

Friends of Silver Lake

Friends of Silver Lake Annual Meeting - Minutes August 1st, 2020

Meeting Location: Golden Township Park at Silver Lake Sand Dunes Pavilion

Board Members Present: Ron Bell, Rita Vander Vliet, Steve Dykstra, Kyle McKee, Mike Hanzie, Marty Hayden, and Chris Van Antwerp.

Proposed Board Members Present: Dan Behm, Jim Potempa, and Larry Simons,

Board Members Absent: Tom Hill, Jim Baumbick

Trustee Present: Ed DeJong

1. Jody Johnston – Silver Lake State Park Manager (guest speaker)

Jody provided an update on the park. Ed DeJong asked Jody about improved signage for directing people to the dune area. Jody agreed that improved signage was needed. A mid-September meeting was suggested by Ed.

Jody mentioned trying to get road commission to establish a cross walk by Park side store to help with safety for people crossing the road.

Ron asked Jody about the boat launch, the most southern launch there is sand encroaching. The plan was to dredge entire channel in April but was postponed due to COVID-19. Jody said his boss was trying to get Allegan crew to come up. Currently there are travel restrictions for the Allegan crew making it difficult to get the launch dredged and that it would affect the usability of the launch during the season to do it now. Jody mentioned that he measured 2.5 feet at the boat launch, that seems to differ from the measurements provided by Kyle in May (17"-22").

Steve asked about boat ramp parking policy if boat ramp is full and local not being able to launch and leave if all parking places are filled. Jody mentioned the policy may need to be changed to allow this to happen. Jody is also looking for solution to keep dune ready vehicles out of those boat parking spaces. Jody mentioned Jacky Blodgett (Assistant Chief?) would be a possible person that could help spearhead a change to this policy. Jacky reports to Ron Olsen who is the Parks and Recreations Chief.

Ron asked Jody about risk to lighthouse due to erosion. Jody mentioned they have a contract with an engineering firm to provide a report. A report has not yet been submitted, but verbally they were not largely concerned.

Dan Behm asked about turn around at end of cul-de-sac and moving the sand at the turn around. Jody mentioned that was up to the road commission and suggested that they talk offline to help coordinate the effort.

Steve asked about if there was a plan to limit number of vehicles at the dunes. Jody stated currently there is not a capacity. There are ongoing discussions regarding this. Jody mentioned that it is sometimes difficult to tie injuries to busy holiday weekends because people aren't moving as much. Lastly Jody mentioned installing four more vault toilets and those are in and will be installed in August.

2. Larry Byl – Oceana County Commissioner (guest speaker)

Larry is the county commissioner and, also on the Silver Lake Improvement Board. Larry provided an update on the Michigan DNR did a fish study. The bottom line is there are not many fish, some Croppy, some Walleye but not many smaller fish like Bluegill. The DNR is now aware and had some suggestions including stocking fish and planting native plants to help support a viable ecosystem.

He also mentioned county prosecutor came to the board asking for advice. Winston Speedway at Rothbury exit holds 1,000-1,200 people and stands are packed with no one wearing masks. His question was should we fine them or try and shut them down. It was then brought up about Silver Lake as well. He was saying State Police are more aggressive than local sheriff and local sheriff is saying he will not enforce the ordinance because he works for the people. However, he wanted to report what he sees happening.

Lastly, he wanted to provide an update from the Silver Lake Improvement Board. There meeting was supposed to be in June, but was postponed to Wednesday, August 5 at 6:30 at Golden Township Hall. The last report was January of 2020. Last year out of the 600 acres of lake there was around 8 acres of Eurasian milfoil. At Silver Lake it is not harvested. Silver Lake needs more diversity with its weed population. Dr. Jones is going to talk on Wednesday about how to plant and where. The link will be on FOSL website. Jennifer is looking at native plants from Hunter Creek that she could transplant to Silver Lake which is part of the same waterway.

Ron asked about fish kill in 2012 and if there was evidence that Progressive Engineering over treatment. Larry mentioned that was part of the reason a change was made from Progressive but difficult to pinpoint a direct cause.

3. Approval of the minutes for the July 15, 2020

Meeting minutes not yet provided by Kyle, can be approved at next meeting

4. Treasurer’s Report by Rita Vander Vliet

Rita gave the treasurer’s report. The current balance was \$11,343.49. There have been no changes.

5. New Board member voting

Ron motions that new board members Larry Simons, Dan Behm and Jim Potempa be nominated for the Friends of Silver Lake board. Their effective term would be for 2020-2023. Motion seconded by Marty. Motion carried.

6. Board Position voting

Ron ask for volunteer to take over presidency. Marty volunteered. Ron motions that Marty Hayden be President, Ron Bell Vice President, Rita Vander Vliet Treasurer and Kyle McKee Secretary. Seconded by Steve Dykstra. Motion carried.

The following are current board members, terms and positions for the coming year:

<u>Member</u>	<u>Term</u>	<u>Position</u>
Ron Bell	2018-2021	Vice President
Mike Hanzie	2018-2021	
Rita Vander Vliet	2018-2021	Treasurer
Steve Dykstra	2019-2022	
Marty Hayden	2019-2022	President
Kyle McKee	2019-2022	Secretary
Dan Behm	2020-2023	
Jim Potempa	2020-2023	
Larry Simons	2020-2023	

7. Walk-in topics:

Steve brought up that bike path should be maintained on a regular basis. Wondered if Road commissioner could be notified or areas that typically wash out. Ron agreed to reach out to them.

Marty asked about providing board member names and contact info to the website. It was stated that we would put names up but not necessarily contact info on that due to spam scrapers.

Steve asked for update on United Voice front, which is a grass roots effort to improve septic systems and guidelines. Marty mentioned that it would likely be at least 2021 before there is an actual vote within the effected community. The planning commission has been designated as the clearing house for this. They are requiring that majority of those affected are in favor before moving forward and taking an official vote. However, there is still a lot of work to be done before we get to a vote.

Next Meeting: Not yet established

Board Assignments / Responsibilities:

- DNR & State Park Liaison (District Supervisor Kasey Mahony 231-499-5461) **(Ron Bell)**
- United Voice **(Marty Hayden)**
- Silver Lake Septic Alternative Treatments- United Voice **(Ron Bell)**
- Golden Twp. Planning Commission **(formerly Chris Van Antwerp)**
- Golden Twp. Board **(formerly Chris Van Antwerp)**
- Silver Lake Recreational Association (SLRA – Curtis Brower) **(Ron Bell)**
- Silver Lake Dunes Area Chamber of Commerce **(Steve Dykstra)**
- Mailing List Maintenance **(Bill DeJong)**
- Website Maintenance **(Marty Hayden)**
- Upper Silver Lake Association Liaison **(Tom Hill)**
- Bike Paths **(Rita Vander Vliet & Steve Dykstra)**
- Fishing & Status on Study **(Bill DeJong)**
- Golden Township Park – “Downtown” **(Ed DeJong)**
- Sherriff’s Dept. / Road Commission **(Ron Bell)**
- New Board Member Committee **(Mike Hanzie & Kyle McKee)**