

THE KLINGER LAKE ASSOCIATION



KLA Annual Meeting Minutes

August 9, 2015

6 pm, KLCC

President Barbara Montgomery Nelson called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm, and welcomed the 68 people in attendance. Eleven board members (Edgar Reihl absent) and 10 of the beach representatives were in attendance. Also present was Bill Smith of the St. Joseph County Marine Patrol.

Barb introduced each of the 11 board members and gave an overview of their responsibilities on the board. Joyce Sterrett welcomed and introduced the beach representatives and thanked them for their help and support.

Approval of last year's annual meeting minutes: Secretary Susan Puckett distributed copies of the minutes from the 2014 annual meeting. Don Riach made a motion to approve last year's minutes. It was seconded by Mike Needham and the motion carried.

Treasurer's Report: Don Riach, KLA treasurer distributed copies of the Treasurer's Report for 2014 and then went over the yearly income and expenses from this report. As of today KLA has 337 members. (compared to 332 this time last year) Doug Van Meter made a motion to accept the treasurer's report. Barb Montgomery seconded and the motion carried.

Recognition of Retiring Board Members: Barb thanked Joyce Sterrett for her service on the board for the last three years, and thanked Suzi Puckett for her 15 years of service. Both received a Klinger Lake personalized sign as a gift.

Presentation of slate of new board members: Trudy Harnell of the nominating committee presented the following slate for approval :

Don Riach
Edgar Reihl
Debbie Doe
Julie Lavidge

Since there were no nominations from the floor, the slate was approved by unanimous vote.

SELECTED COMMITTEE REPORTS

St. Joseph County Marine Patrol and DNR: Andy Rieth introduced Bill Smith from the St Joseph County Marine Patrol. Bill's report included general comments along with a summary of the patrol's activity on the lake as of August 1, 2015:

- This year 3 marine officers and 1 DNR officer patrolled the lake.
- Bill felt there really have been 2 different summers this year with lake activity not really getting started until after July 4th.
- He has been on the lake 2-3 days per week this year and feels he has had 25-30% more visibility this year.
- Hours patrolled- 96 (75 last year)
- Personal Contacts-576 (334 last year)
- Warnings issued- 16 (8 last year)
- Citations issued- 5 (9 last year)
- He pointed out that although there may be a good reason for placing red buoys in the lake, they are illegal. Anyone putting them out is responsible for any problems that may arise due to the buoy, and the buoys should not be more than 100 feet from the end of any dock and not be placed in the boat traffic lane.
- He reminded everyone that all sailboats must be registered along with all boats that have any propulsion on them.
- The law for drunk driving on a boat changed from a 0.1 level to 0.08.
- By law, stand-up paddleboards as well as paddle boats, do not require that a life jacket or throw cushion be on board. They are still, however, recommended for safety. Kayaks do require a floatation device on board.
- There were problems at the beginning of the season with the public access dock placement, and when called, the DNR was prompt to fix the problem. Bill recommended that anyone who has an access concern should contact the Warren Dunes Ranger. Their phone number is on the new sign at the public access.
- In answer to several questions from the members, Bill made the following comments:
Boats need to stay 100 feet from the ends of docks, and 100 feet away from any diving docks.
He has nothing to do with road conditions or problems, call Sheriff's dept instead.
The allowable decibel level on the lake is 65. He has no way to measure this.
Underwater obstructions are the responsibility of the property owner. (As a reparian, you own the bottom of the lake out to the center)

Water Testing and Treatment: Mike Needham presented his report with the following highlights:

- Water quality monitoring includes weekly checks of water transparency, monthly tests for chlorophyll and twice a year tests for phosphorus content.
- Aquatic Weed Control of Syracuse IN maps the lake each year and this year treated 6.05 acres for Eurasian Milfoil. Overall cost for KLA was less than what the majority of Michigan lakes have to pay.
- KLA participates in programs of the Michigan Clean Water Corps, including a pilot program 'Score the Shore'. This program looks at the relationship of shoreline makeup and lake health and erosion. Another program, "Exotic Aquatic Plant Watch", involves sampling the lake in 27 designated spots to check for 4 specific invasive species.
- KLA actively participates with Michigan Lakes and Streams Association.

Directory: Carol Preble and Trudy Harnell were in charge of the directory this year. Carol and Trudy along with Barb Evert, Noreen Owczarzak, Debbie Doe, and Mimi Klinger were able to obtain 70 ads this year. Carol reported that the advertising pays for both the directory and the newsletter printing costs. The annual directory now has a picture of the new sign at the public access on the back cover.

Dam: Warren English reported that the dam is working well and the lake is currently at the court ordered level. Rain and lack of rain might somewhat impact the level of the water, but the biggest problem at the dam continues to be garbage in the lake ending up there. The accumulation of debris, which recently included tires, has to be taken out periodically. Jamie Kasey and John Nelson are working with Warren and help with the maintenance of the dam.

Real Estate: Allison Kirsch distributed copies of the current market conditions for lake property. There are currently 12 Klinger Lake homes on the market. There were 10 sales in 2014, with varying sale prices. So far there has only been one sale in 2015. Rentals are available and the rental market is strong.

Communication/Website: Trudy reported in Edgar's absence. She reported that the number of hits/likes on our website site is increasing. There are currently 1009 members of the Klinger Lake facebook page and it is growing in both members and posts. Edgar continues to keep our website current and informative.

Fireworks: This year was the first year that the KLA sponsored the fireworks. Warren reported that all went well this year, with many helping, but he hopes to have more people volunteer next year. Contributions were significant in both number and amount this year.

MISCELLANEOUS COMMENTS

- History Books are available. If interested see Doug VanMeter.
- KLCC is sponsoring a Decades Party on Saturday, September 5th. Geno will be preparing the food, with dinner from 6-7:30, music by a DJ will start at 7:00.
- Several members were interested in availability of the old Klinger Lake map. The board will look into this. Julie Stutesman has a copy of an old Abe Mitchell map and offered it if needed for reproduction.
- Mike Needham was thanked for putting up the signs announcing the annual meeting. When asked, most present said they saw them. With strong attendance at the meeting, they appear to have been effective.
- Barb Pancoast requested that the board look into having a road commission liaison.
- Jim Pancoast was concerned about congestion at the public access and was told that if called, the sheriff will come and issue tickets for improper parking.
- Paul Watters thanked the Board for all their good work. Dan Evert thanked the Board for taking over the fireworks. Suzi was thanked for her 15 years of service on the board and for her and Bob's work over the years on the fireworks.

At 7:28 pm, Suzi Puckett made a motion to adjourn. Mike Needham seconded and the motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Susan Puckett, Secretary