

SECORD LAKE ASSOCIATION INC

Board Meeting

June 11, 2020

### **MINUTES**

Meeting was called to order at 9:00 A.M. by Phil Dast. Board members present at Secord Township Hall: Phil Dast, Chuck Sikora, Susan Morgan, Richard West, Bruce Plowman, Rita Lewis, Deb Stover and Jeanne Ballor. Also present Sandy Sikora.

**SECRETARY'S REPORT:** Minutes from May 15, 2020 Board Meeting approved, No further report.

**TREASURERS REPORT:** Bank balance is \$2,860.85. There are no outstanding bills. Motion to approve treasurer's report made, seconded and passed.

#### **PRESIDENT'S COMMENTS:**

The June membership meeting will have to be cancelled. Due to the dam collapse, it is likely that attendance would exceed 100, in violation of the current Executive Order. In addition, it would be impossible to socially distance in any available venue for the meeting. Hopefully, the July 18 meeting will be held. If so, it will be at the Secord Eagles at 11:00 am. The July meeting will focus on the dam situation, hopefully with input from Four Lakes Task Force. If Association members have any questions they would like to see addressed before that meeting, they can email the Association and we will answer them as best we can with current available information.

Phil talked about an upcoming meeting that will deal with erosion issues that have arisen following the flooding. Richard will attend the meeting and will report back to the Board.

#### **ELECTION COMMITTEE:**

The election for Directors will be held at the August membership meeting. Per our bylaws, the Board is to propose a slate by the July meeting. The Committee will be meeting soon to prepare a proposed slate. There are 4 positions that will be voted on. According to the revised bylaws, all four 2020 officers' positions will be on the ballot as they must run for Directors positions. If there is a COVID cancellation of the July meeting, the revised bylaws and the proposed slate will be emailed to members at the appropriate time.

#### **COMMUNICATIONS COMMITTEE:**

**SIGNS:** The 15 signs that were ordered have been received. Discussion and consensus regarding where they should be posted. Sue added that the sign maker can do T shirts and other branded items.

**WEBSITE:** Phil thanked Sandy for all the work she has done on our website. Board members agree that her work has been crucial and well done.

Sandy reported that the gmail account is working well to send messages out to members. Discussion held regarding the Townships' ability to put information on our account by contacting committee members. Clement Township lists us as a resource on its website.

Deb brought up that Secord Township is proposing an ordinance prohibiting contractors from blowing leaves into the lake, as it is believed that this is toxic to the water. The ordinance would impose fines on contractors who do this. Deb suggested that the Association take a public stance on this. It was agreed that she will bring a copy of the ordinance when it is adopted, and the Board will consider it at that time.

#### **MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE:**

The membership list has missing information for a few members. Jeanne has original membership applications and will compare those to see if missing information is available. If not, the committee will try to contact the members to update the list.

About 25% of our members have not paid 2020 dues yet. There will be further reminders sent.

#### **FOUR LAKES TASK FORCE:**

Phil talked about an upcoming presentation regarding post-flood erosion. Richard will attend the meeting and report back.

The only Secord dam inspection that has been completed to date was by the Army Corps of Engineers. This inspection was only for imminent safety issues, primarily erosion issues. The forensic inspections and State and federal investigations have not been done. No repairs have begun, as Boyce will not allow anyone onto dam property.

General discussion held regarding the future of the 4 dam communities and the Secord community in particular. It was noted that some Secord property owners would like to separate from the FLTF and try to get Secord dam repaired as a single dam. The frustration of people on our lake is completely understandable. We all want to be able to enjoy our lake. Because it's only been 3 weeks since the flooding, however, patience is important. People at all levels of government, from lake associations to the Task Force to Midland and Gladwin Counties to the federal agencies, are working on a way forward every day. At this time, there are many questions but few answers. The Association will continue its effort to keep our membership apprised of any new information. In future membership meetings, we will have programs and speakers that can advise of progress and future plans.

The Board also reviewed the history of the efforts of FLTF to accomplish all the legal steps necessary for purchase of the 4 dams to date was reviewed, noting that it took \$300,000 and over a year to reach the point of the 307 lake level Order. Then it took more time and substantial money to establish the Special Assessment District (SAD).

Since both the Order and the SAD apply to the 4 lakes as a unit, obtaining a lake level order and establishing a SAD just for Secord would most likely require starting over, spending time and money that have already been spent. In addition, there are government-ordered inspections yet to be done, meaning that there is no data on which to chart a definitive path forward. Deciding at this point in time to start over would seem at best premature. Political pressure to complete the inspections in a timely manner can be more effective if applied by the 4 lakes together. Moreover, obtaining the Secord Dam property from Boyce separate from the other dams seems improbable, at least until more information is available.

For these reasons, the Board consensus at this time is that the Secord community will be well served by giving FLTF the time to design a data-based plan that is workable for our future enjoyment of Secord Lake. When we learn what that plan actually entails, all of these issues can be reconsidered.

Motion made to adjourn with support; passed. Meeting adjourned at 9:55 a.m.

JB