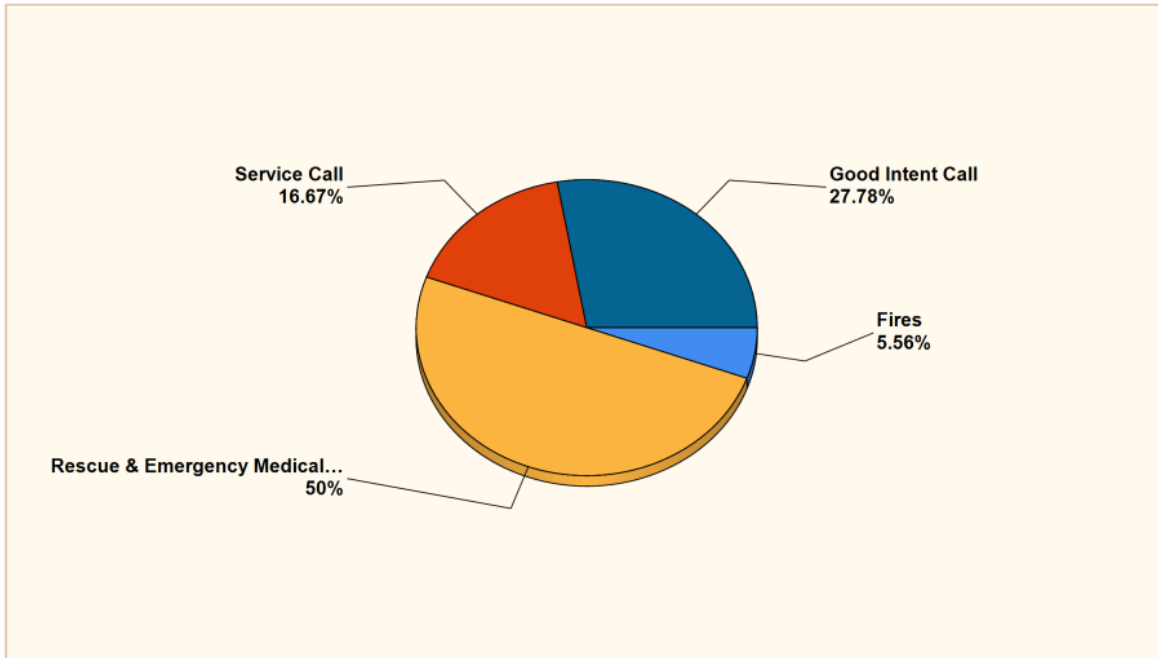
Clay Township, MI

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Breakdown by Major Incident Types for Date Range

Zone(s): 3 - HARSENS ISLAND | Start Date: 10/01/2022 | End Date: 10/31/2022



| MAJOR INCIDENT TYPE | # INCIDENTS | % of TOTAL |
|------------------------------------|-------------|-------------|
| Fires | 1 | 5.56% |
| Rescue & Emergency Medical Service | 9 | 50% |
| Service Call | 3 | 16.67% |
| Good Intent Call | 5 | 27.78% |
| TOTAL | 18 | 100% |

| Detailed Breakdown by Incident Type | | |
|--|-------------|-------------|
| INCIDENT TYPE | # INCIDENTS | % of TOTAL |
| 113 - Cooking fire, confined to container | 1 | 5.56% |
| 311 - Medical assist, assist EMS crew | 1 | 5.56% |
| 321 - EMS call, excluding vehicle accident with injury | 7 | 38.89% |
| 360 - Water & ice-related rescue, other | 1 | 5.56% |
| 500 - Service Call, other | 1 | 5.56% |
| 554 - Assist invalid | 1 | 5.56% |
| 571 - Cover assignment, standby, moveup | 1 | 5.56% |
| 631 - Authorized controlled burning | 5 | 27.78% |
| TOTAL INCIDENTS: | 18 | 100% |