



Magician Lake Improvement Association

July 23, 2008

Minutes of the Magician Lake Improvement Association's Annual Meeting, July 11, 2008

The meeting was held at Silver Creek Township hall and was called to order by President Charlotte Poole at 9:00 AM EDT with the pledge to the flag. There were over 70 members in attendance and 1 guest. Board members present were President Charlotte Poole, Vice President Craig McCoy, Treasurer Dick Morey, Secretary Bill Boehnlein, Board members Dan Kuruzar, Jim Sullivan and Kay Dukesherer. The guest was Mr. Bruce Campbell, Cass County Water Resource Commissioner.

Charlotte asked if the attendees would approve the minutes of the annual meeting from July 12, 2008 as posted to the MLIA web site. The consensus from the attendees was to accept them as posted.

Dick Morey then presented the association budget which is shown below.

BUDGET 2009

<u>OPENING BALANCE – 1/1/09</u>		<u>\$5,095</u>
INCOME:		
225 Renewals	\$5,000	
10 New Members	250	
5 Advertisers x \$80	400	
<u>TOTAL INCOME</u>		<u>\$6,335</u>
EXPENSES		
Recruitment	300	
4 News Letters	1000	
Michigan Lake/Stream	250	
Riparian Magazine	1,685	
Michigan Lake/Stream Conferences		
Spring and fall	750	
DUHS Project	400	
Monitoring/Water Testing	200	
MLIA Insurance	950	
Training	300	
Decals	191	
<u>TOTAL EXPENSES</u>		<u>\$6,026</u>
<u>ESTIMATED BALANCE 12/31/09</u>		<u>\$5,426</u>

Following this, a motion was made by Jack Martin to accept the budget as presented. Ed Lanigan seconded the motion. A vote was taken and the motion passed.

Old Business

Dick Morey then discussed the lake water clarity. He stated that at the deepest basin it was 7 feet. Earlier it had been 13-15 feet. He did state that the clarity was better this year than at the same time last year. He also added that Magician is in the top 10% in water clarity in Michigan.

Dick then reminded everyone to get this year's decal which is given to all members who've paid for the 2009-2010 membership year.

Bill Saunders discussed the milfoil issue in their channel. He stated that they have had a treatment applied and the next is planned for two weeks later. Their channel association president, Jim Dudley, added that the weeds are being controlled but the conditions still exist that allowed them in the first place such as the bottomland soil conditions and the lack of water movement in the channel. He further stated that the cost for these treatments was approximately \$12,000 was borne by the channel property owners. Kay Dukesherer remarked that they should apply to us, the MLIA, for some assistance and Charlotte Poole added that we have an interest in controlling or eradicating these weeds because they could eventually spread to the entire lake. Craig McCoy asked if anyone knew of any success with aeration. Jim commented that the channel needs oxygen and they had their channel dredged in 1995 and 80% of the owners contributed for that. Bill Saunders noted that he thinks Indian Lake is considering aeration but no one offered an example of where aeration had shown any success. Charlotte Poole noted that the MLIA will consider supporting this effort.

Tim and Ed McKernan reported what they knew about the Crooked Lakes augmentation project. They noted that a permit has been issued but can't be executed because a protest has been filed. Tim noted that part of the protest was due to information not included in the 2005 study by Peerless Midwest. He noted that the lakes aquifer is connected. A question was raised as to how much was expected to be pumped and Tim replied the rate would be 800 gallons/minute or over a million gallons a day as they need it to fill to the legal level. Tim further stated that some people want it higher because there are bigger boats and wake board boats now that weren't in existence years ago. He said he felt the lakes can't sustain these boats and wake boards and they're not appropriate to some of these lakes. He also noted that the farmer owning the well will also be using it for his irrigation needs in addition to what the Crooked Lakes uses.

Charlotte mentioned that there now are currently two waste disposal companies offering recycling. They are Reliable and Michiana Recycling. It was noted that contact numbers were in our newsletter.

New Business

Charlotte remarked that there would be a Shedd Aquarium speaker at the Lions club on August 6th at 7:00 PM for anyone interested.

The parks and recreation plan for the Sister Lakes area was the next topic of discussion. Bill Kays reported that there was a meeting planned for July 18th at noon at Lions Park. He noted that in the plans are bike and hiking trails and the plan is to link them with others already in existence or planned. It was also noted that there is a company that has started to sell t-shirts to help fund the project and that the plan also includes some welcome to Sister Lakes signs.

Bill Saunders then reported on the sewer usage. He stated that they have been tracking the amount of gallons of usage and have noted a recent spike. They suspect a number of people have connected their gutters and downspouts into the sewer causing this spike. He further stated that, if the volume stays at this higher rate, they may increase the fee. He also noted that anyone caught doing this is subject to a fine of from \$100 to \$500 per day.

Charlotte then asked about an interest in placing personal advertisements in the MLIA Newsletter. She asked that anyone interested contact an officer or board member with the information and that it will cost \$10 for up to 3 lines. Charlotte then asked if there was any new business and if not asked for a call to adjournment.

Election of officers and board members was then discussed. Kay Dukesherer noted that the term length is 3 years and next year will be an election year. She also asked for anyone who is interested in a position or otherwise volunteer, to please make it known to the current board.

Guest Bruce Campbell, the Cass County Water Resource Commissioner was introduced. Bruce began by commenting that there are 3 new drains in the county making it over 160 drains total in the county. He stated that part of his responsibility is to oversee the lake levels on all the lakes that have a legal level set. He said there are 20 lakes in Cass County that have a legal level and all 20 are very high right now including Magician and Dewey. He further related that it is much higher today than it has been over the last 60+ years. He said that the water table also is extremely high and we've been at the flood stage since last September. Bruce also said that his position is also responsible for soil and erosion in the county. He stated that any excavation, earth change, fill, etc. requires a permit from his office. He did state that if it were under 225 square feet a permit may not be required. Questions from the floor included putting in beach sand, fill behind sea walls and putting pea gravel in the lake. Bruce replied that all of these require a permit.

A question from the floor to Bruce asked if the Crooked Lakes augmentation project would have limits set as to how much they could remove from Magician. Bruce commented that the DEQ could adjust the permit or even kill the project. Comments were made about wells in the area being relatively shallow and a question was raised about how many new wells were drilled after the Barron Lake well was put into use. Bruce replied that he did not know that answer without doing some research. In closing, Bruce thanked the Magician Lake custodians Craig McCoy and Dick Morey.

I was noted that Sgt. Esarey was not present as planned. Dan Kuruzar stated that, if anyone had something to communicate or ask of the Marine Patrol, that they contact him following the meeting. Charlotte commented that she had heard of PWC running down water fowl like geese ducks and swans. It was noted that this is illegal and, if seen, reported to the Sheriff's office.

Kay Dukesherer reminded everyone to make sure they are getting both our newsletter and the Riparian; both 4 times a year.

Kay then commented on cell phone service. AT&T was mentioned and Jim Sullivan commented that that is the service he uses and has no problems with a signal. But he also noted that he has a repeater, not a booster that gets the signal from an antenna on top of his house. He said it cost him about \$230 and he purchased it on line. He said to do a search for cellular signal booster. Kay did comment that, should you eliminate your land line, any 911 calls may not be traceable to your location.

A question was asked about the area where the Blue Fin Marina used to be located and about a boat ramp located near there. Bill Kays stated that there were two ramps, one owned by Blue Fin and the other by Silver Creek Township. He stated that the township ramp will be rebuilt after some contaminated soil is removed for the construction at that location. He further stated that the plans are for a four unit structure with two piers and the architect is currently reviewing these plans. It was noted that the units are already advertised as being for sale but won't actually be sold until after they are built.

Charlotte Poole adjourned this meeting at 10:30 AM EDT.

Respectfully submitted,

Bill Boehnlein
Secretary Magician Lake Improvement Association