

**Minutes**

Meeting was called to order at 10:00 a.m. on October 16, 2021 at Secord Township Hall. Board members present were Phil Dast, Susan Morgan, Richard West, Greg Scharf and Jeanne Ballor. Guests were Joel Vernier and Sawyer Scott.

**BUSINESS:**

Minutes from the September 17 meeting were approved by motion. A letter addressed to SLA from Governor Whitmer was read to membership. The letter was in response to a RestoreTheLakes letter sent by SLA to her office.

Treasurer's Report was presented by Susan. Balance in General Fund is \$27,062.52. Balance in Dam Fund is \$4,870.63. Motion to approve made, seconded and passed. Bills presented were \$12.00 to Secord Township for copies made, and to S&H for SLA merchandise. Motion made, seconded and passed to approve payment of bills.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

Promotions: Greg noted that there is SLA merchandise available at the back of the hall and that the decals are available for sale. The Committee is planning for a way to get our merchandise out to members at events by next summer.

Fundraising: Jenny Combs presented a wrap-up of the Golf Tournament. There were 108 golfers, 60 sponsors and more than 20 volunteers. The Tournament cleared \$18,505. Postage must be paid. Thank you notes have been sent to all the sponsors. Golfers who received certificates for golf balls from Richardsons can redeem their prize by talking to Peggy at the dealership before 12/15/21. Thanks were also given to the Schumacher's at Gladwin Heights Golf Course. The Committee is already planning next year's event. The Board and the Committee will meet to decide on how to appropriate the funds that were raised. Phil noted that SLA will continue to need funds, even after the water level is returned to normal, so other membership needs can be met. He also expressed the Board's appreciation for all the hard work of the Committee and the volunteers.

Communications: RestoreTheLakes remains an ongoing effort. Jeff Sorenson will be attending a Sanford Lake meeting, at which several state legislators will be present.

Election: As required by SLA bylaws, the next election will be held in August 2022, location to be announced. There will be 3 positions available. Members are invited to run.

Weed Control: This new committee will work with FLTF and townships to address the ongoing aquatic and shoreline weed and tree issues. Secord and Clement are already committed to the intention to begin work on this issue in 2022, while Bourret is working on a plan to do so, hopefully in 2023.

Another new committee is proposed. This Committee would plan a fun day for members. The hope is to have the event at Secord Eagles Club at the Annual Membership Meeting in August 2022, along with the election.

**GUESTS:**

Sawyer Scott was introduced to members. He owns Dam Weeds Brush Clearing Co. He explained his business model, which began when he helped his neighbors on Wixom Lake cut the weeds on the bottomlands in front of their homes. The business uses brush mower and industrial weed eater and can work on slopes. He showed before and after

pictures of his work. Phil noted that there are other companies doing similar types of work, and they are welcome to make a presentation to SLA.

Joel Vernier explained Secord Townships ongoing treatment of weeds. Because the township has continued collecting for weed control, the township now has a “war chest” and is able to work on the weed issue. Trees are another problem, because if they are allowed to continue to grow, they will remain – either as trees or stumps - when the water comes back to the lake. This will present dangers to boaters and swimmers. He also noted that the township hall is being carpeted next week, so the sound quality in the meeting room should improve.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

Phil informed membership that today is the last 2021 public meeting, although the Board will continue meeting through the winter months. The next public meeting is in April. The Board will be discussing if the number of meetings being held is the right number. Members can give any thoughts on this question to any Board member. He thanked Secord Township for the use of their hall. In 2022, the meetings may be held elsewhere; suggestions for alternate locations are welcome.

**FLTF UPDATE:**

Phil noted that there is not a lot to report. Secord Dam has been stabilized for the winter. Engineering for Secord is finished and ready for the process of applying for permits. However, applications cannot be completed until financing is finalized. Until the legislature addresses the bill now pending for \$225 million dollars to repair the dams and funds are appropriated, no applications can be made. It is expected that the legislature will act soon. Assuming these funds are approved and appropriated, that means there will be no capital assessment in the SAD; the assessment will be for operations and maintenance only, a much lower amount.

**COMMENTS:** Greg thanked Joel for his proactive concerns about weed control and thanked the volunteers who helped with the Golf Tournament.

Motion to adjourn was made, seconded and passed. Meeting adjourned at 10:41 a.m.