Minutes of the June 7, 2014

Barlow Lake Association Meeting

The June 2014 Barlow Lake Association meeting was called to order by Luke Miller at 9:05 AM with 20 homeowners and officers present.

Current Officers were introduced and Area Captains recognized. Officer elections were discussed and that elections are held every two years. The next election will be at the August 2015 meeting. Luke and Mike encouraged people to serve as an officer or in any open position. The minutes of the August 10, 2013 meeting were read.

**Treasurer’s Report**

Don Visser gave the Financial report noting that dues receipts are ahead of last year’s at this time. Don also expressed appreciation that many members were giving extra above the $40 annual dues amount for the fireworks and fish funds.

**Fireworks**

This year’s fireworks will be on Saturday, July 5th. A set start time was discussed. Last year $6500 was spent on the fireworks and this provided for bigger fireworks and music prior to the fireworks. The fireworks and the music portion was well received, the verbal portion (Paul Harvey) was garbled and hard to hear. It was decided that we would have the music and the fireworks but not the voice portion this July.

**Boat Parade**

MaryLou Johnson reported that this year’s Boat Parade theme would be Pure Michigan or a Patriotic theme. The group noted that last year’s parade was especially nice. MaryLou requested registering with her prior to the parade day so that she would have an adequate supply of trophies.

**YMCA/Association 2014 Picnic**

Mike Cunningham reported that the date for the Lake Association picnic at the Y Camp will be held August 2nd from 3 to 6 PM, with food at 5 PM. Volunteers and helpers were requested to run the activities.

**Fish Program**

Mike Cunningham reported that 1000 7” Walleye were planted in the lake last October.

**Lake Water Testing**

Mike Cunningham thanked Ruth Hubbard for her many years of service in gathering lake water sample and water quality testing. Mike has taken over this duty and provided background information on the data collected from the testing. Mike noted that Barlow Lake’s water quality is in good shape and according to the Carlson Index, the age of Barlow Lake would be considered to be in the young to middle age group.

**Newsletter**

The members expressed thanks to Luke for the nice newsletter. Luke encouraged everyone to send articles and pictures for the next newsletter which will be distributed near Labor Day weekend.

**Website**

The Lake Association website has been kept up to date by Mike Cunningham. Pictures were requested for the website. Mike encouraged everyone to check the website regularly for updated information on calendar items and lake events.

**Milfoil Update**

Luke reported that the Special Assessment for weed control was passed and will continue for another 5 years. The lake was recently surveyed for locations of Eurasian Milfoil. The weed control program has reduced the size of Eurasian Milfoil from 20 acres to about 7 acres. Luke reminded people not to cut the Milfoil but to call Tony Groves if a patch is seen.

**New Business**

Mike reported that the area signs are in need of repair or need to be removed. The group felt that the signs were a great communication tool and that they should be repaired. Don Cook and Carl Moore built the signs many years ago.

**Member Comments**

T shirt sales were discussed perhaps with an artwork competition for the design. Increasing the activities held on the lake was also discussed, such as the golf outing as held in the past, an alternate location for the picnic, and area parties. All these ideas are good ideas and volunteers to chair the committees are needed to get activities such as these going.

Water safety was also discussed including conducting a Boater Safety seminar at a Lake Association meeting. Also discussed were life jackets and observers for skiers not being used. The yellow caution flag system was mentioned and also distributing a laminated map showing the direction of travel by boats on the lake.

Following the group discussion, the meeting was closed at 10:20 AM.

Respectfully submitted,

Barb Cunningham