

Three Lakes Association
46th Annual Meeting – July 26, 2012

Call to Order:

President Dean Branson called the 46th annual membership business meeting, of the Three Lakes Association, to order at 7:00 p.m. He noted that the packets for the meeting were on the tables, and that we would cover the items of business, one by one.

Approval of Preceding Year's Minutes:

The minutes of last year's annual meeting are included in the packet.

MOTION moved and seconded, to waive the reading of the minutes of last year's annual meeting. Motion carried.

MOTION moved and seconded, to approve the minutes of the 45th annual meeting of the Three Lakes Association, held July 21, 2011, as presented. Motion carried.

Treasurer's Report:

The treasurer's report is included in the packet.

President Branson thanked past treasurer Becky Norris for her five years of service, and especially commended her for finding Ed Gourley as her replacement. Dean explained that Becky resigned as treasurer on March 27, 2012; and on her recommendation, at that same meeting, the Board appointed Ed to complete her unfulfilled term as our new treasurer.

Dean introduced Ed Gourley to the members assembled. Ed explained that the first page of his report represents the full year of 2011, the most recently completed fiscal year. He commented that our monies are basically divided into the operating fund, supported mainly by membership dues and miscellaneous individual contributions; and various restricted funds, representing donor-restricted contributions and grants received for specific purposes. Last year, a large portion of our water quality expenses – especially for the river sedimentation project and the Eurasian Water Milfoil (EWM) eradication project – were paid for by specific grants and contributions. Our education outreach program also receives specific contributions as well as proceeds from the joint GRNA-TLA annual golf outing. For the year 2011, we ended up with a surplus of about \$3,000. We also added about \$1,600 to our permanent endowment in 2011 (from life memberships and memorial donations).

The second page represents the first half of year 2012, which will not be representative of the whole year. The second half-year is where we spend the bulk of our money, so although our revenue is about \$6,000 ahead of our expenses so far, we will likely spend most of that in the coming months. Our membership dues receipts are roughly flat with last year, and we still have a few members to contact who have not renewed; our contributions are also running a bit behind last year. We have added about \$1,400 to our permanent endowment this year, much of that amount has come from memorial gifts in honor of Bob Hildorf.

Ed commented that we will be spending money on the river-sedimentation project and are looking for some grant money to cover some of that, as well as for the EWM eradication project.

Dean thanked Ed for bringing to us the concept of project accounting, which gives us a cleaner understanding of what our projects actually cost.

MOTION moved and seconded, to accept the treasurer's report as presented. Motion carried.

Executive Director's Report:

The executive director's report is included in the packet.

Dean introduced our new executive director, Leslie Meyers, who is also the planning and zoning administrator for Whitewater Township. Leslie brings excellent people skills to our organization, and has been quite successful in getting cooperation from the County, and acquiring needed services at little or no charge to our organization.

Leslie stated that although she doesn't have the scientific background of Norton Bretz, she plans to rely on the scientific expertise of the Board and other members, and hopes that her diplomacy and people skills will benefit the organization.

She invited everyone to visit our website (www.3lakes.com) and our Facebook page. Kathi Babb, sister of Todd Collins, has been doing great work in updating our web presence. On Facebook, our number of "Likes" doubled in the past month. Our interns all "Liked" the page, and as their photos began appearing on the page, all their friends also "Liked" our page. This is one way that we are reaching out to, and educating, the public on what TLA is all about.

Ratifying the Actions of the Board:

Chuck Drouillard explained that we are a membership association and we entrust the management of the association to a Board of Directors. Ratification by the membership, puts the membership in its totality squarely behind the decisions made and actions taken by the Board. Although we have not been sued in many years, and we have no intentions of inviting a lawsuit in the future, we understand that this ratification is one of the best defenses we could have in a court of law.

TLA Minutes of July 26, 2012 – 46th Annual Membership Meeting

DRAFT

MOTION by Chuck Drouillard, second by Tina Fields, that the membership ratify all of the decisions of the Board of Directors of the Three Lakes Association, as recorded in its minutes, since the last annual meeting (July 21, 2011). Motion carried.

Election of Board of Directors:

The slate of candidates is included in the packet.

Tina Fields, on behalf of the nominations committee, sought nominations from the floor for the existing vacancy in Zone D, Central Lake Township; as well as the offices of secretary and president. There were none. She also noted an error in the slate of candidates as printed: in Zone A, Clearwater Township, the name of Ken Drake is listed; the listing should be Claudia Drake and Faith Bushnell.

Candidates standing for election to two-year terms (expiring in 2014), are as follows:

- President Tina Fields
- Secretary Vacancy
- Zone A – Clearwater Township Claudia Drake & Faith Bushnell
- Zone B – Milton Township Don Watkins
- Zone C – Torch Lake Township Becky Norris
- Zone D – Central Lake Township Todd Collins
- Zone E – Forest Home Township Mark Knight
- Zone F – Helena Township Sue Reck
- Zone G – Custer Township Gary Knapp
- Zone H – Kearney Township Duane Drake
- Len Franseen, Dave Rowe, Patricia Roush, Norton Bretz

There being no further nominations from the floor, the following motion was made:

MOTION by Chuck Drouillard, and seconded by Nancy Hanson, to accept the recommendations of the nominating committee for directors and officers, as identified on the slate with the correction that Ken Drake’s name be removed and substituted by Claudia Drake and Faith Bushnell, and that a unanimous ballot be cast for the slate of officers and directors as corrected. Motion carried.

MOTION by Chuck Drouillard, second by Bob Oswald, that the results of the election be ratified and declared official. Motion carried.

Tina Fields presented a certificate of appreciation to Dean Branson, for his dedicated service as president from 2008 to 2012, and his continuing service on the Board as the immediate past president.

Dean brought up the need for a public relations chairperson and invited those present to consider that volunteer service. Dean’s parting message as the outgoing president, is included in the packets. Dean commented that among the intangible factors he saw that contributed mightily to the success of TLA, the amazing level of volunteerism appears to be the true lifeblood of the organization.

Adjournment:

The business meeting adjourned at 7:30 p.m.

Trivia Quiz:

Leslie Meyers and Tina Fields challenged the gathering with a twenty-question quiz on matters of mostly environmental interest about our organization, our watershed, and our state. The people at each table became a team; each team selected a team name; the team members collaborated to come up with their best answer to every question; the team with the highest number of right answers was the winner. There probably should also have been a winning team name; Soft-Shelled Turtles, and Don’t Everybody Speak At Once, would certainly have ranked high in that contest. The questions ranged from very easy (when is the next joint education event?) to quite a bit harder (how many of Michigan’s 83 counties touch at least one Great Lake?). People seemed to enjoy the game.

Respectfully submitted,

Tina Norris Fields Secretary