

Hidden Lake Association
Regular Monthly Meeting
June 25, 2018

Approved Minutes

OPENING: President Jay Cassella called the regular monthly board meeting of the Hidden Lake Association to order at 6:38 p.m. on Monday, June 25th, 2018 at the Haddam Town Hall Annex in Haddam, CT.

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:

Jay Cassella, President
Sheri Berger, Tax Collector
Alan Stokke, Treasurer
Cindy Porriello, Board Member
Lori-Ann Hoberman, Secretary
Victoria Nicholson, Board Member

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT:

Dale Fiore, Vice President
Laura Jenner, Past President
Carolyn Chalifoux, Board Member

ASSOCIATION MEMBERS PRESENT:

Peter Lombardo
Brian Polak
Cassandra Koerner
James Nicholson
Barry Hoberman
B.J. Chotiner
Phil Porriello
Jean Cassella
Noreen Endriss
Ted Endriss

A. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

The approval of the April 30, 2018 minutes were reviewed. No corrections.

The minutes were approved and will be posted on the HLA website. A motion to approve the minutes was made by Victoria Nicholson and seconded by Cindy Porriello. Vote is unanimous. Motion Passed.
So moved.

B. TREASURER REPORT:

Alan Stokke handed out the reports to be viewed. A motion to accept the report was made by

Cindy Porriello and seconded by Victoria Nicholson. Vote is unanimous. Motion Passed. So Moved.

C. TAX COLLECTOR REPORT:

Sheri Berger explained how the tax program that she has been trained to use for our Association is helping her to follow up on outstanding tax money that is due. Sheri said that all tax bills will go in the mail by June 28th, 2018.

The option to pay taxes on-line with a credit card will be going into affect next year.

A very helpful tool provided by this new tax system that Sheri is learning is the ability to perform the annual audit. Everyone agrees that this is a bonus!

D. SEPTIC REPORT:

No report. As we all know that all septics pending will begin July 2018. Letters to homeowners will automatically generate accordingly.

E. ROAD COMMITTEE:

Peter Lombardo read through his findings. Several quotes have come in for drainage & for the cleaning of the culverts. Sanitrol is the most reasonable quote as it includes drainage by means of jetting of the (4) pipes. Alan Stoke will need an Insurance Certificate prior to this work commencing.

Lori Hoberman motions to move forward and do the needed work. Cindy Porriello Seconds. Vote is unanimous. Motion Passed. So moved.

F. LAKE REPORT:

The Lake Committee has finalized the scheduling of the already BOG approved lake weed study to be preformed by Connecticut Agricultural Experiment Station (CAES). The survey will be done by Greg Bugbee and compared to the study done in 2005 by the same state organization.

The cost of the survey will be between \$800- \$1000.

Our recommendation is to allocate \$1200.00 for this study. Victoria Nicholson motions and Cindy Porriello seconds. Vote is unanimous. Motion Passed. So moved.

It is the consensus of most of the lake committee members, that a lake weed chemical permit be obtained just in case of the need for treatment by any recommendation the CAES may have after performing the study. This would need approval by the BOG for the expenditure of \$250 for this permit. Sheri Berger motions for the expenditure of the \$250 for the permit and Victoria Nicholson seconds.

Alan Stokke reminds the board that an insurance certificate will also be needed. Vote is unanimous. Motion Passed. So moved.

The lake committee has been looking into different solutions and products that may possibly be used for reconstructing the beaches and retaining the reconstruction through products that are designed to do so. One such product is developed and manufactured by DuPont.

It is called, Ground-Grid. This product is designed to retain aggregate of all types from shifting or washing away. A motion for Beach grid testing not to exceed \$600 including the cost of the town permit was made by Lori-Ann Hoberman and seconded by Victoria Nicholson.

Vote is unanimous. Motion Passed. So moved.

Last of all, the water testing has not yet been completed. The lab we have used for many years, Connecticut Testing Laboratories (CTL) has been sold to Complete Environmental Testing (CET), located in Stratford, CT. Jay Cassella has been in contact with CET and they are setting up to schedule the testing. Jay received an email from John Baulski, our long-time member who has been collecting the samples for test. In the email John states, the By-Laws require having the water tested within the first two weeks of June. We believe this timing is incorrect unless there has been an amendment to section 48 which reads:

A coliform bacteria count and one sample for phosphate count of the lake water must be determined by a qualified agency sometime during the first two weeks of July to assure that the lake is in a healthy state for swimming and fishing. Samples must be taken by appointed members at the following areas: Mill Bay (dam), West Cove, West Shore Beach, North Cove, East Shore Beach, South Cove, Shore Drive Beach.

It is the recommendation of the lake committee to continue testing under the instruction, in accordance with the By-Laws.

G. BY-LAW COMMITTEE:

Cindy Porriello has been reading up on the by-laws and the rules for which a by-law can be amended. The introduction of electric motors has been brought up by many association members.

It is this committees recommendation that section 41-A of the by-laws be amended to read:

the propelling of boats or other recreational vehicles (year round) on Hidden lake by a gasoline engine, diesel engine, a steam engine, an alcohol engine, a kerosene engine wether of portable type or built in is prohibited. The use of electric trolling motors is permitted if the battery accompanying the motor is a closed cell system. This shall not prohibit the use by the association of any power engine in a utility boat or a police boat.

The procedure to change an existing by-law states that there must be a committee of (5) members who will determine if there is a need for a by-law change.

The members of this committee are Barry Hoberman, James Nicholson, Sandra Kiehm, Jean Cassella & Cindy Porriello.

Further discussion is pending on this topic.

H. AUDIT COMMITTEE: No report. * (see Tax Collector report)

I. WEB REPORT: No report

J. SPECIAL PROJECTS:

Jay Cassella received a quote for \$4900 to fix the (7) mail box huts. Replacing with red cedar & 1 " ridge cap. Tabled! Talk is to figure out how to do this ourselves.

Jay passed out maps of neglected association properties.

Received quote from Langer Company: Beach \$45.- each time Dam Spillway \$350.- each time

Causeways \$100- \$200 -each time, Misc- \$200.-each time

This all equals a lot of money. Thoughts are... Volunteers!

K. BEAUTIFICATION COMMITTEE:

Sandy Kiehl and Rose & Dale Fiore could not attend this meeting. However, Dale sent an email to Jay Cassella describing the meeting Dale, Rose and Sandy had to discuss beautification ideas.

Their thoughts are (2) large round whiskey barrel planters at the ends of selected mail box huts. These planters can have Summer perennials added then Fall Mums & in the Winter some Greenery. Cost of barrels : \$50.00 (Tractor Supply)

There is some concern about blight looking properties. There is also a recommendation for an entertain-meant committee. Rose & Sandy suggesting a concert at the fortress or a social wine tasting in Sandy's yard. Dale called it a "By Land or By Sea Party".

Tabled temporarily... further discussion at next meeting.

OLD BUSINESS:

Boat Stickers are still being distributed.

A&L Tree Service needing removal at Beach Road/Shore Road quoted \$1500.- to drop tree which is on association property. The funds will be coming from Property Management Monies. Cindy Porriello motioned to accept this proposal and Victoria Nicholson seconded. Vote is unanimous. Motion Passed. So moved.

NEW BUSINESS:

Picnic Tables were brought up for discussion. It was decided that any announcement regarding the opening of picnics being allowed on the beaches would open up the beaches to large parties and therefore all agreed to no picnicking on the beaches as is written in the by-laws. Picnics need to be discouraged even if we were to approve tables.

At 8:56 p.m a motion to adjourn was made and seconded. The regular monthly board meeting of the Hidden Lake Association was held on June 25th, 2018 was adjourned.

The next regular meeting of the Hidden Lake Association will be held on July 30th at 6:30 p.m. place of meeting TBA.

Respectfully Submitted,
Lori-Ann Hoberman
Recording Secretary