



Magician Lake Improvement Association

July 16, 2008

Minutes of the Magician Lake Improvement Association's Annual Meeting, July 12, 2008

The meeting was held at Silver Creek Township hall and was called to order by President Charlotte Poole at 9:06 AM EDT. There were approximately 60 members in attendance and 2 guests. 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. Guests were Dr. Charles Cabbage and Sgt. Phil Easrey

Charlotte asked if any of the attendees had read the prior annual meeting minutes posted on the web site. A few indicated they had. Mary McCoy motioned that the minute be approved as posted to the MLIA web site. Ed Miller seconded the motion. Following a show of hands, the motion passed.

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

BUDGET 2008

<u>OPENING BALANCE – 1/1/0</u>	<u>\$3,484</u>
INCOME: 200 Renewals	\$5,000
30 New Members	750
5 Advertisers x \$80	400
<u>TOTAL INCOME</u>	<u>\$6,150</u>
EXPENSES	
Recruitment	300
4 News Letters	900
Michigan Lake/Stream	250
Riparian Magazine	1,449
Michigan Lake/Stream Conferences	
Spring and fall	750
DUHS Project	400
Monitoring/Water Testing	200
MLIA Insurance	1,062
Training	300
Augmentation Letter	100
<u>TOTAL EXPENSES</u>	<u>\$5,711</u>
<u>ESTIMATED BALANCE 12/31/08</u>	<u>\$3,923</u>

There was a question raised as to the need to include the Riparian subscription for each member. Dick Morey noted that our group rate is lower than their individual one. Following some discussion, a show of hands was requested for those who wanted it to be included in their membership. All except one attendee were in favor of keeping the Riparian as part of the MLIA membership fee,

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

Charlotte then gave the attendees an update on the Crooked Lakes augmentation project. She stated that the original request was denied in December, 2007. An appeal was filed in January for reconsideration. Since then, the Crooked Lakes association has attempted to address the specific Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ). It now appears that they have satisfied the concerns over water quality and discharge. The drawdown of other wells and lake levels still remain. There now is a new pump test planned to last 72 hours using the same well as before; unlike previous beliefs that a new well would be required. This will include monitoring of more existing wells. Tritium Corporation is conducting the test. A gentleman by the name of Ted Feenstra, who works for Tritium and was formerly with Peerless Midwest, is looking for volunteers to have their wells monitored. Also, a significant drop in lake level should be reported. Anyone wishing to volunteer to have their well monitored should contact Mr. Feenstra at 574-266-5300. During this discussion, Kay Dukesherer noted that the Cass County Drain Commissioner has left this position for one in Kalamazoo. Mr. Bruce Campbell is his interim replacement. Also, the office is now officially referred to as the Water Resource Office. Dick Judd questioned who was paying for this additional testing. Charlotte said that it was coming from the County but at some point should be reimbursed. Another commented that currently Crooked's lake level is above where they planned to be after augmentation. Dennis Stites who is a Big Crooked property owner stated that, to date, there has been no reimbursement. He also stated that there was a survey sent to property owners and of those that were returned, over 90% opposed the augmentation project.

Craig McCoy then gave an update on the status of the property that was formerly the Blue Fin Marina. He stated that the buyers wanted to develop the property as something other than a marina and decided that residential was their best investment. In order to get this approved, they went through all the legal steps necessary. Craig noted that the zoning for Blue Fin was Non-conforming Commercial and their request was to change to Non-conforming Residential. It was approved because it was deemed an improvement over what is currently in place. Once the zoning was approved, the Planning Commission was presented a proposal that was initially for 6 units at lakeside and 4 units on property off the lake. They finally reached approval of 4 units lakeside and none behind. This is over approximately 100 foot of frontage. The approval included 2 piers with each side of each pier dedicated to one until and not more than two boats per side. Craig did comment that once everything was in place over time, policing the 2 boats per side may be difficult. One attendee, Ed Lanigan, stated that he thought the presence of a gas pump on the lake is necessary and he hoped someone would pursue making one available. An overall concern was expressed that this may very well set precedence for others to follow, particularly at the property to the Northeast of the lake where literally hundreds of units could be built. Craig commented that the logic of the zoning that Blue Fin had, would not apply to that property which is zoned resort lake.

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 previous newsletter.

It was reported that new membership decals to be provided to all paid members will be distributed following the meeting. Some had already been distributed prior to the meeting as well. The remainder will be distributed in various ways from door to door to mailing. These decals are for the period from August 1, 2008 through July 31, 2009 and have an expiration date on them.

Sgt. Phil Easrey then addressed the attendees with a summary of statistics on contact hours, number of contacts, citations etc. He noted that last year there were 3 persons that had drowned and 2 boating accidents but none so far this year. He further related that there are more budget cuts for his department again this year despite the fact there are over 1,700 boats. He said that they had to send over \$66,000 to the state and then were allocated \$22,000 for their budget. He asked that anyone concerned should contact their representative to express that concern. A question was raised about whether lifejackets must be out in full view or can they be in seats. He stated that they are required to be readily accessible. Having them, in a bag is not considered as readily accessible. He said their preference is to have them out in plain sight either on the floor or on top of seats. Sgt. Easrey also mentioned a new bill just signed that will take effect on 2011. It raises the age that one can operate a PWC and extends the time to sunrise to sunset.

Another question was asked concerning control of bass tournaments. Kay remarked that this is controlled through the Parks and Recreation Department because they have to register for the access sites. She also said this may be included as a survey item.

Charlotte mentioned there was information on various topics of interest to riparians available on the back table. She then asked Dick Morey to introduce Dr. Charles Cabbage.

Because of time constraints, Dr. Cabbage gave a shortened version of his presentation. He did show what results can be had by treating Eurasian Milfoil with weevils. He had several very graphic photos of how overpowering this weed can be and what results can be achieved over time with weevil treatment. He did encourage not doing much with the first 10-15 feet from the water's edge in the fall because that's where the weevils winter. He also commented during his presentation that using phosphate free fertilizer, while somewhat better than regular fertilizer, is still detrimental. He said that if it makes your grass green, it'll make the lake green too.

Following Dr. Cabbage, Deb Freeman questioned why the lake was being kept so high. Charlotte stated that the MLIA does not control the level at all. This is done through the Cass County Water Resource Department and it should be maintained at the level established by court order. Charlotte said that, if she felt the court order was being exceeded, she should contact the Cass County Water Resource Department.

Charlotte then asked if there was any new business and if not asked for a call to adjournment. Ed Miller motioned for adjournment, Nick Barnes seconded the motion the motion passed. The meeting adjourned at 10:37 AM EDT.

Respectfully submitted,

Bill Boehnlein
Secretary Magician Lake Improvement Association