

Hamlin Lake Preservation Society

Meeting

Aug. 18th, 2008

Present: Kent Gage, Wayne Disegna, Lynn Hoepfinger, Lloyd Gearhart, Jim Pinkerton, Jim Clark, Linda Leibole, Susan Austin, Diane Boulais, Ruth Crompton, Tom McGill, and Bruce Pelletier

Guests: Wayne Anderson

Meeting called to order 7:00 pm @ Jim Pinkerton's house.

Reports

Secretary's Report

Minutes of the June 23rd meeting were approved as presented. Minutes of the Aug. 2nd Annual Meeting were accepted as presented.

Annual Dinner

About 120 people attended the annual dinner. We had contracted for about 98 dinners so we ran short of food. This was the first year that we had many attendees show up without reservations. Next year we will emphasize reservations so we don't have the problem of a shortage of food. All in all the meeting went very well and everyone seemed to have a good time. The program by Alison Puffer, Dave Hall and Judy Hoxie Thorpe was considered excellent.

Treasurer's Report

The Treasurer's report was approved as presented. It was noted that the fish fund has \$2000.00 in it so we should consider another purchase of stocking fish in the Spring. The fireworks fund has only \$6300 in it and more is needed if we are going to have a good show next year. Jim Pinkerton will write a letter for the Currents urging everyone to increase their contributions to the fireworks fund so that we may have a good July 4th display next year.

Water Quality

HLPS sampling for *E. coli* bacteria testing was done on Aug. 5th. Water samples were collected at 25 sites around the upper and lower lakes. The results showed very low levels of *E. coli* bacteria at all the testing sites on both the upper and lower lake. It was also noted that the cost of getting the *E. coli* bacteria has been going up the last few years. It now costs HPLS \$500.00 to get the tests run. The Secchi disk readings on the clarity of the lake are running lower this year due to the flooding that occurred. The average reading on the upper lake is 4.8' versus 9.0' normally. The average readings for the lower lake are 7.4' versus 13-14' normally. The board feels that this is probably due to the large amount of silt and sediment that flowed into the lake during the flood.

Wayne Anderson reported that the bank control projects the BSWR did on the Big Sable River all held during the flood but the river is changed quite a bit as a result of the flood.

Bruce Pelletier suggested that we might consider setting up a lab to do our own water testing as a way to get more people involved in monitoring the water quality of the lake and we could also save some money. This suggestion was tabled to a later date.

Membership

Our membership for 2008 is 382. This year we have 65 new members and 99 members from last year that we have not heard from yet. Diane has been working with Jim Clark and they now have a program which will allow them to track memberships street by street and house by house, so we should be able to track our memberships more closely.

Fireworks

The fireworks were again a big success this year, but contributions for next year are down. Jim Pinkerton will make a special appeal through the Currents for all members and Lloyd Gearhart is planning a special challenge for the board members.

President's Report

We now have a well permit for Wilson Hill Park. The site for the new well has been picked out and Murphy's Well Drilling has been contacted to drill the well. The cost of this will run in the \$4000 to \$5000 range. We received a request to transfer some designated funds from the Memorial Fund to the Hamlin Lake Sculpture Fund. The board agreed to this transfer so \$1112 has been transfer to the Sculpture Fund.

Kent distributed the new by-laws to the board for their review and comments. He pointed out a couple of interesting facts in the by-laws. One, we can have more than one VP and any 10 members of the organization can call for a special meeting of the HLPS.

Annual Meeting

Everyone agreed the best ever. Our thanks to everyone who made it possible. Thank You Thank You Thank You!!

Memorial Fund

The drilling of the new well will take most of the funds available, so the project for the fireplace has been put on hold.

Phragmites Infestation

Wayne Anderson of the BSWR (Big Sable Watershed Restoration Committee) reported that the Forest Service is very interested in removing the phragmites infestation in Hamlin Lake marsh. At this time the infested area is only 50'x70'. Wayne says that a crew of about 8 people are needed to go out to the marsh, cut the heads off the plants and bag them, then cut the stalks off a few inches above the ground. This must be done between now and mid-Sept. Plans are being made to do this project on Sept 6th. It is hoped that pictures will be taken that can be used in the Currents.

Reimbursement Policy

A reimbursement policy was presented by Kent, it is as follows. It shall be the policy of HLPS to reimburse members for expenses incurred in the performance of duties directly associated with activities of the society. Examples include but are not limited to postage,

printing supplies, computer supplies, scientific supplies, and mileage or fuel costs. The present rate for mileage reimbursement is \$0.58/ mile. Requests for reimbursement for such expenses shall be submitted to the Treasurer in writing in a timely manner. A motion was made and approved to add this policy to our by-laws.

New Business

Some members of HLPS feel that we should support the Friends of Hamlin Lake sculpture project . After some discussion Ruth Crompton made a motion to donate \$2500 from our general fund to the sculpture project. The motion passed by majority. Bruce Pelletier suggested that we might do a fund raiser to help cover the cost of the donation. He suggested we might do a sky lantern festival. This proposal will be discussed at future meetings.

There is a one day Great Lakes Watershed Forum being held in Traverse City on Sept.11th. Registration is due by Sept. 3rd. The cost is \$15 and the meeting starts at 9:00am. Anyone interested should contact Kent Gage for further information.

The new board was elected. Jim Pinkerton is our new President and Lynn Hoepfinger is the new VP. Linda Leibole and Wayne Disegna will continue as Treasurer and Secretary. Sue Austin agreed to serve a one year term as board member.

Ruth Crompton expressed concern over the potential for a 200 unit RV Park going in at Fountain Rd. and Jebavy Rd. The zoning commission is looking over the proposal since the site is not zoned for RV Parks. Ruth feels that our membership should be made aware of this project and that they should contact the zoning board by way of letter to express any concern they may have. It was suggested that an article in the Currents would be appropriate to address this concern.

Next Meeting

Tuesday Sept. 30th @7:00 pm @ Hoepfinger's house

Meeting adjourned at 9:45 pm