

**LAKE GEORGE COTTAGERS ASSOCIATION
BOARD MEETING
SEPTEMBER 10, 2011**

Directors or alternates present at this meeting: Spring Bank (N) Carrol ; Spring Bank (S)

Zandstra .

LG Beach (N) Kruse ; LG Beach (S) Case ; LG Beach (W) Stiefel ; Forest Park (S)

Strasser .

Forest Park (C) King ; Forest Park (N) Parker ; Browns Point (W) Uslar ; Browns Point

(E) Stander ; Kopekanee Beach Ferguson Kearns ; Spring Bank (M) Hagerman

; Nipigon Bch Mote .

Grandview Bch Schlatter ; Hanover Bch Newby ; Kope Kon (W) Brenneke ; 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: Dave Stang, Joann Stang, Dorothy Burrows, Vicki Banks, Red Kees, Ann Kees,

Nancy Stiefel, Suzy Fulghum, Glenn Bickel, Rick Weaver, Linda Weaver, Steve Parrot, Phil Hoham, Evelyn Hoham,

Bill Schmidt

The meeting was called to order by President Paul Schlatter at 8:30 a.m.

I. Treasurer's Report - Marilyn Parrot

Treasurer Parrot reported that we spent more money than we took in on weed spraying. She reported, however, that as more money comes in, we are catching up.

II. Secretary's Report - Jennifer Shirey

Secretary Shirey reported that there are paper copies of the August board meeting available but that they have not yet been entered on the web page. She added that the approved minutes will be entered there in the near

future. Suzy Fulghum noted that there was an error in the August minutes. She stated that she will not be registering children for next year's NCLI program and that Linda Weaver will be. She also added that she will continue to head up the program.

MOTION - It was moved and seconded by Rick Stander and Dan Kruse that the minutes be approved with the correction. Motion carried.

III. Report on Weeds - Larry Frasier stated that he talked with Jim Donahoe from Aquatic Weed Control about whether or not there were funds to spray the Michigan side of the lake for Starry Stonewort. He was told that Michigan has no money but that there might be money from another source.

IV. Patrol Boat - Paul Schlatter
Deputy Schlatter stated that the patrol boat will need to come out of the water in two or three weeks. However, he reported that the previous storage location for the boat is no longer available and a new one will have to be found.

V. By-laws - Jack Stiefel
Mr. Jack Stiefel reminded board members that in 2010 a sweeping revision was made to the by-laws. He stated, however, that he believes some additional changes in language structure and content still need to be made. He reported that he, Ed Uslar and President Schlatter will be meeting sometime between now and next spring to formulate these changes. He added that the new revisions will be brought before the LGCA board members next spring for endorsement. The membership will be presented with the by-law changes at the annual meeting in July, 2012 and will be voted on officially at that time.

VI. Dues - Marilyn Parrot

A. Treasurer Parrot stated that the LGCA is financially sound with approximately 80% of our property owners.

She suggested, however, that beach directors talk with their property owners before next spring to see if

we can get that percentage of dues payers up to 100%.

B. Treasurer Parrot suggested that the annual LGCA dues remain at \$50. She also proposed that the

other fees remain as they have been in 2011 and are as follows:

fireworks - \$30

dam maintenance - \$50

weed control - \$125

walleye fund - \$25.

C. Dave Stang stated that it would be quite some time before the taxing district becomes a reality and added that

the dam maintenance fee should atleast remain at \$50.

D. Vice President Frasier agreed that the fireworks fee of \$30 is sufficient. He also announced that next year's

fireworks display will be on July 7. He stated that this later date is due to July 4th falling on a Wednesday.

MOTION - It was moved and seconded that the yearly fees for membership dues, fireworks, dam maintenance,

weed control and the walleye fund remain in 2012 as they have been in 2011. Motion carried.

VII. Dam related issues - Dave Stang

A. Dave Stang pointed out that there is a section of the Lare Grant that, up until recently, he knew nothing about.

This section, if acted upon, could provide funds for dam maintenance issues. Mr. Stang noted that other lakes

have received Lare Grant funding for similar needs.

B. Mr. Stang noted that very soon there will need to be a hydrological study of the quality of the dam and a

general engineering work up of the west embankment.

C. Mr. Stang and Rick Weaver reported that they approached the Steuben County commissioners about the

dam situation. No decisions were made at the meeting but they "got the message across."

D. John Albright, a Lake George property owner and a real estate attorney out of Indianapolis, has recommended

that a title search of the dam be done and has talked with a company about doing this. Mr. Albright stated

that the controversial issue is that Steuben County went only to the State of Indiana to acquire the

necessary easement but they never went to the LGCA to get its permission. It was noted that we need to find

out who are the real owners of the embankments leading up to the dam.

VIII. Proposed taxing district - Dave Stang

A. Dave Stang reported that before the proposed taxing district can be established it needs to be determined

which property owners actually should be a part of it.

B. Mr. Stang stated that, in his opinion, there are two feasible ways to determine the make up of the taxing district.

One, he stated, would be to go by lakefront lineal footage. He added that the other would be to go by those

properties or easements with a grinder (sewer pump).

C. It was noted that the big issue remains the way in which second and third row properties are treated.

D. It was reported that the State of Michigan recommended that only properties with lake frontage should be part of the taxing district.

E. Mr. Stang noted that Indiana allows for multiple purpose taxing districts while Michigan requires them to be only single purpose.

F. Rick Weaver offered that, in his opinion, anyone who has a sewer or a potential for a sewer hook-up should be considered part of the taxing district.

G. Listed below are other questions brought up concerning the proposed taxing district:

1. What about lots with separate quarter apartments?
2. What about Steuben County alley ways?
3. What about second row community easements?

H. Dave Stang reported that he and Dick Burrows are going to South Bend on September 24th to talk with

an attorney about setting up the taxing district. Board members were reminded that average attorney fees

for setting up this district could range between \$50,000 and \$75,000 and that more volunteerism would be welcomed.

I. It was reported that Indiana only requires 31% of affected property owners to agree to the proposed taxing

district while Michigan requires 51% of the property owners to be in favor of establishing the district.

J. President Schatter stated that he believes that questions concerning the proposed taxing district are too

complex to be voted on at this meeting. He added that he, Rick Weaver and Dave Stang will be meeting

during the winter on this matter and will hopefully be able to make a presentation next spring.

K. Jack Stiefel asked if all questions concerning the dam and the taxing district are being documented. He

added that significant PR work on the part of LGCA will be necessary and that our membership needs to

be well informed. Dave Stang responded that, on his part, he has kept accurate records of his correspondence

with individuals and organizations concerning the dam and the taxing district. He added that it is difficult

to promote volunteerism unless and until people feel that they will be affected financially.

IX. Steuben 101 Lakes Trust fundraiser - Renate Brenneke

A. Renate Brenneke informed board members about Reflections, a fundraiser sponsored by Steuben 101 Lakes

Trust. The fundraiser takes place on different Steuben County lakes in August. This year it was hosted by

Lake Gage and Ms. Brenneke attended it. She stated that the event consisted of a boat tour with a docent noting

points of interest on Lake Gage, a dinner and a formal talk by the lake historian.

B. Ms. Brenneke introduced Mr. Bill Schmidt who represents Steuben 101 Lakes Trust, an organization much like the Lake George Conservancy but benefits all Steuben County Lakes. Mr. Schmidt spoke about the fundraiser Reflections. He stated that Hamilton Lake, Jimmerson Lake, Lake James, Lake Gage and Crooked Lake have already participated in Reflections. Mr. Schmidt asked if LGCA would like to host Reflections on Lake George on the third Sunday of August, 2012.

C. Mr. Schmidt discussed the details involved with hosting Reflections. He noted that the host lake is asked to provide about 10 or 11 boats (preferably pontoons), a name of an individual who would be willing to serve as historian and a suggestion of a caterer with ties to the host lake. He noted that about 80 people attended the Lake Gage Reflections while approximately 170 people attended the one sponsored by Lake James. He added that Steuben 101 Lakes Trust takes care of the meal decisions and the publicity and also works with the historian on the type of information they believe is most interesting and beneficial. Mr. Schmidt went on to say that, by the end of the evening, the goal is that those attending will have a better feel for the host lake and its history and points of interest. He noted that all too often lakers in Steuben County are only aware of the background and happenings on their own lake and know nothing about the other 100 lakes. He stated that Reflections has also helped bridge the gap between lake residents and residents of Angola and other towns in the County.

MOTION - It was moved by Renate Brenneke and seconded by Linda Hagerman that Lake George host the

2012 Reflections. Motion carried.

It was suggested that Jean Melchi and Glen Bickel be approached about possibly serving as historian.

X. Buoys - Gary Zandstra

Gary Zandstra asked that beach directors not wait until close to Memorial Day to notify him that certain buoys need repair.

President Schlatter adjourned the meeting at 9:35 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Jennifer Shirey, secretary

