

Friends of Silver Lake

Board Meeting

Wed. Nov. 28, 2012 4PM

1. The meeting was called to order by President Ed DeJong. Members present: Ed DeJong, Bill DeJong, Tim DeMaat, Jean Adams, and Sue Sharp. Members absent: Nancy Pechar, Bob Henry, Marty Hayden, and Bob Busscher.
2. Treasurer Bill DeJong reported we have a balance of about \$10,000.
3. Gary Darling has resigned as a board member. Bob Busscher has been selected to fill his position.
4. Bill made a motion to have Tim DeMaat fill the vice president's position left by Gary's departure. The motion was seconded by Jean. Motion passed.
5. Jean went to the meeting regarding the post office. The post office will remain open with the same hours.
6. Jean also attended the Golden Township meeting regarding the fire department. (Hart and Golden Township currently share the costs of the fire department. Golden Township is paying more than half the cost and they feel they are paying more than their share.) They have set another meeting to negotiate costs. Jean will attend.
7. Bill reported that the planning commission is reviewing the request from Ted Ferwerda for another campground by Hunters Creek and Ridge Road. The request is for approx. 200 spots. Jake Whelpley, Golden Township Zoning Administrator indicated there are currently 10 campgrounds around the lake with approx. 1,700 campsites. (compared to about 200 cottages on Silver Lake!) The DNR approves the sanitation for campgrounds, not the township. Sue will do some research to see who checks sanitation at the campgrounds. Ed will contact Tony Groves and Connie to find out who's in the lake assessment district now, what's the criteria for who can be in the district and can this be changed.
8. The DEQ is approving leases for Natural Gas fracking. Fracking is currently being performed at the corner of 49th and Fox Road and by Juniper Beach. There may be an educational program/community dialogue sponsored by Oceana County later this winter or early spring 2013. It was also noted that there has been discussion with Tom Osborne, Emergency Manager for our area. The major concern is that the drilling is being approved and no one locally really seems to know what is going on.
9. Many of the campgrounds do not pay toward the lake assessment since they do not have lake access. Ed will contact Tony Groves and ask him who is in the assessment area and what the criteria is for being in the assessment area.
10. Marty was heading a committee to work on IT related things. Ed will contact him to see what has been done.
11. The education committee has met and made tentative plans for educational programs next year. We are going to try midweek programs to target people that are at the lake during the

week. Feedback said weekends were too busy and people were entertaining friends and family. The committee also suggested emailing the article on algae that went out this fall as well as the reminder that burning leaves near the water contributed to the water problems.

12. The USGS website is up. Last week they did some sampling on the lake to establish baselines. The monitors are in, temporary wells are drilled and the permanent wells are in. Not much will happen now until spring.
13. Ed will ask Tony if the new maps on depths of the lake and the watershed maps are completed. We will try to include this information in future mailings.
14. Tim nominated Gary Darling to be the fundraising chairperson. Motion seconded by Jean. Motion carried. A fundraising idea that has been suggested is to sell Chinese -Lanterns or luminaries to use on the 4<sup>th</sup> of July. This idea will be passed on to Gary.
15. The township has purchased the land where Applefest is held. A committee including Connie Cargil, Jeff Clark, Bob Henry, Gary Dunham, and a couple others are working on developing ideas. They want to solicit community input. Jean will let them know we would be willing to help on that committee as well as getting out information via our email list serve. -Bill DeJong is willing to help facilitate an online survey. Ed will contact Bob Henry and ask Bob to contact Bill. Also, Bob should contact Tom Matthis, an architect to see if he would be willing to help out with the planning of the community park. Tom is a seasonal resident on the North side of Silver Lake.
16. There is some conversation taking place regarding the idea of a bike path from the south end of the lake through the woods to the light house. There is also some conversation with a group in Pentwater that is interested in -extending their bike path up with Silver Lake.
17. A discussion was held regarding the Friends of Silver Lake joining the Silver Lake Chamber of Commerce. Dues are \$100 per year for a nonprofit group. Jean made a motion to join. Seconded by Sue. Motion passed.
18. A discussion was held to have our next meeting on Feb. 20 at 4PM. We will meet via conference call. At that meeting Tim, nominating committee chair, will present suggestions on how we will put together a slate of potential board members to be voted on at the annual meeting in June.

Meeting was adjourned at -5:05 EST.

Respectfully submitted

Sue Sharp Secretary