

**ELK-SKEGEMOG LAKES ASSOCIATION
BOARD MEETING
MAY 18, 2017**

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: Ruth Bay, Don Bonato, Gary Chenoweth, Kathi Gober, Dave Hauser, Dolores Hibbard, Andrew Hogarth, Mary Beth Kazanski, Bob Kingon, Ken Krentz, Dave Lawicki, Sue McCraven, Brenda Miller, Joan Richardson, Jim Sak, Phil Spangenberg

MEMBERS ABSENT: Dale Claudepierre, Pete DiMercurio, Dean Ginther, Scott Lizenby, Pat Pierce, Kent Reynolds, Tim Wheeler

Guests: Anthony Rhupard and Kate Pearson from Grand Traverse Regional Land Conservancy

Proceedings:

Elk Skegemog Lakes Association (ESLA) president Ruth Bay called the meeting to order at 10:01 a.m.

Ruth introduced Anthony Rhupard and Kate Pearson of Grand Traverse Regional Land Conservancy (GTRLC). Their objective was to share information about the purpose of GTRLC in general, and specifically to educate the board about projects within our Chain of Lakes watershed, such as protecting the Copeland Farm property that has 500 feet of Barker Creek frontage. They asked us to help by sharing information about the conservancy and these projects and to help open doors to obtain donations for funding.

The board meeting minutes of March 16, 2017 were accepted as written.

Treasurer Phil Spangenberg presented the treasurer's report and information on the ESLA Endowment Fund (attached). These reports were accepted as presented.

Administrative assistant Brenda Miller reported 436 members to date.

OLD BUSINESS:

Bob Kingon made an additional motion to the Elk-Skegemog Lakes Association (ESLA) Board Meeting finance committee motions of March 18, 2017. The motion is to take Bob Kingon off the ESLA Chemical Bank account and add ESLA vice-president Gary Chenoweth's name to this account as the additional signatory with Phil Spangenberg, the ESLA Treasurer. This motion was seconded and passed.

Bob Kingon reported that there would be no high school interns this year. There will be one intern chosen from the Northwestern Michigan College/Western

Michigan University environmental studies program. Two applications have been received so far. The intern is slated to start June 5, 2017, working 20 hours per week at \$15 per hour plus mileage. The first project will involve working with the Baykeeper from the Watershed Center to do an Elk Lake shoreline survey.

NEW BUSINESS

Bob Kingon reported on Kewadin Waterfront Park improvements. A universal kayak launch was just installed. The township is reconstructing the ramp. Reconstruction will also build retention and terraced areas to capture water run-off from hard surfaces and keep storm water from flowing into the lake unfiltered. The total cost of the retention effort has not yet been determined.

Ken Krentz reported on Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS) boater education. Tip of the Mitt Watershed Council is looking for grants to help fund the signage project. Ken reported on the design of the signs, with size approximately 20"x30", and the seeking of approval to place signs at launch sites. Approval from the Elk Rapids Harbor Master has been given.

Bob Kingon reported the vacancies on our board and is seeking ideas for good candidates for the Nominations Committee.

The **Annual Meeting** will be Friday, June 23, 2017, at HERTHA Hall. Cocktails will be at 5:30, the business meeting will start at 6:15, and the presentation on golden brown algae will start at 6:30. There will be light appetizer/dessert offerings and an open bar for wine and beer.

It's a Shore Thing for May 26 at Twisted Fish Gallery will feature Heather Smith, the Baykeeper from the Grand Traverse Bay Watershed Center presenting the "Adopt-A-Stream" program.

Ruth announced that there will also be an Adopt-A-Stream workshop on June 3, 10:00 a.m. More information is on the Watershed Center website and the ESLA website.

Tip of the Mitt Lake Association Summit will be Monday, June 19. Ruth and Gary will be attending.

Dave Lawicki gave a Rugg Pond update. He is working diligently to get a sedimentation study done this year.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Membership and Communications:

Brenda reported that Legendary Lion is hosting the website at \$30 per month. Improvements are moving forward.

Membership solicitation mailing consisted of 1,398 letters sent out. Brenda is still cleaning up the database and feels that there are about 150 more riparians to contact for membership, which brings the number of riparian owners to about 1,150.

The committee sought discussion from the board on how often/when the ESLA Newsletter is published and whether we should continue sending via email, send to all riparians, or send to members only. The combined distribution (email and paper) of the most recent newsletter was about 1,500. The paper newsletter is our biggest expense and Brenda will obtain specific costs for the next meeting. The committee will come back to the board at the July meeting with recommendations.

Environmental Protection Committee:

Dale Claudepierre will be less active due to the death of his wife. Andy Hogarth, Dean Ginther, and Bob Kingon will step up to work with the Intern. Bissell Creek stream monitoring will take place tomorrow morning.

Bob participated in a Golden Brown Algae Seminar in Lansing. Chloride levels are increasing dramatically in the water, but various reasons for the increase of the golden brown algae are inconclusive.

Governmental Relations:

Dave Hauser knows that the Sheriff Department does need equipment for policing the lakes, but he has been unable to get with them to determine what they need and whether we can help them out with obtaining it.

The next Board Meeting will be Thursday, July 20. The meeting was adjourned at 12:12 p.m.

Submitted by Recording Secretary Joan Richardson