

**SECORD LAKE ASSOCIATION
MEMBERSHIP MEETING
September 18, 2021**

The meeting was called to order at 10:00 am on September 18, 2021, at Secord Township Hall. Board members present were Phil Dast, Susan Morgan, Jeanne Ballor, Mike Szuch and Greg Scharf. Guests in attendance included Joel Vernier (Secord Township Supervisor); Karen Hoffman (Clement Township Supervisor); and Mike Szuch (Gladwin County Commissioner).

OLD BUSINESS

Minutes from the August meeting were approved by motion. A letter from FLTF, thanking SLA for the recent \$10,000 donation, was read by the secretary.

The Treasurer's Report showed balances in the General Fund of \$22,092.39 and in the Secord Dam Fund of \$5,142.07. The amount of \$30.15 was transferred from the General Fund to the Dam Fund to cover bank fees. A motion to approve the report was made, seconded and passed.

Bills were presented for payment, as follows: Restore the Lake for office supplies \$133.70; and greens fees to Gladwin Heights Golf Course for \$7,000.00. Motion was made, seconded and passed to pay both of these bills.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Membership: Susan reported that there are now 282 paid members. A member asked how to tell when dues are payable if multiple years have been paid. Sandy said that an email was going out in January to remind everyone to pay dues; this email would include that information.

Promotions: Greg reported that SLA merchandise orders have been filled and can be picked up at the back following conclusion of the meeting. He also reported that decals had arrived. The committee is working on making them available at meetings and events. Board members will also have them.

Fundraising: The golf tournament is Sept. 25. Jeanette reported that lots of volunteers were needed. Pre-sale of raffle tickets is going well. There are currently 28 teams of 4. Team signup is open until Friday. Information about late signup will be posted on SLA website.

Communications: Other than the RestoreTheLakes presentation later in the meeting, the CommTeam had no further report. Joel Vernier commented on how important the RestoreTheLakes campaign is. Mike updated membership on the status of the Bill currently going through the Lansing legislature. It is scheduled to go to the floor in October with signatures and appropriations thereafter.

Election: Jeanne reported on last month's election. She mentioned that the Board will be considering next year whether the election should be in person, online or a hybrid. The newly-elected Board members are Tami Johanson, Greg Scharf, and Jenny Combs. Their terms begin on January 1, 2022.

BUSINESS:

Phil has proposed a new committee formation, which he called the Weed and Tree Control Committee. He suggested that this committee would work with townships and the other Lake Associations and FLTF on weed and tree issues that stem from the 2020 flood. Any member with an interest in this committee should contact Phil or any Board

member. He also reported that weed spraying is currently being done, but no plan exists for the tree growth on bottomlands. In Smallwood, a landscaping company is working on a new type of equipment that would be able to cut weeds from a barge.

Joel noted that work to control weeds and trees helps all Secord property owners. He also pointed out that not all homeowners are able to take care of the weeds on their own. A variety of ways to help are being considered, up to and including chemicals.

Discussion was held regarding the possibility of using GoToMeeting at the Eagles for our meetings. There is a problem with bandwidth at Secord Township Hall. A suggestion for using a hot spot at the Eagles was made. Joel stated he would look into the bandwidth problem.

GUEST COMMENTS:

Karen Hoffman reported that Clement Township has received the proposed BLM weed contract and will be holding hearings soon on renewing that contract. Mike reminded everyone that the Bill in Lansing is not a done deal. There is still opposition to the FLTF plan. The best way to counter the opposition is to ask lots of questions and stay informed regarding the plans. We as an organization need to make sure good information is communicated to our members and to the Lake community.

FLTF UPDATE:

Phil reminded all that engineering is ongoing, and that most of the work on Secord is being done in offices at this time. The state's budget is nearing approval so our letters should focus on budget issues. A recent FLTF news flash reported that an interim Forensic Study was released online; it is also available in the FLTF library, and CommTeam will add a link to that report on the SLA resources page on the website. There was nothing surprising in that report, so the engineering plans already completed need not change. A final report will be forthcoming, probably in a few months. Assuming that the Bill passes, and funds are appropriated, there will be no need for capital assessments. The SAD assessment will be for operations only, so it will be lower than projected earlier.

RESTORE THE LAKES

There have been 7 live events for letter writing: 3 on Secord, 3 on Smallwood and 1 on Sanford. Wixom has held modified events last week. These events have resulted in over 15,000 letters being signed and sent to Lansing, not including any that were sent via email. Future events are planned and will be announced. Discussion held regarding Governor Whitmer's response to RestoreTheLakes letters; her letter contained an incorrect statement that FLTF owns the lakes. The CommTeam is on top of this issue and will reach out to the Governor's office to correct this statement. Discussion was held regarding how funds will be distributed if the Bill passes. Lump sums will NOT be distributed. Instead, the money will stay in the possession of the government until bills are presented for payment. Restitution will then be authorized.

Motion to adjourn was made, seconded and passed. Meeting adjourned at 10:250 am.

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