

BELPOA Annual Meeting June 2, 2012

Meeting was called to order at 10:00 am at the Brandon Township Library by President Jim Miller. Board members present: President Jim Miller, Treasurer Roger Duval, Secretary Sandy White, Bill Reinhart, Steve Ahonen, Jody Hall, Dawn Godfrey, Rich Harrold. 19 members present.

Minutes were read by Sandy White. Motion to approve made by Roger, seconded by Betty Stoddard. Passed.

Old Business

Last year we were going to investigate having the lake patrolled by the Oakland County Marine sheriff. Jody reported that because of budget cuts, we would have to pay a large amount of money for 40 hours of service. Roger reported that anyone can still call 911 if they see unsafe boating and the sheriff will contact the people personally. Last year we had a lot of unsafe boating because of many new residents on the lake.

Treasurer's Report

Roger Duval reported that last year we had a loss of more than \$400, this year it is only \$2.69. We eliminated advertising in the newsletter but made up the difference with less expensive printing costs. This year he is filing tax returns, although there is no tax to pay. Motion to approve by Sandy White, seconded by Steve Ahonen, passed.

Web Page Report

Sandy White reported that some new items on the web page were the photos of the Venetian parade in August. We get about 20 visits per day. The most popular pages are boating, wildlife and news. The dues form is often downloaded.

Water Testing

Sandy White reported that the results of the tests taken on November 15, 2011 were all within acceptable levels for the chemicals and tests performed. She also mentioned that the e-coli measurements were between 0 and 21 ppm. The level for safe swimming is 2000 ppm.

Ramp Key Policy

Jody Hall reported that the combination has worked well. John Smith will change the combination frequently during the summer. John Smith reported that the new ramp seems to be holding up and that he has had problems with people who are EIPA members using the beach.

Lake Level

Bill Reinhart reported on the water clarity.

Diane Carter raised the issue of the drain being clogged with the excess algae we had this spring. Her husband has been cleaning it. John Nassar, who has been cleaning the drain since he bought the property, is unable to do it this year. Jim Miller said that the board will discuss the issue and act on it.

Sewers and Weeds

Steve Ahonen emphasized the importance of septic tank cleaning. Steve also reported the effects of the warm winter on the weeds, with less snow the weeds got more sunlight and will probably be worse this summer. We will know later this summer. Zebra mussels also make the water clearer, encouraging weed growth. Bill Reinhart reported that the two years the lake clarity has actually declined.

Tim Andreolli brought up the issue of needing a lake board to deal with the weeds. Jim Miller, Steve Ahonen, Roger Duval Jody Hall and Rich Harrold all reported that we have not gotten enough support for a lake board from the residents of the lake.

Roger proposed we put a check box on the annual dues notice asking people if they are interested in investing in a lake board. Vote: 25 for, 3 opposed.

(Non-member) Rick Fisher wanted the BELPOA website to post information about Aquaweed, a company that does localized weed control. He feels using this company is better than homeowners applying unsafe and unregulated chemicals to control weeds. John Smith reported that it costs him \$130 per year, and is done three times a year. Jeff Goldman reported good results. Several people questioned the safety of these chemicals in the lake.

Jody Hall proposed we put this information on the website, Bill Reinhart seconded. Vote: 25 for 2 opposed.

4th Of July Boat Parade

Dawn Godfrey reported that last year's parade was successful. This year there will be first and second prizes for both pontoons and speedboats. Also a first place prize for a PWC. After the awards ceremony in the park, EIPA is hosting a barbecue and games for the kids. Everyone is welcome.

Dawn also reported that last year's Venetian Night Boat Parade was a success. This year it will start at 8:30.

Issues Raised by Members on Their Membership Forms

Jim Miller felt most of the issues had already been discussed. Bill Reinhart mentioned that the swans are being fed by people, which is making them too friendly and aggressive. Several people reported on encounters with the swans. Steve Ahonen reiterated that we should not feed the wildlife. This will be discussed in the newsletter.

Election of Board Members

Sandy White nominated Rich Harrold, Steve Ahonen and Vicky Robinson. Seconded by Jim Miller. Elected unanimously.

New Business

Greg Guziak raised the issue of fences on the lake side of people's property. Jim Miller will send a letter to the Township Zoning Commission to change the ordinance so that people cannot put up fences higher than 4 feet from their house to the shore. It is a safety issue as well as an aesthetic one. Steve Ahonen seconded. Passed.

Jim Miller proposed that we change the day of the annual meeting to the Saturday before Memorial Day weekend because of Creekfest. Rich Harrold seconded. Passed.

Rick Meissner offered to take care of stocking fish if we want to do it. Steve Ahonen and Sandy White said it was unnecessary and possibly dangerous and our lake is not a good habitat for walleye.

Steve moved to adjourn the meeting, Rich Harrold seconded. Meeting adjourned at 11:30.

Sandy White,
Secretary