

HIDDEN LAKE ASSOCIATION  
Regular Monthly Meeting  
AUGUST 27, 2014  
**APPROVED MINUTES**

**OPENING:**

President Laura Jenner called the regular monthly Board meeting of the Hidden Lake Association to order at 6:50 p.m. on Wednesday, August 27, 2014 at Burr Elementary School in Higganum.

**BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Laura Jenner, President  
Catherine Serino, Vice President  
Alan Stokke, Treasurer  
Charlene Baulski, Tax Collector  
Scott Sherman (Term Expires 2017)  
Mary Shea, Board Member (Term Expires 2016)  
Lloyd Pearson (Term Expires 2015)  
Carmela Della Mura, Recording Secretary

**ASSOCIATION MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Stephen Zehalla  
Jay Casella  
Jean Casella  
Scott Gyllensten  
Susan Termini  
Frank Termini

**A. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

The minutes of the August meeting were reviewed, corrections made, and the August minutes were then approved and will be posted on the HLA website. Motion to Approve Minutes was made by Mary Shea and seconded by Scott Sherman.

**B. TREASURER'S REPORT**

Alan Stokke discussed the treasurer's report, and went over July's budget.

There was a motion made to accept the Treasurer's report and the motion was seconded.

Mary Shea inquired as to the last chip sealing done on Association roads, and Alan reported that according to his records, chip sealing was done around July, 2003 and again in September, 2009. Laura Jenner suggested that we ask the Comer Company to go through the area again to see if we need the chip sealing done again.

Laura asked Alan for all treasurer reports from the last audit to be given to Sheri Berger, our Audit Committee for review. Charlene will do the same.

### **C. TAX COLLECTOR REPORT**

Charlene Baulski discussed the sale of a home on Hidden Lake to the Hoberman family. There was a closing on 171 West Shore Drive. Land was sold that had past due Association taxes. The new owners of the land were present at this meeting and Charlene explained that Association taxes are separate from the Town of Haddam taxes. Charlene also reported liens were placed on the foreclosed properties. A motion to accept the Tax Collector's report was made by Cathy Serino and seconded by Mary Shea.

### **D. SEPTIC REPORT**

Celeste Benoit reported that 100% of septic tanks on the 2013 list have been cleaned out. For this year, there are only four septic tanks left to be cleaned out on the list of 21 septic tanks.

### **E. ROAD COMMITTEE**

No committee. Mary Shea reported the following:

Mary reported that the Hidden Lake Road mail station was cleared and a letter to Phil Goff at Town Hall regarding removing the three trees will go out. Scott Sherman did notice some tree trimming taking place there.

West Shore: Mention was made of a note written by the Stakeys on their tax bill regarding the drainage pipes on the Association lot across the street from their house. Right now the drainage pipes on the Association property need to be stored there for future use on the East Shore drainage project that is planned.

Also, there was a discussion regarding the Stakeys having to clear the area in front of their driveway near the newly installed drain to avoid stagnant water.

Mary reported that the guardrail needed to be installed for the West Shore Drive drainage ditch; that trees still to be removed there, but the paving has been done and that project is almost finished.

Shore Drive: There was a meeting with Mike Bennett regarding the water problems here. He stated that the work discussed would exceed HLA property and it was not the best solution from what he could see. He suggested the water go north instead of south. Mary Shea and Lloyd Pearson went out during a rainstorm to view the track of the water. The existing swale is mainly working, but not in the flat area. Bids to clean the HLA property and remove the stump to open the gulch were discussed. Laura discussed an idea of dealing with the water issue near her property and suggested clearing the gully, swale and

stopping the regrowth of vegetation. Mary suggested maintenance by a landscaper in a few places.

Jay Cassella questioned the work on the Porriello property, and there was discussion as to a ditch or swale in the area in front of Dale's house. There's room for a swale so the water can flow to the lake. Jay showed a picture of the water on Porriello's property and Dale's driveway.

The flat area needs to be addressed. There was further discussion between Jay, Laura and Lloyd regarding a swale making the water flow north to the catch basin.

#### **F. LAKE REPORT:**

Lycott will do a survey of the beaches as part of the contract. The lake is still brown. It was hoped that the lake would naturally balance itself. It was suggested that the freeze over the winter should help. Scott Sherman will send Lycott a report on the state of the lake. Mary questioned reworking and regrading the West Shore, East Shore and Shore beaches and we should ask Lycott if this should be done in September before the water is lowered. Mary and Scott discussed the cycle of algae dying and regrowing.

Scott wants to wait until next year to treat phosphorous in lake. He will check with Lycott for their suggestion.

**DAM REPORT:** Lloyd Pearson reported that the channel near the dam was cleared out, but it needs to be cleared further back. There are shrubs needing to be taken down and it was suggested to get the State to help with this removal. Lloyd reported that the valve was opened and is working. He is updating the emergency management plan. It was stated that the big beech tree near Wayne's house has to be addressed.

Laura discussed the phragmites and their removal. Jay will not cut down the phragmites on his property and wait to see what Lycott says.

Mary was asked by a lake member if it was okay to cut a bush going into the water on Shore Beach. There were no objections. There will be no estimate on the beach work until the water level is down.

#### **G. BY-LAW COMMITTEE**

No report. By-law Committee still needed.

#### **H. AUDIT COMMITTEE**

Sheri Berger was not present at this meeting.

## **I. WEB REPORT**

WEBSITE: No report.

FACEBOOK: No report.

## **OLD BUSINESS:**

Teresa Resnick's request to buy a paper road was discussed. It was noted that the Association has never sold a road before. Discussion as to how that request should be addressed and questions as to access to other properties in that area that might be affected. Many members agreed that selling Short Road should not be considered.

There was a Motion made to not sell Short Road. The motion was seconded and all agreed. A letter will be sent to Teresa Resnick as to the Association's decision.

## **NEW BUSINESS:**

Someone questioned if the Tractor Parade would go forward on Labor Day. It was noted that it was not an Association sponsored event, but that it most likely would take place.

A new lake member, Scott Gyllensten of 171 West Shore Drive, inquired as to the procedure to follow on having piers installed and muck mats installed. Discussion followed as to the less than successful use of muck mats and how chemical treatments seem to work the best. Any pier construction has to be brought before the Board for review. Installation of sterile sand being used was discussed and again, this has to be brought before the Board for consideration.

Cathy thanked this new member and appreciated his coming to the Board before doing anything at the lake.

Mary suggested the new member call Jim Puska at Town Hall for information also. Mary also mentioned to the new owner that there is no diving off a pier as the lake is shallow.

Another new member, Frank Termini of Woodcrest Road, suggested aerators in the lake to help with algae and also a windmill with rotors under the water to move the water along. Scott will look into that suggestion. Also, this member questioned his use of the lake to fish and the parking problems he encounters when parking at the public beach. He stated that a note was put on his car saying that the lake was only for lake members. Mary offered to give the new members a note to put on their car to show he is a lake member.

Frank requested permission to make a pathway to his property, an approximately 42" strip. It was decided that Frank will get a survey before cutting a pathway. Once boundaries were surveyed, there would be no objections to a 42" pathway.

Also, there was a discussion about dogs running loose on the lake recently, which is not allowed.

AT 8:20 PM, THE BOARD WENT INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION

**AT 8:53 P.M. A MOTION TO ADJOURN WAS MADE AND SECONDED. THE REGULAR MONTHLY BOARD MEETING OF THE HIDDEN LAKE ASSOCIATION HELD ON AUGUST 27<sup>TH</sup>, 2014 WAS ADJOURNED.**

**THE NEXT REGULAR MEETING OF THE HIDDEN LAKE ASSOCIATION WILL BE HELD ON WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 24<sup>TH</sup>, 2014 AT 6:30 P.M. AT BURR ELEMENTARY SCHOOL.**

Respectfully submitted,

Carmela Della Mura  
Recording Secretary