

**BPILA Board Meeting Minutes
July 22, 2008**

Attendees:

Nancy Popma	Frank Force
Jen Medema	Dan Bailey
Pat Talbott	Lisa Zigmont
Paul Mulheisen	Deb Story
Tom Manikowski	Suzie Manikowski

Meeting was called to order by Tom at 7:05.

Treasurer's report

Current balance is \$4363.73. We have paid out all bills for fireworks, sheriff and newsletter. Fireworks collection totals were \$4071.69. This is about the same collection as last year. Show cost this year was \$5550.00.

There are 81 memberships, for a total of \$1620.00, and we are sending 226 newsletters. The membership totals seem to be about average from years past, where it has varied from 60-100. Tom recommended that we consider a membership drive for next year and a fundraiser for fireworks.

Township Supervisor

Frank Force provided an update on the sewer system, including a spreadsheet of irrigation activity. They are getting quotes on flow meters. The mission dialers, however, will measure flow (gal. pumped) as well. So plans are underway to upgrade current mission dialers with this feature. Sierra has guaranteed no overflows next spring.

The DEQ says they will require soil borings at the Grattan/Vergennes shallow monitoring wells to insure that no sodium or chloride is getting into ground water. This is a condition of the discharge permit renewal. Tom asked Frank to check with the DEQ whether the core samples will fill in, or would there be potential for additional contamination if these samples are taken and the core does not fill in.

Mission dialers will be installed on all pump stations. Frank is confirming if the dialers will do everything they need to do before final purchase. He will also be reviewing Sierra's \$2500/15% administrative fee to understand what this includes.

Frank urged everyone to vote on Aug. 5 in the primary with a reminder that there is no split ticket option.

Dan Bailey inquired about pond elevation markers to judge the rise and fall of retention ponds. Frank advised that a similar feature is in place and it was denoted on Frank's spreadsheet on Grattan sewer irrigation.

Suzie Manikowski asked Frank if it was known how much the sewer flow was reduced due to the broken pipe in the north end trailer park that was going into our wet well. Up to one million gallons a week could have been going through in a rainy wet period.

Frank advised that a new high pressure well is underway for Grattan fire department. This will help improve our ISO rating (currently a 9 out of 10), and has potential of bringing down insurance rates.

Fireworks

The following fundraising ideas were discussed:

- Garage sales w/a percentage going to fireworks
- Tour of sewer irrigation system ☺
- Posting of contributor names in the newsletter
- Texas hold 'em tournament
- Fishing/ice fishing contest – portion of proceeds to winner, portion to fireworks
- T-shirts, sweatshirts
- Hot dog roast (sponsored by Green's)
- Grattan Raceway concession cart
- Make fireworks contribution part of membership dues/raise dues
- Get dues out earlier in the year and collect fireworks contribution later in a different manner
- Recyclable can drive

Membership drive

The following ideas were discussed:

- Listing member names in the newsletter
- Put out email communication about what BPILA has done or will do, including a message of what benefits are included in membership dues:
 - o General communications
 - o Area discounts
 - o Newsletters
 - o Lake quality/improvement (\$143 annual to CLMP and \$80 annual to MLSA)
 - o Green's discount?
 - o Watchdog group
 - o Representation at township meetings

Tom reminded board members that the township Planning Commission meets the 1st Wednesday of every month, with the next meeting on Aug. 6. Tom will check to see if agendas can be made available ahead of time to determine need for board representation.

Lake Improvement Board

Tom did a ride-along the last time Progressive AE was on the lake to treat. We do have some curly leaf and small amount of Eurasian milfoil (NE corner). PAE will be trying to get along the shoreline better and in the channel in their next trip. It costs about \$35,000 per year to do our weed control.

Pat Talbott asked if PAE can do anything about purple loosestrife. Dan Bailey will check this and report back to the board.

Dan asked the board if there have been noticeable improvements in the algae issue. Deb Story reported that it is much better.

We have a 5 year weed treatment program that expires in 2009. Next spring/summer there will be a hearing to vote this back in. There is a \$135 average that is currently assessed in our taxes for lakefront owners and back lots.

Jen Medema inquired if spot treating affects the water in non-treated areas, too. Since signs are only posted in treated areas, not all residents may be aware of spot treatments. Dan Bailey will check with PAE and report back to the board.

Newsletter

The following content ideas were discussed for the Sept. issue:

- What BPILA does

- Update on fireworks/sheriff patrol (hired police for land control because our permit was threatened due to prior violence)
- Neighborhood theft notification – urge people to provide email addresses

Ads are \$25 for a quarter page, \$50 for half page, and \$100 for full page. We are averaging about \$150 in ads per newsletter.

Frequency – it was agreed that it should be quarterly.

Newsletter should go out prior to our membership meeting. Meeting was agreed to be held the 2nd Tuesday of October. Tom will verify the date and send to everyone.

Area Projects

Landscaping and signage was discussed. Tom will check with Frank Force to determine what sign ordinances will need to be considered. There is potential of enlisting an Eagle Scout candidate to do some landscaping at low/no cost.

Dan Bailey requested that the board pass along to any neighbors that the “Budweiser Beach” area is now privately owned and would ask that people respect that it is no longer a public beach area.

Pat asked if there is a housing ordinance on vacant homes. Jen Medema will look into this and report back to the board.

There was a motion by Pat Talbott to send a reminder to residents to vote on August 5, and seconded by Lisa Zigmont. Ayes carried. None opposed.

Our next meeting will be mid-October.

Meeting adjourned at 9:00