

**BPILA Annual Board Meeting Minutes  
October 14, 2009**

Meeting called to order at 7:08 p.m.

Agenda was approved.

Board meeting roll call

Tom Manikowski – President

Jen Medema – VP

Paul Mulheisen – Treasurer

Lisa Zigmont – Secretary

Jen Medema was not in attendance. All other board members were present.

A motion was made by Paul Mulheisen with a second from Lisa Zigmont to approve meeting minutes from July 21, 2009. Motion carried.

Recognition and thanks to additional volunteers.

Treasurer's report

Paul Mulheisen reported that we have total balance of \$5220.38, which is \$1000 over last year at this time. Additional monies were collected from the trailer park, and there are several newsletters going to trailer park residents this year. Paul will also get Tower Lake resident addresses in order to send additional newsletters. Paul also made a recommendation that we consider spending some of our funds.

Tom Manikowski suggested looking at a small investment in landscaping around pump stations. Neighborhood Rep Vivian Sims suggested a resident party or picnic. These will be considered in our 2010 objectives.

Paul reported 87 memberships, compared to 88 from last year.

Annette Beatty suggested procurement and distribution of additional educational materials, such as new boater rules, lake rules, etc. A suggestion was also made to provide these items in a packet to new residents.

A motion was made by Paul Mulheisen to approve financial statement report, with a second from Tom Manikowski. Motion carried.

Township Supervisor report

Township Supervisor Frank Force was not available to attend, but the following information was passed on through Tom Manikowski:

The township is extending the sewer operator, Infrastructure, for an extra 6 months, through April 30.

Request for Proposals for engineering firms are due Nov. 4<sup>th</sup> for upgrades to the sewer system.

Emergency calls on the sewer system are down 33%.

Contact Frank Force with any additional questions.

#### Dock ordinance

The ordinance is extended to include 50% of your water frontage. There is a limit of 4 watercraft with motors, per riparian. Allowances are now more liberal for channels frontage, as well.

#### Fire Department Millage

Reminder to vote on November 3<sup>rd</sup>. There is no increase in taxes, but the millage needs to be renewed in order to keep operating funds so that the insurance rating doesn't get worse. A suggestion was made to provide a donation to the fire department for dry hydrants, and include in the newsletter.

#### Lake Improvement Board

Dan Bailey reported that we were \$1500 over budget with Progressive AE. They treated 7 times for algae, at \$6000 cost. Annette Beatty inquired if BPIL was tested for suspended phosphorous. Tom Manikowski suggested a meeting this winter with the Heffron Rd. farmer to be proactive toward next year, and include Frank Force.

Tower Lake would also be interested in testing for phosphorous.

Dan also reported existence of the Wildlife Rehab Center for any injured waterfowl and wildlife. Seagulls are a protected species. A recommendation was made to put the Rehab Center info in the newsletter.

#### Newsletter report

Pat Talbott reported that 275 newsletters were sent in September. We had \$150 in ads, and a new ad from Green's store.

Scott Mark's suggested an article to be included about the West Michigan Ski Association who are doing a fundraiser by putting in and pulling out docks, etc.

Pat reported the next newsletter edition will be in Feb. 2010. Suggested articles to be included were ice safety and BPILA board election outcome. Pat to send an electronic copy of newsletter to Scott DeMeyer to be posted on our website. There was also a suggestion to contact Green's to see if they want to advertise for winter. They are hoping to stay open this winter. History articles will also continue. Tom asked that anyone wishing to include an article in the newsletter should contact Pat directly.

#### Website report

<http://home.comcast.net/~bpila/site/?/home/>

Scott DeMeyer reported that the site has had about 100 hits. He suggested that we have a link from the Grattan Township website to our site.

#### Safety Network

Scott DeMeyer reported that there was one theft on the island of a frog statue. Paint guns were also stolen from a car on MAC Dr. A suggestion was made to include an article in the newsletter about watching our neighboring homes and cottages to deter crime.

Deb Story had an additional suggestion to add an article in the Feb. newsletter to inquire about interest in a boater's safety class and that it does lower boat owners insurance. Tom Manikowski

will send Deb contact info for the Murray Lake lake association to see if they want to inquire with their lake residents about interest in a class, too.

A suggestion was also made to add the ice safety article/info to the website.

#### Historian update

Cathy Kirkbride was not in attendance.

Vivian Sims reported that she was told that 65-70 years ago there was a weed harvester that sank in the lake.

Tom will ask Cathy about uploading any historic photos to the website.

#### BPILA Trustees and Bylaws

The bylaw document provided tonight is actually amendments to the bylaws. Jack Leach was the original BPILA president. Scott Marks advised that Cathy Kirkbride may have the original files with bylaws.

It was advised that the neighborhood reps are considered trustees. Any votes should include these individuals. Need at least 2 officers for a vote.

Recommended items for bylaw amendments:

- Timeframe for voting in road reps
- Addition of an “associate” member designation (non-voting)
- Delinquent dues article 3, section 4: change to state “payable by 8/1”

Any amendment changes will be sent out via newsletter (to paid voting members), and then a meeting will be held to vote in amendments.

Let Tom know if there are additional proposals for bylaw changes.

#### Webcam

A webcam has been discussed to show a view of the lake on our website. Cost is \$80-\$200 for a wireless unit. Ideal placement would be north or south end of lake. Topic was tabled for future discussion.

#### Year in review

Tom went over accomplishments for 2009 and 2010 objectives to pass on to new elected board.

#### Misc.

Pat Talbott suggested we keep a physical library for any handbooks, documents, etc. Discussion was tabled.

Larry Koetje brought in goose round-up info to pass on to the board.

#### New board election

A motion was made by Vivian Sims nominating Tom Manikowski for President. Seconded by many. Tom accepted nomination. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Tom Manikowski to nominate Jen Medema for Vice President. Second by Annette Beatty. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Tom Manikowski nominating Paul Mulheisen for Treasurer. Paul accepted nomination Second by Scott Marks. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Tom Manikowski nominating Lisa Zigmont for Secretary. Second by Scott Marks. Lisa accepted nomination. Motion carried.

Neighborhood reps stand as follows:

Deb Story  
Vivian Sims  
Nancy Popma  
Susie Manikowski  
Scott Marks  
Emily McNally

There are two open neighborhood rep positions at this time.

Meeting was adjourned at 9:15 p.m.