



57th Annual Meeting

**August 3, 2023
5 - 8 PM
Beach Club**

President's Message

Welcome to TLA's annual meeting and thank you for your support in our 57th year! It is our members and volunteers that make protecting the lakes and the environment possible. This summer TLA volunteers have again been monitoring water quality in the three lakes and for the first time in the lower Intermediate River, removing invasive aquatic species, exploring the deep benthos of Torch Lake, building TLA's presence on social media, promoting environmental science in area classrooms and collaborating with sister organizations and academic researchers.

TLA's high school summer interns are literally opening our eyes to an extensive colonization of Torch Lake by invasive quagga mussels through their creative combination of underwater video imaging and sediment sampling at depths to 175 feet. Michigan State University biologist Dr. Jan Stevenson is continuing his research into the causes of Golden Brown Algae with both financial and volunteer support from TLA. Some of his work this year and next is being coordinated with a U.S. Geological Survey project attempting to measure temporal and spatial variations in Torch Lake water chemistry.

At TLA, we feel the most effective way to preserve water quality over the long term is by engaging the community in water quality monitoring, maintaining a healthy ecosystem and remediating problems when they occur by working alongside academic researchers and water quality professionals. We are privileged to have a growing membership and people willing to get their hands and feet wet. There are also other opportunities to get involved such as making a two-year commitment to serve on the board as a zone director and chairing a committee. Together, people are making the difference in preserving our water resources.

Fred Sittel

Agenda

5:00 PM	Social Hour
6:00 PM	Mexican Fiesta Dinner
6:30 PM	Business Meeting: Approve Minutes of the 56th Annual Meeting Approve 2022 Treasure's Report Election of Officers & Directors Ratify actions of the Board of Directors
7:00 PM	Speakers: Marissa Duque & Chris Garrock of the Grand Traverse Regional Land Conservancy

Minutes of 2022 Annual Meeting

Three Lakes Association
56th Annual Meeting – August 4, 2022

DRAFT

The 56th annual membership meeting of the Three Lakes Association was held on August 4, 2022, at the Shanty Creek Beach Club on Lake Bellaire.

Introduction

Before calling the meeting to order, Interim President Fred Sittel gave some comments on our ongoing projects, specifically highlighting the work with Professor Jan Stevenson of MSU on golden brown algae, and the US Army Corps of Engineers lake level report.

He introduced Executive Director Jeanne Williams, who spoke on our collaborative efforts with Torch Lake Protective Alliance and Torch Conservation Center; our high school interns from Mancelona, Bellaire, Elk Rapids, and Kalkaska, and their work with the AuSable Institute on the density of Zebra and Quagga Mussels in our lakes; and our gratitude for the Dole Family Foundation grant supporting a full plant survey.

Call to Order:

Interim President Fred Sittel called the business meeting to order at 6:59 p.m. and explained the process for the business meeting.

Approval of Preceding Year's Annual Meeting Minutes:

MOTION Moved by Ed Gourley, seconded by Greg Fredericksen, to waive the reading of the minutes of the 2021 annual meeting of the Three Lakes Association (which were included in the meeting packet). Motion carried.

MOTION Moved by Ed Gourley, and seconded by Jessica Lynn, to approve the minutes of the 2021 annual meeting of the Three Lakes Association. Motion carried.

Treasurer's Report:

The treasurer's report was also included in the meeting packet. Treasurer, Ed Gourley, commented that the Association is financially very healthy and offered to respond to any questions. There were two questions. The first one inquired what the restricted funds were. Ed responded that there are donor restricted fund given for a specific purpose, there are the funds we solicited for the new membership information system, there are funds for the Weirda to support out internship program, and there are memorial donations that go into our permanent endowment fund. The second asked what the current total is of the permanent endowment fund. Ed responded that it is approximately \$66,000.

MOTION Moved by Tina Norris Fields, and seconded by Jessica Lynn, to approve the treasurer's report for 2021 as presented. Motion carried.

By-Laws Changes

Tina Fields presented the proposed changes, which were sent out to the members with the invitation.

MOTION Moved by Leslie Meyers, and seconded by Cheryl Lynn Fields, to approved the by-laws amendments as presented. Motion carried.

A copy of the amended by-laws is attached to the permanent copy of these minutes.

Election of Officers and Board of directors:

The proposed slate of candidates was included in the meeting packet. Interim President Fred Sittel explained the schedule of terms as well as the vacancies we hope to fill. Sheri Greenhoe volunteered to serve for Custer Township.

There being no further nominations offered, nominations were closed.

The final slate of candidates standing for election, is as follows:

Two-year terms ending in 2024

President.....Fred Sittel
 SecretaryGreg Fredericksen
 Zone A (Clearwater)Cheryl Lynn Fields
 Zone B (Milton)Rick Doornbos
 Zone C (Torch Lake)** Vacancy **
 Zone D (Central Lake).....Todd Collins
 Zone E (Forest Home)** Vacancy **
 Zone F (Helena)** Vacancy **
 Zone G (Custer)Sheri Greenhoe
 Zone H (Kearney)Chris Herb
 Directors at Large:Mike Novak, Norton Bretz, ** Vacancy **

One-year term ending in 2023

Zone F (Helena)** Vacancy **

MOTION Moved by Leslie Meyers, and seconded by Cheryl Lynn Fields, to cast a unanimous ballot for the proposed slate of candidates for officers and directors as modified by nominations from the floor. Motion carried.

Ratification of Actions of the Board:

MOTION Moved by Cheryl Lynn Fields, and seconded by Ed Gourley, that the membership ratify the actions taken by the Board of Directors since the annual meeting of 2021. Motion carried.

Recognition of Retiring Board Members:

President Fred Sittel lifted up for recognition three members leaving the Board since the 2021 annual meeting: Phil Weiss, who has served for eleven years and is dealing with health issues; Leslie Meyers, who has served in more than one capacity on this board, who arranges this venue for our meeting, whose daughter Sandy provides the food, and who manages our adult education events (her work as the Antrim County Emergency Services Coordinator has to take precedence); Duane Drake, who has served for many years as the Lake Monitoring Coordinator. Hydrangeas were given to those who are leaving the board.

Fred recognized the presence of Mary Richards, who was the second treasurer of TLA and served for about eight years (after Lloyd Aemisegger).

Fred also highlighted Dean Branson and his several years of service in TLA. An event of appreciation was held for Dean at GRNA in June. The summer issue of TLA Quarterly has an outstanding article on Dean and his impact on our organization.

Finally, Fred announced that Jeanne Williams will be completing her term with TLA as our Executive Director at the end of October. For the last three years, Jeanne has led us in collaboration with several outside groups, which has increased our effectiveness. She has also recharged our internship program, and recently represented TLA on TV. TLA presented Jeanne with a plaque of recognition for her service from 2019 through 2022.

Adjournment:

MOTION Moved by Leslie Meyers, and seconded by Cheryl Lynn Fields, to adjourn the business meeting. Adjourned at 7:38 p.m..

Following adjournment, a member asked about TLA's involvement in the upcoming joint project (TLA, TLPA, and TCC) hiring the USGS to study GBA in Torch Lake. Fred explained that although the project is not yet fully determined, it will be quite a bit broader than just GBA. There will be a three year analysis of the lake, after which the USGS will make recommendations for our ongoing lake water monitoring. There will be water sampling near shore to compare with our deep water sampling. Dr. Jan Stevenson, of MSU, will be looking at whether and how the variations in water chemistry may line up with variations in the GBA. Fred commented that it will be an expensive project and fundraising efforts are being launched.

Program:

Leslie introduced Pat Back of the National Weather Service, who gave a presentation on the services available to the public, including the Code Red and Rave services that provide notifications and weather alerts. The Gaylord office serves the northern portion of the lower peninsula and the eastern tip of the upper peninsula. The Weather Service mission is to protect lives and property. Visit weather.gov/gaylord to get weather forecasts.

Respectfully submitted,
Tina Norris Fields
Corporate Secretary

2022 Financial Report

THREE LAKES ASSOCIATION INCOME STATEMENT (UNAUDITED)

	December 31, 2022			2021
	Operating Fund	Restricted Funds	Total Funds	Total Funds
Revenue:				
Memberships	49,140	6,000	55,140	58,460
Contributions	16,983	3,700	20,683	43,363
Grants	2,200	6,273	8,473	14,561
Other Revenue	144	-	144	141
Releases From Restrictions	10,774	(10,774)	-	-
Investment Income	7,483	-	7,483	7,931
TOTAL REVENUE	86,724	5,199	91,923	124,456
Expenses				
Program Expenses:				
Water Quality	33,140	-	33,140	37,000
Education	6,376	-	6,376	31
Internship	9,065	-	9,065	8,606
Membership and Other	7,185	-	7,185	6,515
Total Program Expense	55,766	-	55,766	52,152
Administrative Expenses	32,930	-	32,930	39,874
TOTAL EXPENSES	88,696	-	88,696	92,026
NET INCOME (LOSS)	(1,972)	5,199	3,227	32,430
BEGINNING FUND BALANCE	180,759	164,500	345,260	293,711
Gain (Loss) on Investments	(39,068)	-	(39,068)	19,119
ENDING FUND BALANCE	139,719	169,699	309,419	345,260

Slate of Officers & Directors - 2023 through 2025

Per TLA By-Laws, Article V: Election of Vice President and Treasurer takes place in odd-numbered years. Election of President and Secretary takes place in even-numbered years. Terms run for two years. Terms for Zone Directors and Directors at Large are for two years; terms are staggered so that half the board is elected each year.

Officers:

(Two-year terms ending in 2025)

Executive Secretary	Greg Fredericksen
Treasurer	Ed Gourley

Zone Directors:

(Two-year terms ending in 2025)

Zone A (Clearwater)	**Open**
Zone B (Milton).....	Greg Fredericksen
Zone C (Torch Lake)	Brian Hayes
Zone D (Central Lake)	Steve Laurenz
Zone E (Forest Home)	Chris Herb
Zone F (Helena)	**Open**
Zone G (Custer)	Gary Knapp
Zone H (Kearney)	Gary Bart

Zone Directors:

(One-year term ending in 2024)

Zone C (Torch Lake)	** Open**
Zone F (Helena)	** Open**
Zone H (Kearney)	** Open**