

LAKE GEORGE COTTAGERS ASSOCIATION
BOARD MEETING
June 11, 2011

Directors or alternates present at this meeting: Spring Bank (N) Carrol ___; Spring Bank (S) Zandstra _X___;
LG Beach (N) Kruse_X___; LG Beach (S) Case _X___; LG Beach (W) Stiefel_X___; Forest Park (S) Strasser ___;
Forest Park (C) King ___; Forest Park (N) Parker ___; Browns Point (W) Uslar _X___; Browns Point (E) Stander _X___;
Kopekane Beach Ferguson __X_ Kearns_X___; Spring Bank (M) Hagerman _X___; Nipigon Bch Mote _X___;
Grandview Bch Schlatter _X___; Hanover Bch Newby_X___; Kope Kon (W) Brenneke_X___; Kope Kon Pte (E)
Huffman____; Bayview Burrows_____.

Officers present at this meeting: Dave Stang, Paul Schlatter and Jennifer Shirey.

Guests present at this meeting: Anne Ferguson, Joann Stang, Margaret and Richard Crosley, Harold Parker, Ron Heilman, Steve Cotter, Jane Kearns, Don Parrish and John Kindler.

Call to order - 8:36 a.m.

- I. GUEST SPEAKER- Tim Troyer, Steuben County Sheriff
- A. LARE GRANT - Sheriff Troyer stated that the LARE GRANT is helping to fund 14 marine officers who patrol the major county lakes. In 2010 they logged 602 officer patrol hours and 515 hours in the patrol boats. They issued 146 operating warnings and 31 citations.
 - 1. In 2010 Steuben County received \$30,000 in LARE GRANT funds. In 2011 only \$15,000 will be allotted. Adjustments will have to be made.
 - 2. Sheriff Troyer reported that the boats have been out on the lakes since Memorial Day weekend.
 - B. DIVE TEAM
Steuben County has a new, totally volunteer recovery dive team. Four of the divers are certified in Nitrox, a technique allowing divers to go down in deeper water for a longer period of time.
 - C. K-9 DIVISION - Sheriff Troyer stated that the county is adding a Czechoslovakian Shepherd to its K-9 Division. The animal will complete training and will be ready to join the rescue program the end of June.
 - D. RAD
 - 1. Sheriff Troyer discussed the county's RAD (Rape Aggression Defense) program. The 6 week program includes defense tactics and also provides education on the psychological components of predators.
 - 2. There is a spin-off program, RAD for Kids, which educates children as to how predators operate and how to be more vigilant in spotting danger.
 - E. FACEBOOK - Sheriff Troyer talked about the Steuben County web-site on Facebook and mentioned that pertinent information like suspects-at-large, weather alerts, school closings and community functions can be found there.
 - F. Sheriff Troyer reported that the Steuben County Department of Corrections has 92 employees and about 110 inmates monthly.
 - G. SEX OFFENDER REGISTRY - Sheriff Troyer stated that concerned citizens can click on the Steuben County web-site and can find a map noting where sex offenders are living within a 2 mile radius.
 - H. GOLF CART RESTRICTIONS - Sheriff Troyer stated that golf cart restrictions are hard to enforce because only towns can pass these type of ordinances, not the county.
 - I. It was noted that boats in Steuben County have a 55 mile speed limit.
 - J. Noise on the lakes has been a problem and citations have been issued.

- K. Sheriff Troyer noted that counties and states are working together to help with law enforcement.
- L. Sheriff Troyer stated that marine patrol boat visibility is very important in order to keep our lakes as safe as possible.

II. SECRETARY'S REPORT

- A. It was reported that 3 corrections were made to the May minutes.
- B. The corrected minutes will be sent via e-mail to Board members.

MOTION - Paul Schlatter moved that the May minutes with corrections be approved. It was seconded by Ed Uslar.
Motion carried.

III. TREASURER'S REPORT - Treasurer Parrot reported that 75% of Lake George property owners have now paid their 2011 dues.

IV. COMMITTEE REPORTS

- A. WATER ISSUES - Renate Brenneke suggested that funds be allotted to help pay for gas for the patrol boats.
Gary Zandstra stated that he was not in favor of this until more of a presence of the patrol boats on the lakes can be seen.
- B. SAFETY & PATROL - Paul Schlatter stated that most of his report was covered in the Sheriff's presentation.
- C. WEEDS & WEED TREATMENT
 - 1. Jim Donahoe will be making another presentation at the annual membership meeting in July.
 - 2. It was reported that the lake was sprayed for weeds this past week.
- D. DAM REHABILITATION COMMITTEE
 - 1. At a June 6 meeting, the engineering company hired by LGCA stated that they rated the dam condition as poor. A main concern is that the slope of the southeast corner of the dam is grossly deficient. This results in the dam not being stable. The cost of this survey was about \$2,500.
 - 2. It was stated that the high hazard rating of the dam can never be removed.
 - 3. In order to move forward with the proposed taxing district, the committee will be canvassing to see which property owners benefit from the lake. It is thought that it will be 1st and 2nd row properties, possibly people using Lake George from the Long Beach Lake community and farms which directly affect the lake .
 - 4. Steve Cotter expressed his concern about liability in the event of a catastrophe. He believes it reasonable that LGCA request that the county close traffic over the dam. He stated that, at the very least, weight limits could be imposed.
 - 5. It was suggested that a certified letter be sent to the county noting the documented instability of the dam.
 - 6. President Stang reported that the engineering company has prepared a booklet in the form of a PDF noting all their findings. This booklet will be made available to interested parties.
 - 7. Steve Cotter noted that that there is a privately owned structure supporting a public roadway and, as a result, the ownership of liability in case of a catastrophic happening is of utmost concern.
 - 8. On a positive note, President Stang noted that the engineers found no moisture or seepage on the bottom of the southeast side of the dam.
 - 9. President Stang added that there would be physical signs on the dam which would give us warning if rapid deterioration is occurring.
 - 10. President Stang stated that LGCA cannot close the roadway over the dam but that we can hopefully put into place the necessary action to transfer liability.
 - 11. In response to a question concerning insurance protection, President Stang stated that LGCA has an umbrella shield. Also, LGCA is a limited liability corporation and that too provides protection.
 - 12. Tom Kearns noted that Klinger Lake in Michigan created a taxing district and, as a result, a dam was built at a cost of approximately \$700,000.
- E. CONSERVANCY UPDATE - DON PARRISH
 - 1. Don Parrish, interim Conservancy president, announced that the annual Conservancy meeting will be held next Saturday, June 18.
 - 2. President Parrish stated that there will be a financial update which will include a pledge report.

3. It was announced that by November 1, the Markle land contract will be paid off in the amount of \$298,000.
4. It was also reported that within a short period of time the remaining land contract will be able to be paid off in the amount of \$478,000.
5. President Parrish reported that, upon the completion of the pay-offs, the Conservancy will have access to an escrow account in the amount of \$300,000. This money can then be used for future acquisitions, water shed issues and the general improvement of the community of Lake George.
6. The Conservancy will be adding new Board members.
7. It was announced that, starting in July, the Conservancy Boutique will be open for business on Saturdays from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. Kathy Johnson, Joann Stang and Karen Hasler have been busy restocking the Boutique with interesting new items.
8. The Taste of Summer, the Conservancy's dinner/auction fundraiser will be held June 25 from 5:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. at Glendarin Hills Golf Club. Tickets continue to be available for purchase.

F. WELCOME WAGON - Jane Mote announced that the Welcome Wagon will begin distributing baskets over the July 4th weekend. She also reported that newcomers will be receiving a free 2011 membership to the Conservancy.

G. CONSERVANCY PRESERVE ACTIVITIES

1. Gary Zandstra announced that 100 white oaks were planted in the preserve. Also, tall prairie grass and wildflowers have been planted to attract songbirds, pheasant, quail and wild turkeys.
2. Mr. Zandstra encouraged residents to bring their grandchildren and dogs to the Preserve to enjoy the 4 foot wide trails and the wildlife.

V. OLD BUSINESS

- A. **MOTION** - Gary Zandstra moved that \$3,000 be allocated to fund title search costs for the development of the proposed taxing district. Connie Carroll seconded the motion. Motion carried.
- B. There was discussion as to whether LGCA hire someone to take the buoys in and out of the lake. Mark Davenport was approached as to whether he might be interested in doing this.

VI. NEW BUSINESS

- A. It was announced that a new by-law committee has been formed. Jack Stiefel is chairing the committee. At the July annual meeting Mr. Stiefel will announce his proposals for change in the by-laws.
- B. There was discussion as to whether people are satisfied with Local-Net internet service and if anyone has heard about the availability of Frontier.
- C. President Stang asked if residents believe twice-a-month recycling pickup is sufficient. Also, it was reported that glass can now be taken to Rural King.

VII. ANNOUNCEMENTS

- A. The boating class will be held on July 9 at 8:00 a.m. at Hall's Club House.
- B. The annual LGCA meeting will be held on July 9 at the Conservancy Building. Elections will take place for next year's officers.
- C. The fireworks will be held on July 2 with a raindate of July 3.
- D. The Lake George community garage sale will be held June 17-18.

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

The meeting was adjourned at 10:07 a.m.