



BLACK LAKE ASSOCIATION



November 23, 2015

The meeting was called to order at 7:30 p.m. After introductions of the BLA board and people in attendance (24 members), the pledge was recited and the minutes from the previous meeting were read. The following corrections were made: Mary Rocco cited an article in 2015 Newsletter asking for feedback on the boat launch. This is the reason, that along with her friends, she conducted a survey on wait time at the boat launch at the State Park. She advised our president of her intentions and was asked not to do this since it might affect the BLA's relationship with the DNR. Following this, in a letter from Keith Cheli of the DNR, he said "it will be important to develop a single criteria and format that can be used to record observations consistently regardless of who is performing the observations". Mary's unauthorized survey was attached to October's minutes. A motion was made to accept the minutes with the corrections. It was seconded and passed. Our treasurer's report was received and filed subject to audit. Virgil Smith made a motion to pay Huron Pines \$100 for treating the pragmites. Motion was seconded and passed. Ron made a motion to donate \$500 to Huron Pines to continue their services. Motion was seconded. Discussion followed. Motion passed. Virgil reported that Richard Nash will have an accounting report in by the end of the year. This was a review not a formal audit. Richard said that everything looks in order.

STANDING COMMITTEES

Membership Committee –Sharon Dulak reported that all the beaches have turned in their packets and she has volunteers for all the beach rep positions for next year.

Township Reports- N Allis reported that the bridge over the Rainy River should be completed by December 1st. None of the other Townships had anything to report.

OLD BUSINESS

FISH COMMITTEE- Ron Dulak reported that we did not plant any fingerlings this fall since our supplier ran out of these fish. Ron made a motion to put the \$20,187.20 allocated for this restocking into a reserve fund for future stocking. Motion was seconded. A discussion followed. The motion was passed.

COMMUNICATION COMMITTEE REPORT-Brenda Archambo presented the Communication Committee's Working Draft. The committee would like the board to review it and provide feedback so they can continue working toward a Final Draft.

WEBSITE- Cindy Trepanier reported that the website is working at full capacity. She explained to the membership how to register as a BLA member to get into the membership section. The membership thanked Cindy for all her hard work, Thanks, Cindy! Matt Ginop charged \$980 for his services. An amount of up to \$1000 was already approved at our last meeting. A motion was made to pay up to \$600 to Matt during the upcoming year to cover his services at \$45 an hr to add new information to our website and help us as need arises. Jeff Pynnenon offered to handle this job. Cindy has developed a comfortable working relationship with Matt so declined Jeff's generous offer. The motion was seconded, discussed and passed.

COMMENTS BY BOYD SMITH: Boyd's comments were generated by the negative comments on the Friends of the Black Lake Association face book page and by several letters send to Virgil Smith and the Association by Rusty Gowland. Boyd was continuously interrupted by Teri Wilde, the creator of the unauthorized face book page. At one point she suggested that he should resign. Rusty indicated in his last letter that if we didn't take his suggestions he would create more chaos. He said "I'm going to continue to do what I can to derail any efforts to change it or grow it. I'm against a country club, a marina, condos, hotels, high capacity launches, fishing tournaments, or any of the features of a hundred other northern Michigan destinations." He continued," and will encourage them to drop their membership..." Boyd was responding to these comments and wanted the membership to know where he stood on these issues. Boyd wants a marina/restaurant, a golf course, and fish in the lake. He feels that the majority of the membership may feel the same way. In the middle of this discussion a

member at the meeting suggested that it wasn't necessary for Terri's cousin, Jeff Pynnonen, to video tape our meeting. Virgil responded that he Okayed the videotaping since several things that were said at prior meetings were wrongly interpreted. Several statements were placed on Terri's face book page that were untrue. When these comments were questioned the truth was not posted, the untrue comments were left on the page without corrections. Virgil ended the discussion.

BLACK LAKE ASSOCIATION STRATEGIC PLAN 2016: Virgil presented a draft that he developed of the BLA Strategic Plan for next year. Virgil discussed the highlights of the plan and suggested that a board member be part of each committee, not necessarily the chairperson, and that the committees should be geographical diverse. He suggested that it be placed on our website. A motion was made, seconded and passed to accept Virgil's strategic plan.

NEW BUSSINESS

UPPER BLACK RIVER SAND LOAD: Ron Dulak did some research and found that no one is directly responsible for this problem; therefore, the residents of the lake would be responsible for paying for it. Nothing is being done at the moment. If this problem is corrected, it will return in a few years. We will continue to look into this problem.

PROJECT PROPOSALS TO IMPROVE THE BLACK LAKE EXPERIENCE: Jeff Pynnonen suggested fish shelters for the fingerlings. BLA has done this in the past. This has not been successful in the past. The Fish Committee will look into this.

FUND RAISING ACTIVITIES: After discussion, Virgil suggested that the committees may come up with projects that require fund raising and these ideas will be discussed.

GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING: This meeting is held in June. Board positions are voted on and changes in bylaws can be discussed and voted on if necessary (the membership will be given the items to be voted on 30 days prior). A motion was made to have next year's general membership meeting the second Monday in June after our potluck dinner. A discussion followed on the procedure to

nominate board members. Members can only be nominated by other BLA members. The board approves the nominations. A member complained about the BLA changing to a board driven association without her knowledge. The information discussing this new format has been discussed at meetings and in the newsletters throughout the past three years.

ANNUAL BLA BANQUET: We need a chairperson for next year's banquet.

BLA NEWSLETTER: Virgil suggested that each committee submit an article for the newsletter. Ron suggested to include a section for members input on what they would like see happening in the BLA. Also, members will be asked if they would like their addresses put in a directory. Sharon requested for all items for the newsletter be given to her by January first.

Ron made a motion for the bylaws to be reviewed annually and any changes be presented 30 days before the general meeting. They will be voted on at the general meeting. Heated debate followed. Members of the communication committee accused the board of not allowing member input. The board tried to explain that this is not true. Being a Board driven association prevents small groups from passing self-serving motions that impact the entire membership. Virgil tabled Ron's motion.

BLA MEMBERS' INPUT AND COMMENTS: John Robe expressed his concern over Jeff Pynnenon verbally attacking him at the beginning of the meeting. He wants to know when the name **Black Lake Association** will be removed from the name of the communication's committee face page. Terri Wilde tried to defend their actions to all the "disengaged" members who are offended by her face book page. The membership received no satisfaction from her comments. Virgil ended the discussion suggesting members try to be more respectful.

Ron Dulak motioned to adjourn, seconded and past. Meeting was adjourned at 10:30

HAPPY THANKSGIVING!

Respectfully submitted,

Linda Smith, secretary