

**LPLA Annual Meeting Agenda**  
**Saturday, June 22, 2019 at 10:00 a.m.**  
**Lake Township Hall on M-22**

Call to Order/Self Intros	Dave Van Hammen
Program	Michael Solomon, Restorative Lake Sciences, LLC
Secretary's Report	Diane Brown
Invasive Species Report	Jerry Rupley
Treasurer's Report	John Ester
Water Level Report	Lynn Walker
President's Report	Dave Van Hammen
Old Business	
• Garlic Mustard	
• Lending Library	
New Business	
• Election of Officers (President, Secretary and one Trustee)	
• 2020 Meeting: Saturday, June 20, 2019 (Tentative date)	

# Little Platte Lake Association

## Treasurer's Report June 1, 2018 – May 31, 2019

<b>Starting Balance 5/31/18</b>		<b>\$21,207.16</b>
<u>Receipts:</u>		
Contributions	3,740.00	
Dues Received	<u>3,059.72</u>	
<b>Total Receipts</b>		<b>6,799.72</b>
<u>Disbursements:</u>		
Dues Paid (MSLA)	130.00	
Education (MLSA Conf.)	115.00	
Fees	20.00	
Insurance	1,098.00	
Invasive Species	2,250.00	
Materials	25.47	
Postage	165.00	
Post Office Box	38.00	
Printing	535.50	
Web Site	<u>20.17</u>	
<b>Total Disbursements</b>		<b><u>4,397.14</u></b>
<b>Ending Balance 5/31/19</b>		<b>\$23,609.74</b>

---

John W. Ester, Treasurer

Date

# Little Platte Lake Association

## LPLA Proposed Budget 6/1/19 - 5/31/20

	<u>6/1/18 - 5/31/19</u>	<u>6/1/19 - 5/31/20</u>	<u>6/1/19 - 5/31/20</u>
	<u>Budgeted</u>	<u>Actual</u>	<u>Proposed Budget</u>
<b>Income</b>			
Dues/Contributions	<b>\$6,000</b>	<b>\$6,800</b>	<b>\$6,800</b>
<b>Expenses</b>			
Beavers	0	0	500
Dues Paid (MLSA)	120	130	130
Education (MLSA Conf.)	100	115	100
Fees	20	20	20
Insurance	0	1,098	1,100
Invasive Species	9,500	2,250	10,500
Materials (Data Base)	25	25	25
P.O Box	36	38	40
Postage	120	165	165
Printing	450	536	540
Miscellaneous	0	0	0
Website	100	20	100
Cash Reserve	<u>-4,471</u>	<u>2,403</u>	<u>-6,420</u>
	<b>\$6,000</b>	<b>\$6,800</b>	<b>\$6,800</b>

Note: Our account balance on 5/31/19 was **\$23,609.74**. If income and expenses for the fiscal year are as forecast in the budget, our account balance on 5/31/20 will be **\$17,189.74**.

LITTLE PLATTE LAKE ASSOCIATION  
ANNUAL MEETING  
JUNE 22, 2019  
LAKE TOWNSHIP HALL

The Annual Meeting was called to order by President Dave Van Hammen at 10:02 AM. Board members and attendees introduced themselves and stated where they live on the lake.

**Secretary Report** - Motion was made, seconded and passed to accept the minutes of the LPLA 2018 annual meeting as posted on our website.

Jerry Rupley gave a few comments regarding the status of invasive species in Little Platte Lake. The main emphasis is still the milfoil and phragmites. He then introduced our returning guest speaker, Michael Solomon, MS - Senior Hydrologist with Restorative Lake Sciences, LLC. (RLS)

Mike stated there is no conclusive answer as to why the milfoil disappeared last year. It is rare that this happens, but he stated it did happen in an area in Bear Lake also. Unfortunately the milfoil has returned with the largest concentration being approximately 5.5 acres and in the same area as last year (a map showing the results of the RLS survey will be posted on the website). There were 11 separate markings of small spots of milfoil. Jerry stated he spent 7 hours on the boat with the survey team Thursday June 20<sup>th</sup> and that some of the new areas marked were where a single plant was spotted. Mike said those plants may be able to be extracted and contained. The large area will be treated with the most cost effective systemic application of granular herbicide to kill the root system. If any area needs treatment within 250 feet of occupied property, a different application will be used due to the possibility of deep water wells. He reassured the members that it is not harmful to wildlife or other aquatic plants. The areas treated will be marked and posted no swimming for 24 hours after application. RLS uses Lowrance GPS technology to mark longitude and latitude. There were 1100 grid points marked on our 805 acre lake. Mike stated the importance of controlling the milfoil. It never goes completely away on its own and Little Platte Lake has optimum conditions for milfoil to spread – shallow water and silt bottom with organic composition. Mike stated Bear Lake in Manistee is an 1800 acre lake. They had to treat 300 acres of milfoil at a cost just under \$100,000. Houghton Lake's cost was \$700,000. Our cost should be relatively close to last year's estimate and treatment will be scheduled as soon as the necessary permits are received from the state.

Mike also addressed the 2.5 acres of phragmites on the east shore. Since it is state owned land, he suggested LPLA contact the DNR and ask them to treat this area. Another suggestion was to contact the CISMA group in Traverse City to see if they would have any available funds to help.

Jerry stated we were not successful in obtaining grant money for treatment from the Grand Traverse Band of Ottawa and Chippewa Indian.

**Treasurer Report** - John Ester provided members with the Treasurer's Report reflecting a balance of \$23,609.74 as of May 31, 2019. He stated any amount received over the minimum annual dues is posted to contributions. He noted only one member complained the dues increase was high. John pointed out the insurance cost of \$1,098 on the report and explained that the board has been advised to carry liability coverage.

The proposed budget for 2019-20 was also discussed. The Invasive Species budget was increased from \$9,500 to \$10,500. John also explained the \$500 on the budget report for beaver. At the last board meeting, the vote passed to pay a local trapper \$50 for a maximum of 10 beaver.

The beaver population has increased and they have become more aggressive. John talked about an article written by angler, Ted Williams where he draws a parallel to deer. When you have an over-abundance, instead of a benefit to the eco system, it becomes a problem. Lynn Walker had researched

and reported to the board trappers were quoting from \$1,500 to \$2,000 to trap an area. Lynn talked about the number of trees being destroyed in different areas around the lake. He also stated that the beaver's dams will cutoff the natural streams into Little Platte and the water has to find a way around. Many times this brings more silt and vegetation into our lake. The question was asked if the beaver could be caught and relocated. That did not seem to be a feasible solution. Lynn stated we are not trying to eliminate the beaver but there is a need to control the population.

Motion to accept the treasurer's reports was made, seconded and passed. Copies of both reports will be posted on the website.

**Wildlife Report** – John reported on the loon platform. It appears a pair of loons have nested on the platform but he does not believe eggs will be hatched. The Trumpeter swans do have a nest on the east end of the lake across from Sleeping Bear Hideaway Resort (formerly Miller's). John said the bears are still roaming as evident when he failed to take the bird feeder in the previous night.

**Water Level Report** - Lynn Walker gave the water level report. Snowfall was low last winter with only 122 inches. The water level was checked 22 times. All boards were removed on Oct 30<sup>th</sup> and 2 were added April 24<sup>th</sup>. By court mandate, we are to keep the water level at 1.8 on the survey marker at the dam. He stated it's impossible to keep the lake at that exact level but every effort is made to keep it within an acceptable range. On June 18<sup>th</sup> the level was at 1.9. It must be monitored closer during the spring and fall.

**President's Report** – Dave Van Hammen received a detailed report of LPL 2018 Fisheries Survey completed by Heather Hettinger, Fisheries Management Biologist for the Michigan Department of Natural Resources. The report included a history of Little Platte Lake including stocking since 1909, previous surveys, and maps. The 2018 survey reveals the majority of species recorded were above the Mean Growth Index in comparison to the state average. Only Yellow Perch were below average. A copy of the Fisheries Report will be posted on the website.

#### **Old Business:**

Mary Rupley reported on Garlic Mustard. Signs to pull were posted at both ends of Deadstream Rd. Mary had a chart on display showing the growth of garlic mustard. She did note mature plants seemed to have decreased this year. It is still good to pick until the tops turn brown, but be sure to bag and bin properly. She replied yes when she was asked if she was still neutering feral cats. It brought a big laugh when she was asked if she could neuter the beaver.

#### **New Business:**

John mentioned the book library exchange located in front of the Trading Post.

It was mentioned that the CRA has the culvert on Saffron Rd. back on their radar. Lynn said that over the years, 223 tons of gravel have been spread on the hill above and the runoff does affect Little Platte Lake. It would be wonderful to have the road paved.

It is thought that the eagle's nest has been abandoned. Even if the eagles had used the nest, the eggs would probably have been lost in the spring snow and ice storms like last year. Some have noticed that we have fewer ducks on the lake this year.

John Ester handled the election of officers. Three board positions were up for election this year. Dave VanHammen, president, Jerry Rupley, trustee and Diane Brown, secretary. Motion was made, seconded and passed to elect these three to continue in their current positions for another two year term.

There were 27 members in attendance. The meeting was adjourned at 11:20.

Respectfully submitted,  
Diane Brown, Secretary

June 27, 2019