

**ELV HOMEOWNERS ASSOCIATION
SPRING MEETING
MONDAY, MAY 21, 2018
TROY UNION ELEMENTARY SCHOOL CAFETERIA
7:00 P.M.**

MINUTES

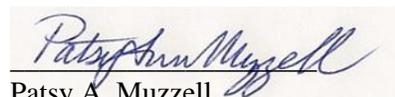
- Call to Order –President Brandon Johnson 7:04 p.m.
 - Chairman/President Johnson called the meeting to order and thanked everyone present for attending.
- Welcome to New Residents – President Brandon Johnson
 - President Johnson asked if any present were new residents and welcomed them to ELV.
- Introduction of Current ELVHA Board of Directors – President Johnson
 - President Johnson introduced the Board members.
 - Officers:
 - President – Brandon Johnson
 - Vice President – John Martin
 - Treasurer – Megan Marx (absent)
 - Recording Secretary – Patsy Muzzell
 - Corresponding Secretary – Kathleen Donovan
 - Committee Chairs:
 - Lakes – Tom Kuhn (absent)
 - Maintenance – Joe Power
 - Restrictions – Charlie Blaeske
 - Security – Joe Lowry
 - Membership – Andrea Allemon
 - Special Projects – Matt Dombrowski
- Establish A Quorum (5% of 550 = 28 homes) – President Johnson
 - President Johnson announced that **42 or more** homes are represented and, therefore, we have a quorum.
- Approval of the 2017 Spring Meeting Minutes – President Johnson
 - President Johnson called for a motion to accept the minutes as presented. The minutes have been posted on the ELV Website and copies are available with the Recording Secretary this evening.
 - **Resident Ray Donnelly moved to accept the 2017 Spring Meeting Minutes, Resident Doug Haxer seconded and the assembly unanimously approved.**
- President's Remarks – President Johnson
 - The Neighborhood Garage Sale will take place June 1st and 2nd and will be organized by Nancy Krisfalusi or Darlene Mehrer; contact one of them to pre-register. A nominal donation is requested for participation to help cover the cost of advertising for the event.
 - July 21st is the date for the mini-triathlon. Kids will participate in morning and adults later. Last year there were 32 kids and upwards of 28 adults who participated. A big thanks goes to Amber Barbieri for organizing and hosting this event.
 - Matt Dombrowski will be updating you on the status of the Walker Beach Renovation Project. A key goal of completing this project is for erosion control. No improvement for erosion control has been done at Walker Beach since its original construction.
 - New painting of notifications at the storm drains is being planned – the existing plaques are either worn off or are wearing off.
 - There will be a carp contest this season and those participating will compete for bragging rights. Carp are not good for our lakes – they eat everything and throw the population off-balance. There were 50-60 Carp caught in Emerald and Pebble Lakes just last week.

- The neighborhood looks beautiful. We take it for granted, but other neighborhoods or inactive associations may not take care of their common areas. Thanks to Joe Power for all of his work.
- Introduction of the Speaker on Lake Fisheries – President Johnson
 - Mr. Jeffrey Braunscheidel, a friend of Derrek Zdeb, was kind to come here tonight to speak to our group. Mr. Braunscheidel is a Sr. Fisheries Biologist at Department of Natural Resources, State of Michigan. He will speak to us on the topic of fisheries specific to ELV Lakes.
- Speaker – DNR
 - Stated his presentation is entitled “Fish Management Goal for ELV Lakes?”
 - Shared that his office number is 248-666-7445 and said folks should feel free to give him a call.
 - Has been at the DNR 36 years, with 26 of those years in SE MI managing fish in lakes and streams. He is the primary approver for aquatic nuisance control and has been involved with chemical treatment permits for a long time. He is a bass nut, and is interested in biological balances in systems. Shared that fisheries management is all about helping whole systems.
 - Started off summarizing the history of ELV Lakes as he knows it to be based on fisheries studies performed in past years.
 - Sandshores Lake: First off, a fish survey of Sandshores Lake was conducted in 2008. There were bass and bluegill in low densities, but no large fish, and there were carp and gizzard shad. The shad were growing too large for other fish to eat them. A couple hundred shad were taken out of Sandshores that year. The lake was nearly devoid of vegetation (plants, not weeds) and there was no other cover for fish in the lakes. The lake has a flat bottom. At that time it was recommended that aquatic vegetation be populated in the lake and that an unmowed buffer region be created around the lake to filter out chemicals, such as fertilizers that run into the lake. Installation of fish habitat structures were also suggested. Fertilizers can be filtered this way and suggested habitat structures. A chemical treatment of Sandshores was conducted in 2009-2010 to remove fish, mainly the undesired gizzard shad, but some carp remained.
 - Walker Lake: Bluegill and bass were present, but the bass were small. However, the survey did not include the middle of lake. Some carp, gizzard shad, crappies, minnows and a few other types of fish were found, indicating some diversity. There also was no plant vegetation. The recommendation was to allow some native plants to grow, and also do place buffer strips around the perimeter and install fish habitat structures in the lake. Larger bass will feed on other fish once they spawn. A plant survey completed last September did not find any exotic plants like Eurasian milfoil, nor was Curly Leaf Pondweed found at that time.
 - All the lakes, in the past surveys, had chara. Chara is a native plant that is crunchy and rooted on the lake bottom; it provides some of benefits that other plants do as well.
 - Emerald, Pebble, Walker: More recent bio survey maps, show only a few native plants. e. Pebble Lake a few native plants.
 - Andale and Crystal Lakes: More recent surveys show no plants.
 - Lake Treatments: Pulled the lake treatment reports from last year. Every lake is being treated six (6) to nine (9) times, and in some cases treatments for rooted vegetation.
 - **After looking at the data, recommendations for improving to better support fisheries:**
 - **Normally recommends 50-60% of shallow area contain rooted plants, but for our lakes recommends about 25% coverage in our multi-use lakes. Control where these plants grow with spot treatments. Plants do some good things out there – rooted plants remove phosphorus and nitrogen from water – they filter out these nutrients. When water gets stirred up, plants can also help settle out the sediment that gets swirled around.**
 - **Plants provide habitat for insects, and a natural structure for fish to hide in.**
 - **Reduce the frequency of treatments, and maybe do not treat for rooted plants at all – only have them spot treated if issues arise.**
 - **Reduce treatments for algae to limit copper accumulation on bottom which will eventually prevent any plants from growing. Nutrients are released into the water,**

such as from algae that have died, and this in turn just creates new algae and algae blooms that reappear.

- **Can save money by reducing the chemical treatments. Once a month treatment for algae should be more than enough. Permit for chemical treatment expires at end of this year. Talk to him about change in program to treat lakes – now is the time.**
- **It would be helpful to have updated fish population information. Saving money via reduced chemical treatments can allow more money for fish assessments. Possibly consider a fish kill in Emerald Lake. Do another bio survey in a year of tow after a major change (such as a fish kill) to see the effects from the change.**
- DNR only receives money from fishing licenses and grants. DNR is willing to review reports but have to limit their full services like fish surveys to public use lakes.
- Questions & Answers:
 - Q: The fish in Sandshores are biting us, what can be done to prevent this? **A: The bluegill have no food and are looking for insects to eat. Need more insect habitat, such as emergent plants.**
 - Q: If the plants in the lake get too tall, will make it difficult to swim across lake and back. **A: Most of the native plants will not get thick enough to bother swimmers.**
 - Q: What happens to the sulfur from the copper sulfate treatments? **A: The copper sulfate stays dissolved and present as ions.**
 - Q: How do we promote growth of plants? **A: Leave some native plants growing (do not kill them all with chemical treatments) and also do some plantings of native plants such as lily pads and eel grass.**
 - Q: Are there plants that only grow about 8 feet tall? **A: Most plants, because of water quality, do not grow deeper than about 8 ft. You can't always just have plants growing out in the deep water. You can maintain an area for swimmers.**
 - Q: If not treated, guarantee curly leaf pondweed in Walker Lake. **A: You can target specific chemical treatments just to kill exotics like curly leaf pondweed to control it.**
 - Q: Will allowing plants to grow mean that mosquitoes will become a problem? **A: No, plants will promote beneficial insects such as Dragonflies, midges and others, and these do not bother people.**
 - Q: Lakes are being treated so much because complaints come in as soon as people see what they think are problem plants. **A: There needs to be more education about the benefits of native plants. The plants filter out more nutrients than they add back in if you have the desirable plants growing, even if they die off in the winter.**
 - Q: Won't even the native or desired plants dies off in winter? **A: No the roots of native plants will stay alive and the plants will grow back every year. Michigan aquatic plants do not need to be replanted every year.**
 - Q: What about various fish found in some of the lakes during past surveys such as garfish, dogfish (or bowfin), carp and gizzard shad, are these bad? **A: The latter two fish (gizzard shad and carp) are not native and they cause most of the issues. Having other fish help establish a natural balance in the fish population.**
 - Q: How can we improve the fish population in our lakes? **A: Focus on removing carp and gizzard shad. Stocking bass or bluegill will not help that much and it only takes a few bass anyways to get a bass population established. Maybe add some black crappies, sunfish, and maybe some minnows. Minnows eats mosquitos. Sunfish are really hybrid bluegill and will not reproduce very much and not grow fast. It's nice to have pumpkin seed sunfish and some green sunfish.**
- Brief Update on Walker Beach Renovation – Special Projects Chair Matt Dombrowski
 - Walker Beach has a city drain down its middle and in 45 years no improvements have been done to help with erosion control. This is the most commonly used beach and people report almost slipping on the drain.

- This project will move the drain to the side opposite of boat ramp. We hired a company, Urban Land, to create blueprint and we have the blueprint in hand. Urban Land is obtaining the required permits, these are professionals that are working on this. I email them on a weekly basis. The City is okay with our plan as long as the MDEQ is ok with it.
- The timeframe is not to start work until after FunDay in August and after school starts. We do not want to interfere with the summer season. We want to have a contractor starting work near the beginning of September to move the drain over the course of a month, with landscaping shortly after that.
- The headwall, drain and concrete will be removed. Re-grading will be done to level out dirt to flatter profile and a one (1) to two (2) ft retainer wall will be placed to separate grass from beach. 4x4 wolmanized wood will help retain sand and help control erosion into the lake.
- Walker Beach will look much better than it does now when the project is finished! We have the money we need for this project.
- We will be providing the City a new easement to access the new storm drain and manhole. Urban Land is completing the paperwork for this.
- Question: Is it possible to pull back the delta out to the lake because not able to sail out because it's too shallow. Answer: This may not be possible, but maybe we could dig out sand in front of the beach deeper. Will need to be investigated more.
- Question: Will the beach be family/kid friendly? Answer: Yes, we are removing the drain down the middle where it is now and replacing with sand. There will be no holes or risk to people. .
- Closing Remarks and Q&As – President Johnson
 - A special thanks goes to Matt Dombrowski. He has really made more progress more in nine (9) months than I did in two and a half (2.5) years working on the Walker Beach Renovation Project.
 - Thanks much to Yvonne Misuraca for providing the treats here tonight.
 - In regards to what our speaker, Jeff Braunscheidel stated about making reduced lake treatments possible through aquatic plantings. The Board is already making plans to introduce aquatic plants into our lakes.
 - Asked if residents had any other questions.
 - One resident made a request for an adjustment to the angle of an entrance light at the Square Lake entrance because it hits you right in the eye as you drive in at night.
 - Another resident asked that consideration to given to moving the garage sale to a later date in June because the beginning of June coincides with other events going on. The Board indicated they would provide this request to the garage sale organizers.
 - The organizer of the Mini-Triathlon asked that the lakes not be treated prior to the event. A Board member stated that the lake is always treated on Monday so it should be good for swimming by the weekend.
 - A resident is moving out of ELV and there will be an open house at 1525 Three Lakes on June 3rd; this is a ranch house on Emerald Lake.
- Adjourn – President Johnson
 - President Johnson called for a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:23 p.m.
 - **Resident Joe Power so moved. Resident Charlie Blaske seconded and the assembly approved.**


 Patsy A. Muzzell
 ELV Recording Secretary

APPROVED as amended/presented on May 22, 2019.