

Three Lakes Association
Regularly Scheduled Board Meeting of March 27, 2012
9:00 a.m. – 12:00 noon

Members Present:

Bob Bagley, Dean Branson, Todd Collins, Duane Drake, Cheryl Lynn Fields, Tina Fields, Nancy Hanson, Art Hoadley, Ann McClelland, Becky Norris, Jack Norris, Sue Reck, Patricia Roush, Don Watkins, and Leslie Meyers.

Absent: Norton Bretz, Gary Knapp, Fred Sittel.

Guest: Ed Gourley, prospective Board member and candidate for Treasurer.

A quorum of at least ten voting Board members was established at 9:00 a.m.

The Board noted with sadness, the recent death of Bob Hildorf, a long-time member of TLA, and former Treasurer of the Association. The Three Lakes Association is mentioned in the obituary as one of the intended recipients of any memorial gifts.

Approval of Minutes:

The minutes of February 14, 2012 were reviewed.

MOTION by Becky Norris, second by Patricia Roush, to approve the minutes of the meeting of February 14, 2012, as presented. Motion carried.

Treasurer's Report:

The reports for February 2012 were distributed electronically prior to the meeting. These reports are hereby incorporated into the record by reference and attached to the permanent copy of these minutes as [Att A].

We have received word from GTRCF that our disbursement for this year will be \$1,870. Miscellaneous revenue (account 5490) \$90.29, includes the \$2 differential between what we charge our members for the Riparian and what Riparian charges us, a small deposit as part of the PayPal setup, and a bank adjustment (we deposited \$50 more than we thought we had).

Becky included a spreadsheet showing the records for our fund at GTRCF as it stood at year-end for the past four years. She also provided a spreadsheet showing the history of our investments with Old Mission Investments; all the information on the spreadsheet except for the final column comes directly from the statements received from OMI. The final column indicates the calculated net change in value.

The IRS 990-EZ has been prepared for submission. Something happened during transmission of the pdf file, such that the numbers disappeared from lines 1-4. Becky read those numbers aloud to the Board:

line 1 is \$22,392; line 2 is \$0; line 3 is \$22,875; and line 4 is \$6,461.

MOTION by Cheryl Lynn Fields, second by Art Hoadley, to receive the treasurer's report as presented and explained. Motion carried.

MOTION by Sue Reck, second by Patricia Roush, to approve submission of the IRS 990-EZ, as presented and explained. Motion carried.

Action Item – Leslie to oversee completion of the GTRCF Fund advisor information form, listing the names of the new advisors: Ed Gourley, Leslie Meyers, Dean Branson, Becky Norris, and Art Hoadley.

Executive Director's Report:

The report for February 2012 was distributed electronically prior to the meeting. This report is hereby incorporated into the record by reference and attached to the permanent copy of these minutes as [Att B]. Leslie reported on the second Shanty Creek Stakeholders' meeting of February 16; the scheduled summer 2012 Joint Education Events, the Treasurer and accounting transition process, the progress in 'mending fences' with Dewitt Marine, preparation for the GTRCF Internship Grant Program, and the scope of work (for both our high school interns and our 2012 research assistant Leah Varga) to be reviewed by the Board at today's meeting, progress in the PayPal setup, her research into grant funding opportunities for the Fish Shelter project, the ERCOL-WPIT meeting of March 21, plans to seek assistance from the local dock installers in identifying locations of aquatic plants, the inventory of TLA equipment, work on a New Board Member Handbook, development of a Volunteer Agreement form to be reviewed at today's Board meeting, and the completion of the "2011 Grass River & Tributaries Restoration Assessment" report by last year's summer interns: Roger Barber, Carrick Conway, David Witt, and Erik Youmans.

Included with the Executive Director's report are documents for the Board to receive and file:

Officers' Meeting Notes – 3/19

Shanty Creek Stakeholders Meeting Notes – 2/16

ERCOL-WPIT minutes – 3/21

Inventory of TLA Equipment – 3/24

These documents are hereby incorporated into the record by reference and attached to the permanent copy of these minutes as [Att C], [Att D], [Att E], and [Att F], respectively.

There was discussion on whether a physical location is needed for the TLA office, and if so, where it should be. Right now, our physical office is little more than a storage place.

Discussion revealed the need for a *Documents Retention And Maintenance* committee. The initial members of this committee are: Norton Bretz, Leslie Meyers, Tina Fields, and Ed Gourley.

Discussion revealed the need for further technical assistance for our website and the PayPal setup issues. Todd and Leslie will form a technical consultation committee and lay out their understanding of our future website needs, as well as develop a working strategy for accomplishing those needs.

Fish Shelter Project:

* Bob Bagley – reported that the permit application was submitted March 8, 2012. Information has been obtained from the DNR on what is needed to establish staging areas. Todd Collins reported that he knows of two donations coming that total \$250. There was discussion about how many sites will be in each of our three lakes, and how many can be done in the first year.

Water Quality Committee:

* Becky Norris reported on the summer *E. coli* stream monitoring program, and suggested the summer interns be part of the aquatic plants survey. She gave a brief report on *Giardia*, which Norton Bretz mentioned at our previous Board meeting. It is a microscopic parasite that survives well in surface water, even in chlorinated swimming pool water. Prevention is the best practice: don't swallow surface water; wash your hands after handling surface water.

E. coli –Becky plans to do stream monitoring twice this summer, once in late June and once in mid-to-late August. She plans to monitor the sites closest to the lakes; and selectively, at the both the road-crossing and the mouth of the stream, if there is significant development in the area between them. These samples must be taken contemporaneously, which means two people are needed at these locations –the logistics have to be sorted out for this special effort. If there is a 'hot' reading, we will resample. Results will be sent out by listserv to subscribers.

Aquatic plants–there will be a training session on aquatic plants at the MLSA annual meeting, put on by MiCorps. Becky will be attending that. Assistance in identifying locations is sought from property owners, as well as dock installers and fishermen. Becky plans to carry out a near-shoreline aquatic plants inventory this summer with the help of the summer high school interns and our research assistant Leah Varga. The inventory will be as complete as time and resources will permit.

Education Outreach:

* Patricia Roush – reported that this year's grants have been distributed, checks have been cashed, no feedback yet on Facebook. There was a mix-up in the delivery of the SmartBoard for Kelly Hammond – the first board was damaged, the second shipment got mixed up with an order going to Bellaire, Texas. Finally, the SmartBoard has been delivered, but it is not yet installed.

Membership Development Update:

* Todd Collins – as of the end of February, we have 398 current and life members, which is tracking close to historical levels. The new *Junior Membership* category will launch in May, for local kids and summer 'fudgy' kids. It will be free for youngsters under 25 years of age, it will be limited to electronic communications. We will need their mailing address and email address, as well as a parent permission form. A zone directors' meeting will probably be held sometime in May.

Action Items:

* Dean Branson – asked Ed Gourley to give a little personal background for the Board. He is an MSU graduate – his career has been largely with KPMG and Citibank.

* Dean Branson – Becky Norris explained that she took the job to fill a need that was apparent, even though her training is not in accounting. Did the best she could for the last five years.

MOTION by Becky Norris, second by Art Hoadley, that the Board accept her resignation as treasurer and appoint Ed Gourley to fill the remainder of her term. Motion carried.

The Board expresses its gratitude for Becky's service.

MOTION by Becky Norris, second by Bob Bagley, to authorize adding the signatures of Ed Gourley and Leslie Meyers to the Alden State Bank list of signers, removing the names of Rebecca Norris and Norton Bretz. Motion carried.

MOTION by Becky Norris, second by Cheryl Lynn Fields, to appoint Ed Gourley as our representative to Old Mission Investments, Grand Traverse Regional Community Foundation, and all associated TLA investments. Motion carried.

* Leslie Meyers – presented the summer 2012 scope of program for the research assistant and the summer interns.

MOTION by Tina Fields, second by Bob Bagley, to approve the scope of program for the summer research associate Leah Varga and summer internship program as described. Motion carried.

* Tina Fields – advised the Board to set aside the date July 26 for the annual meeting.

* Leslie Meyers – presented volunteer information sheet for the Board review.

MOTION by Jack Norris, second by Ed Gourley, to adopt the Volunteer Information sheet. In the event that a crime other than sexual is identified, the Executive Director and President shall determine if the application warrants further review by the TLA officers. Motion carried.

* Jack Norris – gave detailed background on the Bussa matter. There is an easement, from Bussa Lane, with the only right to use residing with the lakefront homeowners and only for access to their homes. Some heirs of Bussa are attempting to get around the easement restrictions in order to provide a funneling pathway from the upland 80 acres, where presumably the heirs intend to build homes for sale – which would be much more attractive if they had lake access. There was discussion on the appropriate involvement of TLA and TLPA, and the need to bring public pressure on the Bussa heirs to abide by the rules that have already been established. We will continue to gather information on what specific assistance the lakefront homeowners want from TLA.

Adjournment and Next Meeting:

Dean Branson adjourned our meeting at 12:00 noon.

Officers' Meeting – April 19, 2012

Board Meeting – April 24, 2012

Respectfully submitted,



Tina Norris Fields
Secretary