

PPLA Meeting Notes

7/1/23

Attending: D. Peterson, R. Roman, K. Walczak, J. Gibson, R. Hoffman, E. Kurasz, J. Ford (and B. Orsi in audience)

- Lt. Mark Hopkins of Berrien County gave a short discussion on safety.
 - There are 3 boats the county uses; 3 boats (of which one is new), a riverboat, and a jet ski
 - Talking to a retired lieutenant on the lake which has a slip where they may dock the boat.
 - Biggest issue they see concerns people not abiding by the 100 ft rule off the lake shore.
 - What they are looking for when they stop a boat: PFD's (life jackets), fire extinguishers and checking if not expired, flares, workable horn, throwable life ring (dependent on size of boat). He will send us a complete list. We need to put this on our website.
 - They also check that people operating boats are not inebriated.
 - First, they do a simple test on the water like ask a number question. In some case if appropriate, they will put the person on the sheriff's boat and bring to shore to do more comprehensive testing
 - They do police the "no wake" areas such as the channels.
 - Fri, Sat, Sun are the days they mostly police on the lake.
 - Staff is Lt. Hopkins and 8-part timers.
 - If all the guys are there, they give us about 40 hrs. a week of which approx. 6 hrs. per day is on the lake.
 - We asked if we can get a monthly report which he said yes; has D. Peterson's email. J. Gibson and J. Ford will also provide emails to him.
- Minutes from last meeting were approved. Motion by J. Gibson, E. Kurasz second
- Financial report approved. Motion by J. Gibson, E. Kurasz second
- Watervilet Boat Launch; sign is up; needs a roof which will be in the fall.
- Communications Administrator
 - J. Ford Objectives to help with 1) increased awareness, 2) increase funds / donations, 3) get emails from the Riparians.
 - Discussed tents at two functions: 1) PPLYC Triathlon which is next Saturday, 7/8, and 2) Peach Fest in Coloma which is August 4, 5, & 6 (need to determine which days to be there).
 - For Triathlon at PPLYC; starts at 9am on 7/8, to about 12:
 - Need a tent. Either use one from the yacht club or one from a board member.
 - Need the banners; get from Charlie Pater
 - Would like to have T-shirts for the Triathlon.
 - For board members only? Or to sell also?
 - Need to find the logo; D. Peterson follow up.
 - Can we get them in time; D. Peterson follow up.
 - Do a raffle? J. Ford look into smaller Yeti Cooler that we can get if on time.
 - Use current brochure; what we are about.
 - Have donation buckets; D. Peterson follow up.
 - Elicit as many emails as possible from Riparians
 - J. Ford with computer to check people's emails from the mailing list.
 - For Peach Fest, J. Ford will put together a list again of what is needed and what we can do; may be very similar to Triathlon. BUT the next PPLA meeting is 8/5; one of the days of the Peach Fest, so co-ordination will have to be off-line thru emails and phone calls.
 - Discussed an email blast with some current info with the emails we have. J. Ford to follow up.

- SAPAC disbandment:
 - D. Peterson noted that many people in the community think the PPLA is responsible for the current weed treatment being done on the lake now; need to clarify that PPLA is NOT directing this.
 - Progressive AE set up by ruling of both Coloma and Watervilet Townships. Contract is signed with an option to sign for additional years (I think it was 3 or 4). They bill by the hour.
 - It is our understanding that Progressive AE will not be holding public meetings such as the SAPAC, but this needs to be confirmed. Also, our understanding is they will report back (to the Township boards?) 3 times a year.
 - For the public who are concerned with Progressive AE activities and what is being done on the lake, best way is to attend both Coloma Township and Watervilet Township monthly meetings and direct questions to the township board personnel.
 - Coloma Township board meets the second Wednesday of the month at 7pm at the Coloma Township Hall; next meeting is Wednesday, 7/12 at 7pm.
 - Watervilet Township board meets the third Monday of the month at the Watervilet Township Hall; next meeting is Monday, 7/17 at 7pm.
 - Pawpawlakeresoration.com on website; has not been updated for a while.
 - SAPAC notes last update / posting was 10/18/22.
 - Weed management last updates / postings were 2021 and 2022.
 - Water Quality Management last updates / postings were 2021.
 - Facebook info on project / weed management; was told this was to be maintained.
 - Follow up for D. Peterson on the behalf of the PPLA to get RLS report to Progressive AE.
- Donation update; C. Pater not in attendance.
 - Discussed having J. Ford as a signer on the account to be able to make deposits from donations.
- Zoom Meetings: A lot of great discussion on being able to do these again as was done during COVID restrictions. R. Hoffman has taken the lead on this.
 - \$150 / yr. fee for Zoom Professional.
 - Need a host computer.
 - Need an audio system which can control questions and minimize noise from participants, etc. R Hoffman to do some more research on this.
 - One system is \$4K per year to allow them to mute out a person.
- Nominations for the board:
 - Doug Peterson has agreed to stay on for another 3 yrs.
 - Rick Hoffman will also stay on for another 3 yrs.
 - In Glenn Giannetti's spot, nominated Bob Orsi. Will entertain others who want to be on the board or Bob's nomination to be voted on next meeting 8/5.
 - Joanna Ford as Communications Admin was asked if she wanted to have a board voting spot and be on the board, but she graciously declined and will stay on as current.
- New Business:
 - Should PPLA sponsor fireworks next July 4th?
 - Tabled until we see how current year goes with the White's doing the fireworks.
 - Also need to know cost
 - PPLA website needs to be updated
 - R. Hoffman and J. Ford will review the current website and have suggestions for improvements.
- Public Comments:
 - Many had questions on the new appointment of Progressive AE