

HIDDEN LAKE ASSOCIATION
BOARD OF GOVERNORS MEETING
May 21, 2023

Board Members in Attendance: Jay Cassella, Sheri Berger, Laurel Hoynoski, Cindy Porriello, Bob Kiehm, Heather Edelson, Lloyd Pearson, Anthony Grandazzo

Board Members Absent:

Members in Attendance: Donna Caron, Joe Caron, Karin Bullock, BJ Chotiner, Celeste Benoit, Linda Lamitola, Eleanor Porriello, Frank Nunes, Alan Howell, Jill Carey, Keha Esposito, Alan Stokke, Joe Muraca Patricia Donahue, Phil Porriello, Bruce Alpert, Mary Arnold, Sandra Diruzza, Rich Digraziano, James Nicholson, Victoria Nicholson, Eleanor Morrison, Betty Barsevich, Mahmoud Ahmed, Kerri Wilson, Mary Shea, Teresa Resnick, Tim Wood, Mary Evelyn Wood, Brian Polek, Sandra Kiehm, Mary-Berth Russo, Denis Pellegrino, Amanda Caron, Ted Endress, Peter Lombardo, John Hoynoski. Bobby Abate, Barbara Delicata

Meeting called to order at by Jay Cassella at 1:20 pm

Approval of minutes:

Motion made by Anthony Grandazzo and seconded by Cindy Porriello to waive the reading of the April minutes. Motion passed unanimously.

Anthony Grandazzo noted the following changes to the April minutes: Addition of the Tax Collection report that was previously submitted, but omitted from the minutes, and a deletion of duplicate listing of James and Victoria Nicholson as attendees. With those changes, a motion to approve the April meeting minutes was made by Sheri Berger, seconded by Laurel Hoynoski. Motion passed unanimously.

General discussion items:

Treasurers Report

Bob Kiehm presented the May financial report. Motion to approve May treasurers report made by Anthony Grandazzo, seconded by Cindy Porriello. Motion passed unanimously.

(See report attached)

Bob also reported on research regarding transferring Association money to a high yield account. His full report can be found in the Annual Meeting minutes.

Tax Collector Report. Sheri Berger
(See report attached)

Septic Report. Anthony Grandazzo

No report this month. *Letters will be sent to property owners whose tanks are scheduled for pump outs during the month of June. Pump outs will begin in July*

Road Report John Hoynoski

Mild winter resulted in less expense than planned. Potholes and other issues are in evidence, which will be dealt with in the future. John is looking for additional assistance from volunteers regarding obtaining estimates of road repairs. Someone with an engineering background would be especially appreciated. Please contact John if interested in helping.

Lake Committee Report. Victoria Nicolson

See Report

Aquatic Wildlife Committee Keha Esposito

Next meeting of the Wildlife committee is scheduled for June 7th.

Beautification Committee Sandy Kiehm

Thanks to Jill and Mary Beth for their work on planting gardens around the HLA signs on the two causeways. Sandy also indicated that bunting would be placed on the mailbox shelters in time for the upcoming holidays.

Audit Committee – Alan Howell

Report will be made during the annual meeting.

Bylaw Committee. Bob Kiehm

Zoom meeting held on 5/8. Discussion of proposed bylaw amendment brought forth by Mary Beth Russo to adopt Democratic Rules of Order (Francis & Francis) as a code of conduct for all Board meetings was held. The committee tabled further discussion and any potential recommendation until they could become more familiar with the full implications of the proposal. In order to become better versed in all the particulars, a copy of the book was purchased on the subject, and will be reviewed by the bylaw committee.

Web report

No report

Old Business

No old business

New business

Bob Kiehm explained a couple of changes to the Bylaw committee reports regarding proposed bylaw **Section 28** regarding the term “overdue back taxes” as it is not best to use, based upon concerns expressed by the town tax collector regarding the phraseology. Bob made a motion to strike the proposed bylaw change, motion seconded by Cindy Porriello. The Board voted unanimously in favor of the motion.

Bylaw revision **Section 48-A** “lowering to desired depth” removed in the language of the proposed amendment and should be corrected as recommended by Lake Committee) to 5-foot mark for no more than 16 days. Based upon the incorrect representation, strike it out recommended by Lake Committee.

Motion to strike 48A made by Sheri Berger and seconded by Cindy Porriello

Bob Kiehm also made a presentation regarding the proposed transfer of funds from our regular savings/checking account to a higher yield account. Based upon his research, it was learned that the accounts proposed at last months’ meeting were not applicable, as they are only available for personal accounts, and not for business accounts. In its stead, Bob presented a plan to move \$75,000 to purchase a short-term CD (3-13 months) with a higher interest rate than we currently have (3-4% is the goal).

Motion to move \$75,000 into a CD made by Laurel Hoynoski and seconded by Anthony Grandazzo. The motion passed unanimously.

General discussion

Brian Polek stated his support for movement of the \$75,000 into a CD

Phil Porriello clarified that the lake level drawdown of the 5-foot level is equal to an 8-foot marking on the stick,

Linda Lamitola stated that the 16-day rule for lowering the lake is far too restrictive and that she thinks it would be better if the final decision regarding the length of drawdown be left to the lake committee. She requests that the 16-day limit be revisited to allow for greater flexibility based upon variations in weather.

Mary Beth Russo would like to see more association involvement in the formulation of bylaw revisions.

Karin Bullock requested information regarding when the drainage pipe in front of her home would be completed, and noted that she doesn’t see an allocation of funds for this project.

Motion to adjourn the meeting at 2:15pm made by Anthony Grandazzo and seconded by Lloyd Pearson., Motion passed unanimously.

Submitted by

Anthony Grandazzo