

**Friends of Silver Lake
Board Meeting
August 28, 2014 4PM**

Members present: Tom Rickhoff, Ed DeJong, Bill DeJong, Bob Henry, Michael Jonassen, Bob Busscher, Sue Sharp and ex officio member - Charlotte Kiefer, Silver Lake Park Supervisor.

Guest: Tim Schreiner, DNR District Supervisor

Absent: Chris Olsen

Approval of the Minutes from June 19 Board Meeting

Sue Sharp read the minutes from the last meeting. Bill DeJong made a motion to accept the minutes. Seconded by Ed DeJong. Motion passes.

Treasurers Report

Bill reported that there is a balance of \$8,783.76 in the treasury. A total of \$5,734.00 was collected from Friends of Silver Lake members during the year. \$5,000.00 was given to the foundation for the park project, \$500.00 for the fireworks and \$500.00 for water testing during the past several months. Motion to approve the treasurer report was made by Bob Busscher. Second by Bob Henry. Motion passed.

Mission Statement

Tom suggested the Board adopt a Mission Statement for the Friends of Silver Lake. A discussion was held as to what to include in the statement. The discussion included:

- An organization of individuals interested in the betterment of the Silver Lake community (area)
- Support activities that help keep the greater Silver Lake community beautiful, enjoyable, secure, and valuable (water, roads, walks, beaches, and other area environments).
-

How do we support-

- Manpower/volunteers
- Assist in fundraising
- Community communication

Examples-

- USGS/GVSU Silver Lake Diagnostic Project
- Golden Township Park at Silver Lake
- Lighthouse Bike Path
- Golden Township Fire Protection
- Fireworks Donations

Other purpose statements

- Monitor the lake water quality
- Maintain the proper lake levels
- Advocate for various improvements

A motion was made by Ed and seconded by Bill for Tom to take these recommendations and work on the wording and put it into a Mission Statement. Motion passes. Tom asked Bill to work on this with him.

Organization/ Committees

Lake Improvement Bill has been our liaison to the USGS. Bill will continue in this role.

Fund Raising This will be left as a committee but it will be an ad hoc committee that will be organized when there is a need to have an event to raise funds.

Nominating Leave as is.

Website/Members Data Base Leave as is

New Members/List Maintenance Leave as is

Bike Trail Leave as is

Public Relations Ed made the suggestion that we begin this committee to get to know other organizations in the area. This would include groups like the Upper Silver Lake organization, representatives from the county, township, chamber of commerce, etc. A decision was made to contact the Upper Silver Lake organization and try to schedule a social event with their board.

UPDATES

USGS/GVSU Lake Diagnostic Project Bill gave an update. They will finish their testing this fall. The focus right now is on groundwater testing. They are trying to figure the loading from the groundwater. 2013 testing is showed significant nutrient loading was coming from Hunters Creek. Additional testing is going to be done further up Hunters Creek to try to determine where it is coming from.

The water clarity has been better than it has been in years. This is probably due to the cool summer.

There is a committee meeting in December to review 2014 preliminary data. 2015 will focus on analysis and creating the "bathtub model". Recommendations will then need to be formulated.

Golden Township Park

Ed reported that he has been working on the irrigation for the park. Ed was able to approach RainBird Manufacturing. While they do not have a charitable fund, they were willing to donate materials. Their representative Steve Schepers has donated all the needed materials that are manufactured by their company. Greg Baily, Owner of Crystal Valley Lawn Care in Bristol, Indiana, is doing the work at cost. He has a home in the area, and he is bringing a crew to work for several days to complete the project. Thank you to Ed for arranging this and to both RainBird Manufacturing and Greg Baily of Crystal Valley Lawn Care for this huge donation!

Bob Henry shared that the pavilion is completed. Gustafson put in the well. The irrigation and well was funded primarily by the Friends of Silver Lake and private donations.

Thank you also to Harvey Berens who has been there working almost every day!

The next project will be the walkways and parking lot. The grants to the Coastal Zone Management and the DNR trust fund were turned down. This puts the project back a year. Applications will be submitted again next year and other funding will be searched for.

The Tuesday night potlucks were very well attended. Thank you to Jeff Clark for providing the meat each week.

Lighthouse Bike Path

Tom reported that progress is being made. A request for technical assistance was submitted to get help from the National Park Service to determine if it is a feasible project. We would find out in October if we will get that grant. It is not a monetary award; it would provide expertise to help plan. It is usually about a 10-year process to build a bike path. We may be able to start with a walking trail and mountain bike trail and eventually become a bike trail. The participation of the local community is very important in a project like this.

Membership

Bob reported that he met with Connie Cargill and got the addresses from the tax rolls. The committee is printing postcards that will be addressed and sent to residents asking for email addresses from anyone that is not already getting our information. If anyone has a neighbor that they know is not on the Friends of Silver Lake database, please encourage them to follow the directions on the post card and get us their information. It is our desire to have the entire Silver Lake Community informed of what is happening to our Lake and community.

The membership committee will also have a table at the Apple BBQ Cook-off. We will have a current membership list for people to check and update any information as well as forms for people to fill out if they would like to be added to our database.

Website

Bill reported that he met with Marty Hayden and gave him the list of information they wanted added to the web site. They also discussed the use of Mail Chimp and the Excel website and decided to keep both. They will be meeting the last part of September with Chris Olsen to work on it.

New Board Member

Dr. Walker has resigned from the board so a replacement is being sought. Tom will contact a couple people that have expressed an interest.