
September BLA Meeting

Thursday, September 16th 2021

Attendees

Mary Kowalski

Jen Erbe

Andrew Doublestein

Mike Schirott

Arland Heistand

Mary Hansen

Jenna Labash

Dave & Nancy Smith

Mary Johnson

Lauri Macri

Tommie Schmidt

Len Morreale

Claire Delano

Ian Kettering

Lisa Schmidt

Gwen Doublestein

Agenda

Treasurer's Report:

\$48,819.50 currently in account as of August 31, 2021.

Goose Busters expense - \$500.00

Music on the water expense - \$250.00

Agriflite Bill to be paid for August spray... \$ 2,398.80

Updating Bylaws:

Looking more into this when fall/winter arrive

Committee members: Mike Schirott, Andrew Doublestein, Mary Kowalski, Jenna Labash and Susan Vosmik

Water/Environment:

We did not get a Secchi test completed in August.

Water clarity is traditionally poor in that month.

Most recent water testing done:

July 7th: average 4.5 feet July 17th: 9.5 ft Sept 13th: 8 ft

Algae is still high, water temp is in the mid 70s right now. Algae levels will not change until water temp drops down into the 60s.

Will start doing weekly tests next month until boats are pulled.

Eurasian Milfoil is a recurring problem. This is not something that we will be rid of in 1 year. (Aquatic Weeds had suggested a 3 year plan, in which we treat affected areas on the lake on a rotating basis, over 3 years (as opposed to treating the entire lake at once). We are currently in good shape, based on Aquatic's recommendation for treating large areas of invasive milfoil.

Oxygen Meter: BLA previously approved spending up to \$500.00 to purchase an oxygen meter to be shared with Long Lake. Long Lake has purchased but does not want to share anymore.

We want to continue to be a part of the Cooperative Lake Monitoring Program. We missed this year's sign up program but look to continue monitoring lake health.

We have low oxygen in the depths and would like to continue to monitor that. Thus the request for funds to purchase an oxygen meter.

MOTION: Mike Schirott proposed \$1,400 to spend on a Pro 20 oxygen meter and accessories. APPROVED!

We will begin oxygen testing mid-May and will continue through mid-September. Testing will be done approximately every 2 weeks

Mosquito spray: August 26th was the last one. Do we need another one? Optimal timing schedule is every 5 or 6 weeks . We were off on this schedule due to conflicts in availability and weather conditions.

MOTION: Mosquito Spray requested by Oct 1st - APPROVED
Mary Kowalski will follow up.

Fish Stocking: Mike Schirott spoke to Jerry Lintz. Jerry inherited the fish stocking program on Long Lake from Wayne Fisher. Long Lake has been stocking every year. We would need to pull a permit to begin this process.

Why should we stock? Wake boats and others are damaging our fish beds. If we want to start up a Kids fishing competition we will need more fish. Our fish count is very low.

Mike is proposing;

Budget for 3 years to stock fish.

Talk each year about what fish to stock

Lake would be stocked with fish in mid-March.

1,000 yellow perch at \$ 2,000

1,000 hybrid bluegill at \$2,500.

1,000 Walleyes at \$3,000

Proposal to start with yellow perch for 2022. \$2,000 + \$200 delivery fee.
TOTAL \$2,200.

MOTION: Prepare a 3 year plan. 2022- yellow perch at \$2,200- APPROVED

Put an order in tomorrow morning (9/17 - COMPLETE)

Stocking is done Mid-March. Mike will get a permit. Possibly \$250.00 for permit. APPROVED.

Mike will follow up with any costs for a permit.

COMPANY: Laggis Fish Farm in Gobles, MI

Community Affairs:

Zone advisor needed for Zones 1 and 8.

They are both located in Little Baldwin and Pleasant Drive.

ACTION: Jen will post on FB looking for zone advisors in 1 and 8 along with a map and information to contact Mary Hansen.

Memberships:

We've got 162 members/ contributors. This is an all-time high and puts association membership slightly over 50%.

We plan to keep membership forms for 3 years.

SPEED LIMIT:

Proposal to buy signs to reduce speeding. Proposal for a 3-9 month traffic study.

Andrew is meeting next Friday with Bob Pettit to discuss ideas about this study.

Hoping to start the study in April to June when traffic increases.

Signs are \$250.00 per sign. (Official road signs).

Suggested placement for signs:

- "Hidden Drive" sign at Sunset / Hollywood Shores Drive and Sunset / Lake Street.
- "Reduce Speed" signs around Zimmy's, George's, and Mill's area.
- Possible stop sign at public landing on Sunset Blvd?
- "Slow, Children at play" around the lake.

Start with 6 signs. Consider effectiveness and future steps.

MOTION: Andrew proposing to purchase 6 signs at \$250.00 per sign. \$1,500 total

APPROVED

Website:

Website has been live since yesterday but Ian is making some changes to it in the next few weeks. Will post on FB about the new website once changes are made.

- Mike can start writing articles to be posted on website
- A possible live calendar on the website for upcoming events.
- Minutes will be posted here along with a link for Apparel store and more.

SOCIAL:

Poker Run

Host: Bob Dumm and Ike Smith

July 16th 2022

- Laurie Macri and Mary Wain are working on putting folders together for all the jobs needed for the poker run.
- They will have these folders ready by the next meeting to go over with the board.

Apparel Store

- They do screen print however the design cannot be more than 3 colors. We can adjust the current design slightly to be just 3 colors so we can do screen print OR do a new design.
- We can add more variety of shirts for Men, Women and Kids. Also include hats, blankets etc.
- Our first store was NOT a fundraiser, we can do a fundraiser in the future, it will increase the pricing by \$5.00

ACTION: All board members think of a new design idea and pitch at next month's meeting. We want to aim for the beginning of November for the next store.

UPCOMING EVENTS:


CHRISTMAS PARTY: Annual BLA Holiday party will be at Jimmy's on Saturday 12/04 from 6pm to 10pm. Lee will be making his annual collection for the local food bank. BLA suggests that everyone bring non-perishables to be donated to that cause.

Fall Road Clean-Up: We will be coordinating road clean-up with Long / Coverdale. Fall road clean-up will be **Saturday 10/16**. Sunset & Pleasant crews meet at Mill's at 9am. Hilltop crew meet at Schirott's (70163 Hilltop) at 9am.

ACTION: Andrew Doublestein will retrieve vests and bags from the road commission.

Next Meeting

October 21st at 7pm



Jenna Labash's house
69377 Lake Street.

Open Discussion:

- Mike Schirott is proposing a scholarship for Bartt Smith. In his obituary, there was a request for donations to be made to Jimtown Trade School.
 - Set a budget each year and start a scholarship fund.
 - Perhaps name the scholarship in his name. Bartt Smith Scholarship.
 - This year the scholarship could go to Jimtown.
 - This is showing we are doing something for the community.
 - Possibly rotate school districts in the area? White Pigeon, Constantine, Edwardsburg and possibly 5 Star Life?

The board members will do more research on this topic and discuss further at next month's meeting.

8:30pm meeting adjourned