

The 2015 Annual Meeting

The annual meeting occurred on June 13, 2015

LPLA Annual Meeting Agenda Saturday, June 13, 2015 at 10:00 a.m. Lake Township Hall on M-22

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|------------------------|---|
| Call to Order | Dave Van Hammen |
| Secretary's Report | Gretchen Staub, 2014 Annual Meeting Minutes |
| Treasurer's Report | John Ester |
| Water Level/Dam Report | Lynn Walker |
| Watershed Report | Lou Glatzer |
| Wildlife Report | John Ester |
- Old Business
- Deadstream Road
 - Beaver Dam
- New Business
- Election of Officers:
 - o President
 - o Secretary
 - o Trustee A
 - o Trustee B (Confirmation of Board appointment)
 - Other new business
 - 2016 Meeting: Saturday, June 18, 2016 (tentative date)

Little Platte Lake Association

Treasurer's Report June 1, 2014 – May 31, 2015

Starting Balance 5/31/14		\$11,379.64
<u>Receipts:</u>		
Dues Received	<u>3,680.00</u>	
Total Receipts		3,680.00
<u>Disbursements:</u>		
MLSA Dues Paid	140.00	
Fees	50.00	
Gift	81.62	
Materials	25.48	
Postage	107.80	
Printing	<u>186.24</u>	
Total Disbursements		<u>591.14</u>
Ending Balance 5/31/15		\$14,468.50

John W. Ester, Treasurer

Date

Little Platte Lake Association

LPLA Proposed Budget 6/1/15 - 5/31/16

	<u>6/1/14 - 5/31/15</u>		<u>6/1/15 - 5/31/16</u>
	<u>Budgeted</u>	<u>Actual</u>	<u>Proposed Budget</u>
Income			
Dues	\$2,000	\$3,680	\$2,300
Expenses			
Dam removal	50	0	0
Dues (MLSA)	70	140	70
Fees	50	50	50
Postage	110	108	110
Printing	180	186	300
Miscellaneous	100	107	100
Insurance	0	0	1,044
Cash Reserve	<u>1,440</u>	<u>3,089</u>	<u>626</u>
	\$2,000	\$3,680	\$2,300

Little Platte Lake Annual Meeting
Saturday, June 13, 2015
Lake Township Hall

President Dave Van Hammen called the meeting to order at 10:00 am. Dave introduced this year's guest speakers. Richard Cooper and Paul Gerhart, both foresters, spoke on the most pressing problems facing our trees and forests today. Topics covered were the loss of our trees from invasive species and other natural stresses to management of individual trees in back yards. Many questions from the membership were discussed. Mr. Cooper has been in the area for many years and is retiring, so Paul Gerhart is taking over as a forestry consultant and tree manager.

The business part of the meeting resumed at 11:00. Dave noted that a great friend and fisherman was not present with us this year. We all remembered Ronnie Brown, all he brought to this group, and how he is missed by everyone who knew him after his passing suddenly last fall.

Minutes from the 2014 Annual Meeting have been on the web site, and a motion to accept the Secretary's report was made by Lynn Walker. Dave Van Hammen seconded the motion, and it passed.

John Ester gave the Treasurer's Report. With a membership of about sixty households the income last year was \$3680. Expenses paid left us with a balance on May 31, 2015 of \$14,468.50. For more details and this year's proposed budget see the attached Treasurer's Report. Gretchen Staub made the motion to accept the report, Jane Christian seconded the motion and it carried. The board has been considering buying an insurance policy to protect them from any possible lawsuit resulting from their activities in the association. A discussion followed questioning the necessity of such a purchase, as well as its expense. The board will consider the input and will do further research before proceeding.

Lynn Walker gave the annual Water Level report. All boards were removed from the dam October 26, 2014 and all were put back in by May 16 of this year. We did not receive much snow, which may have contributed to the low level in the lake. Records show that the earliest they have been replaced is in April, so the date was not unusually late. Then shortly after they were in the rain started and now we are dealing with high levels (2.5 at one point). If the wet weather continues another board may have to be removed, but the water cycle takes some time as rain water has to work its way through the watershed. [Secretary's note: By June 19 the level had dropped below 2.1.]

Although the beavers have been active on the river in their usual spot, it has not affected the lake level. Both John and Dave have pulled branches out and will continue to monitor the situation. Dave made a motion to accept the Water Level Report, a second to the motion came from a member, and it passed.

Lou Glatzer gave the Watershed Report. He recently attended the Benzie Watershed Coalition Meeting, where he was given a binder with the results of the Platte River watershed study. He is in the process of reading it and will share information pertinent to Little Platte Lake with us. He recommended that we start sampling for phosphorus again. The Benzie Conservation Department will do the sampling for us, and Lou will contact Mike Jones to have it begin.

Lou also learned that our lake is scheduled to have a fish survey done next year. Lou suggested that the board attend the Annual Michigan Lakes and Streams Association meetings. Long Lake stocks fish, and Lou suggested that we could consider it if the survey shows our fishery is depleted. Lynn Walker made the motion to accept his report; it was seconded from the membership and it passed.

John Ester gave the Wildlife report. The loon platform went in at the end of the lake in the usual spot, and the loons were using for a while. But for whatever reason they abandoned the platform without hatching any chicks. Eagles are around, but there was no activity on the nest location that was used last year. John has seen adult trumpeter swans on the lake. Gretchen moved to accept the report; Lynn seconded it, and the motion carried.

Everyone agrees that the repaving of Deadstream Road improved it for everyone from walkers to drivers. Dave mentioned that it is difficult to drive within the speed limit now that the road is wide and smooth. He approached Bill Robinson at the township office to inquire about putting up speed reminders. They are costly but might be helpful to prevent drivers from speeding. Lou suggested that anyone talking to a township official might mention that the LPLA endorses the idea of speed warning signals.

The pontoon plane that was landing too frequently on the lake does not use it as much after Dave talked with the pilot last year.

Amanda Brushaber has been bothered by fisherman using strong lights at night that shine into her house and wondered if anyone knew about it. Lynn said they are bow fishing carp at night but should not be shining lights into homes along the shore. Chuck thought they may be coming from the public access on Saffron or near it. It was suggested that she call and report it to the DNR if it continued.

John Ester, who was not up for reelection this year, ran the elections. Dave Van Hammen was elected to serve another two years as President. Gretchen is not returning as Secretary, and the board nominated Judy Retallick in her stead. She was elected for a two-year term. Lynn Walker was reelected for two more years as Trustee. In December 2014 the board appointed Lou Glatzer to fill in the Trustee position left vacant with Ronnie Brown's death, and the membership confirmed Lou's appointment to serve out the remaining term (one year) as Trustee. Lynn made a motion to adjourn; Gretchen seconded it and it carried. The meeting was adjourned at 12:00. Next year's tentative meeting date is June 18.