

LAKE GEORGE COTTAGERS ASSOCIATION
BOARD MEETING
AUGUST 13, 2011

Directors or alternate present at this meeting: Spring Bank (N) Carrol _X_; Spring Bank (S) Zandstra _X_;
LG Beach (N) Kruse_X_; LG Beach (S) Case ___; LG Beach (W) Stiefel_X_; Forest Park (S) Strasser _X_;
Forest Park (C) King _X_; Forest Park (N) Parker _X_; Browns Point (W) Uslar _X_; Browns Point (E) Stander
X; Kopekanee Beach Ferguson _X_ Kearns___; Spring Bank (M) Hagerman _X_; Nipigon Bch Mote _X_;
Grandview Bch Schlatter _X_; Hanover Bch Newby___; Kope Kon (W) Brenneke_X_; Kope Kon Pte (E)
Huffman___; Bayview Burrows_____.

Officers present at this meeting: Paul Schlatter, Larry Frasier, Jennifer Shirey, Marilyn Parrot.

Guests present at this meeting: Representative Dick Dodge, Dave Keester, Rick Weaver, Dave Stang, Brent Cousino,
Judy Kuebbeler, Sandy Jorgensen, Gary Jorgensen, Linda Yerks, Anne Ferguson, Renate Brenneke, Glen Bickel.

The meeting was called to order by President Paul Schlatter at 8:30 A.M.

- I. President Schlatter announced that Indiana State Representative Dick Dodge will be the guest speaker and gave the floor to him.
- A. Representative Dodge talked briefly about his background. He stated that though he was raised on Lake Pleasant, 50 years ago he lived on Lake George near the Mill Pond. He added that his great grandfather homesteaded in Steuben County in 1856.
- B. In May, 2004, Representative Dodge became a member of the Indiana State Legislature as a Representative for much of northeast Indiana. He stated that he serves on the Natural Resources Committee, The Veterans and Homeland Security Committee and the Environmental Committee.
- C. A statutory committee that Representative Dodge serves on is called the Lake Management Work Group. His involvement on this 26 member committee has made it possible for Representative Dodge to be very knowledgeable about the dispersment of the Lakes and Rivers Enhancement Grant (LARE Fund). He stated that the LARE Fund is made up of three divisions; law enforcement grants which provide money for counties to have lake patrols, grants to lake associations like LGCA for weed control and dredging, and grants for soil and water conservation which helps control erosion run-off and maintain water quality.
- D. Representative Dodge stated that the LARE Funds were frozen this past year due to the economic downturn. He added, however, that this year \$800,000 was released once again to the LARE Fund grants. He stated that this amount is still significantly less than what would be considered necessary.
- C. The following questions were fielded to Representative Dodge:
 1. Glen Bickel asked about the percentage Steuben County receives from the LARE Fund grants. Representative Dodge responded that about 3/4 of the funds are distributed to Steuben County because of its greater need for help with water related issues. Mr. Bickel also asked if the location of the BMV where a boat is registered has any effect on the amount of funding a county receives. Representative Dodge replied that it does not as all registration money goes into one general fund.
 2. Jack Stiefel asked if any of the LARE Fund money that went into the general fund due to the economic crisis would be returned. Representative Dodge responded that it was "doubtful."
 3. Rick Weaver asked if any design project funds could be used for design issues concerning our dam. Representative Dodge replied that it was possible.
- E. Representative Dodge stated that his congressional district now includes all of Steuben County and Lagrange County and none of Dekalb County. He added that this change is good because of the issues these 2 counties have in common.
- G. Representative Dodge referred to Steuben County as a "donor" county because it brings in more tax revenue than it receives back in services. He stated that this phenomenon has to do with the County's significantly

larger population in the summer and the high volume of sales and fuel tax revenue brought in due to the I69/tollroad interchange. Representative Dodge has argued in Indianapolis unsuccessfully that this distribution is not fair. In response, Gary Zandstra encouraged more people to register to vote in Steuben County in order that more tax dollars be returned to this County.

There was a word of thanks and appreciation and applause for Representative Dodge for giving of his time to come and speak at our meeting. He was invited to our Hog Roast which will be held on the 1st Saturday of October.

There was applause for former President Dave Stang for all his hard work and dedication to LGCA.

President Paul Schlatter asked that those in attendance give their name and on which beach they reside.

II. Secretary's Report: Jennifer Shirey

MOTION: It was moved and seconded that the minutes to the July 7 annual meeting be approved with one name change. Motion carried.

The approved minutes can be viewed on the LGCA website.

III. Treasurer's Report: Marilyn Parrot

Treasurer Marilyn Parrot stated that there has been little change in her report since the July annual meeting.

Treasurer Parrot encouraged more residents to become LGCA members.

IV. Water Shed Management Committee: Renate Brenneke

A. Renate Brenneke, facilitator of the water shed management committee, stated that she attended the annual Steuben County Lakes Council meeting. Guest speaker Pete Hippensteel spoke about the economic impact of lake property on Steuben County.

B. Ms. Brenneke announced that there will be a water shed management committee meeting on August 27 at 9:00 A.M. at the Kinderhook Townhall. Bill Jones, an Indiana University professor, will speak concerning a 6 year compellation of data on Lake George water and the surrounding water shed. Interested parties are invited.

C. Ms. Brenneke also announced that the Lakes 101 Trust, an organization like the Lake George Conservancy but benefits all Steuben County lakes, will be sponsoring 101 Reflections on August 21 on Lake Gage. It will include a pontoon ride, information on Lake Gage, a dinner, and will conclude with a guest speaker. Ms. Brenneke added that Lake George has been asked to host this event next year. She stated that hosting the 101 Reflections requires a great deal of work but can be fun and beneficial. There will be more information about this event at our September meeting.

V. Safety and Patrol: Deputy Paul Schlatter

Deputy Paul Schlatter reported that there have been a significant number of thefts on and around Lake George. Stolen property has been found by Caroline Drive. Bill King, by use of cameras, has detected teenage boys on golf carts whose activities seem suspicious. Rick Weaver reported seeing a fishing boat moving in the dark close to piers but no one seemed to be fishing. Deputy Schlatter stated that lakere are an easy target for would be burglars. It was mentioned that a "trail cam" which fastens to light posts can often spot suspicious activity in progress. It was noted that "trail cams" can be purchased at Bass Pro Shops for around \$150. Gary Zandstra encouraged residents to report any suspicious activity on the lake and to try and record boat numbers. Bill King and Rick Weaver asked if LGCA could pay for a camera at the public access ramp. It was also suggested that a chain be placed across the ramp during closed hours.

VI. Weeds and Weed Control: Dave Keester

Dave Keester, invasive species co-ordinator for Aquatic Weed Control, spoke about weed issues in Lake George. He stated that there are about 20 to 25 types of weeds in our lake. He spoke specifically about Starry Stonewort because of the invasive nature of this weed. He reported that it grows densely in deep water like a carpet. In shallow water it grows to the surface. A sample of Starry Stonewort was brought in from the Mill Pond area. He noted that in August it puts forth a stone-like structure shaped like a star. This weed, he reported, is so thick it can stop a boat in only a few seconds. LARE grant money funds 100% of the spraying of Starry Stonewort. Mr. Keester stated that it is spread by boats and waterfowl, and the stones themselves reproduce. So far, it is principally found in and around the Mill Pond, the Bay View area, the Kope Kon Pointe bay area and the public access area. Michigan does not, as of now, provide funding for the spraying of this weed. Mr. Keester reported that Aquatic Weed Control sprays for Starry Stonewort often as it can only be cut down, not eradicated, and it reproduces quickly. This weed, he stated, grows best in channels and silted bottoms in 7 feet of water or less.

For now in Indiana, Starry Stonewort has only been found in Lake Wawasee, Wall Lake and Lake George. President Schlatter stated that he would get back to the LGCA board about providing funding for the spraying of Starry Stonewort in Michigan.

Mr. Keester also reported that the spraying of Eurasian milfoil has been defunded in most of Indiana.

VII. Dam Committee: Dave Stang and Rick Weaver

Dave Stang stated that he is presently working on finding volunteers to help him with the taxing district project. He hopes to begin working earnestly on this next summer.

VIII. Old Business:

It was announced that the sign to request that boaters wash their boats before entering the lake will cost about \$40. Craig and Jane Hasselschwert have been asked to display the sign on their property. It was noted, however, that the sign might be too far away from where the boats come in to be of any benefit.

IX. New Business: Dave Stang

Dave Stang reported that Frontier has a live internet service at Kope Kon Road and Old 27. He was told that residents who have a wire telephone line might be able to get internet service through Frontier. Dave suggested that interested parties call John at 517/614-5470 for more information.

X. Dissemination of Information: Jack Stiefel

Jack Stiefel suggested that approved minutes and the treasurer's report be put on the LGCA website as soon as possible after the meeting. He also stated that e-mailing this information to residents would be a better way to assure that everyone is made aware of the issues and accomplishments of the LGCA.

XI. No Child Left Indoors:

It was noted that this program will be undergoing some restructuring. Suzy Fulghum will be in charge of this activity and Linda Weaver will be registering the interested children in 2012.

MOTION: It was moved and seconded that the meeting be adjourned. Motion carried.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:00 A.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Jennifer Shirey, secretary