

Black Lake Association
Meeting Minutes
October 12, 2020

Call to order

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 pm at the Grant Township Hall. Proper social distancing protocol was followed. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Board members present included Brett Trepanier, Ron Dulak, Sharon Dulak, Cindy Trepanier, Erin McLean, Roger Bergstedt, and Dave Turzewski. Two additional members were present.

Rules of Meeting

Questions were solicited at the end of each report. Time for public comment was provided at the end of the meeting.

Secretary

The minutes from the August 10 meeting were read. There were no corrections and the minutes were accepted. The September meeting had been cancelled.

Treasurer

The treasurer's report was read and accepted subject to audit.

Membership

Paid membership for 2021 is 457 residences. Two beaches are still outstanding. Considering the circumstances, that is a good number, as last year ended with 474 member residences.

Fish

Erin McLean participated with the DNR in the fall fish shocking survey on September 23rd. The DNR spent four hours shocking from 5 Mile Point to the Rainey River and found no first year fish. Mullett and Burt Lakes had better results, with Mullett Lake yielding 86 first year fish in a two hour span. Historically Black Lake has struggled to maintain a decent population of walleye without stocking efforts, as the lake lacks enough adequate spawning area. Black Lake is slated to get walleye stocked from the DNR next year based on availability. In addition the 10 year fish study conducted by the DNR has been put on hold.

Townships

North Allis - The resurfacing of Highway 489 from the State Park to Abbey Lane has been completed.

Grant – The bridge on N. Black River Rd is scheduled to reopen on Thursday October 15.

Invasive Species

Sharon Dulak reported that Huron Pines delivered the final report on the invasive species survey. Cindy will post it on the BLA website. The one stand of invasive phragmites will be treated next year. We still do have a lot of purple loosestrife around the lake. In addition, they have identified some spotted knapweed around the lake.

Roger Bergstedt reported that he has identified gypsy moth caterpillars and egg masses on his property. We also saw them at the state park earlier this year. Gypsy moths are a cyclical problem in Michigan and we need to make our members aware of them and how to deal with them. A suggestion was made to put something on the website and in the newsletter regarding identification and treatment.

Alverno Dam

There has been no recent news on the ongoing dispute between BLPS and the owner of the Alverno Dam.

Harmful Algae Blooms (HABs)

Roger Bergstedt reported on the recent algae bloom that turned out to be toxic. He sent pictures to Amanda Bell at the USGS and she visually identified it as toxic. Several theories exist as to the cause. One is early turnover of the lake due to an early cold snap brought up nutrients from the bottom followed by the warm spell. A second theory is that the high water table is causing phosphates and other “nutrients” to leach into the lake faster after a high rainfall event. We also contacted the Department of Health to make sure we are on their mailing list for future notices.

Officers

A motion was made and approved to retain the current BLA officers for this fiscal year. President – Brett Trepanier, Vice President – Roger Selvig, Secretary and Treasurer – Dave Turzewski

New Business

Sharon Dulak suggested that we improve our outreach and put together a new member “Welcome Packet”. Linda Van Sickle has volunteered to help Sharon in this endeavor. There are over 800 residences on the lake, so there are a lot of potential members. A

motion was made to establish a welcome committee to assemble a welcome packet to share with new and prospective members. Motion was approved.

Cindy Trepanier made a motion to sponsor a tree for the Chamber Christmas Tree lighting at Chandler Park. Cost is \$45 for the tree. Motion approved. Second motion made and approved to provide up to \$100 to purchase decorations in addition to the BLA key chains.

Ron Dulak reported on the Northern District Meeting of the Michigan Association of County Drain Commissioners attended by Ron, Dave Turzewski, and Roger Selvig. The main focus of the meeting was on the high water and lakes levels everywhere in the great and inland lakes of Michigan. We heard of several inland lakes in Michigan with high water issues where a number of homes are under water.

Member Comments

Several member comments were received and discussed.

Adjourn

The meeting was adjourned at 8:10 pm. The next meeting will be held on May 10, 2021 at 7:00 pm at the Grant Township Hall.

Respectfully submitted,

Dave Turzewski