**LOHA GENERAL MEETING MINUTES APR. 30, 2024**

President Keith Bowling brought the meeting to order at 7:34 PM. Secretary Carolyn Bree read the minutes from the Dec. 5, 2023 General Meeting. Sharon Gwin made a motion to accept the minutes as read. Wayne Heyniger seconded the motion. Motion approved.

**Reports**

Pres. Keith Bowling reported that the Survey that was attached to the Newsletter was to provide demographics and interests of residents. Jessica Baker will tally the outcome information and put it on the website when all surveys are received. Keith stated that he purchased a vacuum for picking up goose droppings. He also purchased oil spray for the grass to reduce goose traffic. Black material was purchased to put down in areas to discourage geese from laying eggs on the beach property.

Vice-pres. Ian Hackbarth stated that he moved to LOHA in 2022. (He was applauded.) He contracted with Don’s Little Johns for the season. The cost was only $150.00 more than Brendel’s and promises to be much cleaner and useable. He wants feedback. Asked if it was a new company, Ian said, “no.” Ian will put up the new flag at beach cleanup.

Secretary Carolyn Bree gave information about the new Newsletter Editor, Charlene Valente. She asked that members send Char information for the Newsletter. Carolyn thanked all the people who deliver the newsletters.

Treasurer Jessica Baker had no report.

Expeditor Wayne Heyniger reported that the identified trees posing a problem were taken down. Other trees still need trimming. Cleanup is ongoing. Wayne also reported that the rotted wood on the pavilion and weenie shack needs attention. There are more projects for him and Bob Steele.

Boating Director Marty Edwards thanked people for the paperwork. The 3 boats in the parking lot were reported moved. He asked that the plastic identifiers on the boats be returned to him for next year. Anyone needing keys is to let Marty know.

Social Director Amanda Pieciak was absent. Keith stated that planned activities would be posted on the website. He also reported that the Easter Egg Hunt and the Halloween Costume events were well attended. He suggested that the Easter Egg Hunt be held on the Saturday after Easter, as it was this year.

Promotional Director Pam Heyniger had no report.

Legal Director Tamara Pittman had no report.

Safety Director Georgina Pietrzak was absent.

**Old Business**

1. The water spicket on the Weenie Shack still needs to be moved so as not to flood the sidewalk. A sprinkler head should be moved for the same reason.
2. Entrance Gate – Keith presented information about an automatic gate at the entrance. Marty Edwards said that it was a solar system. Keith checked Loon Lake’s gate and didn’t like it. It was explained that the gate would be approximately 20 feet, open and close on its own, rotate 90 degrees to let cars in and out. It was suggested that it keep golf carts out after hours. The gate would prevent entrance between 10:00 PM and 6:00 AM opening without persons needing to unlock or lock the gate. There was a question on how the gate would open. Don Swanson stated that there are online videos on how it works. Paulette Howell asked about the cost. No cost was stated. Paulette stated that students at Mott HS built the present gate.
3. Light and camera for the playground – A motion sensor light would help prevent problems after hours.
4. Kayak Storage Rack – Keith Bowling thought that a kayak rack would entice more people to use the beach. He thought that it could easily be built and asked if anyone had previously built one. Only Wayne had built one out of PVC pipe. The rack could be placed where the present bike rack is placed for easy movement to the lake. One rack could hold 10 kayaks, 5 on each side. Paulette questioned if high school students at a local high school could build it in metal shop. Tamara wasn’t sure that they would. Anyone using the rack would have to secure their kayak and poles and be responsible for them. Lee Howell stated that the project was discussed at an earlier time.
5. Additional boat slips – Cutting down the trees on the water’s edge allows for 2 more docks to be safely installed. The cost is $9,248.00 and would provide space for 4 more boats.

**New Business**

1. Audit Report – Carolyn Bree gave information and read the 2023 Audit Report.
2. Mooring poles – Keith and Marty gave information about the use of mooring poles to secure boats in the water on the right side of the beach. Marty was concerned about the left side and the rocks in the water. A pontoon will need 4 poles. A fiberglass boat will need 3 poles. Lee Howell has Rick Hambrick  from Instant Marine (company who put in the new dock) coming to look and advise on the poles. Marty said that people could pay to have the poles installed or can install the poles themselves. Poles need to go down into the lake floor 2 feet and be above the water 2 – 3 feet. A question was raised about how to get into the boats from the water. To be determined. Paulette Howell stated that more mooring spots could be available to the left of the beach. Marty asked how the mooring of boats on the left would affect the Ski Club. (This needs to be further discussed.) Tamara Pittman asked if there could be a problem if boats hinder the view of the lake, when sitting in the pavilion, on the grass or on a deck. A question was asked about the wave action. Marty stated that a well-secured boat should not have a problem. He suggested that the installation of poles be inspected. Putting in a couple of spots could be a good experiment. Craig Hollingsworth asked if the poles would be daily or seasonal. Answer – seasonal. Lou Tiernan asked if the those getting a mooring spot would be from the waiting list. The answer was yes.
3. Planting Trees on the Beach Property – Keith stated that the kind and size of the tree would have to be considered. Carolyn Bree said that the trees could be a memorial to a member. Pam Pope said that they should be easily controlled. Ladies Auxiliary is looking to honor a deceased member. Carolyn stated that the trees would help the environment by producing oxygen.
4. Recent questionnaire – Jessica reported that she received 48 questionnaires, 41 from members and 7 from non-members. When she has tallied all of them, the information will go on the website. Jessica read some of the comments. One comment was that the waterfront should be well cleaned daily of goose droppings. A question was raised about Venmo. and it’s charges. An idea was offered to have those who use it pay the additional charges. The treasurer, in this case, Jessica, should not have to pay the charges. Venmo does not recognize Non for Profit.
5. Survey on Boating – Marty Edwards stated that 31 household members are not happy with the present system for boat slips. The survey will provide information from member households. Options will be presented on the survey (lottery, limited time for a slip as well as a space for additional ways of awarding boat slips). The results will be tabulated and presented at a Special Meeting. Anyone with a disability will be given differential status. The Board wants to hear all voices. There will be no changes this year. They will begin in the 2025 year.
   1. Chris Steppe asked what the regulations were for boat slips. Resident applying must be a paying member to be on the Boat Slip List.
   2. The charge of $75.00 for a lapsed member will take place beginning in 2025.
   3. Joe Maul asked whether a renter can apply. The answer is that only the homeowner can be entitled to a slip. He also asked that if someone died, does the spot go to the new owner. The answer is no.
   4. Craig Hollingsworth stated that he sees both sides of the issue. He waited several years for a slip. Times have changed, so that change may be necessary. His suggestion was to find a middle road and a compromise. (He was applauded.)
   5. Lee Howell passed out a paper before the meeting talking about a lottery and percentages. He chose to highlight some of the information. Presently there are 33 slips and 38 on the Boat Slip Waiting List to equal 71. The number could increase to 100 individuals considering a lottery for a slip. At that rate people would have a 33% chance of a slip every year. However, some may never gain a boat slip from the lottery, while others could win in multiple years. A lottery would create problems. The present system has worked so far. Lee stated that a clear majority would be needed. (He was applauded.)
   6. Marty Edwards stated that there are options on the survey. The survey is to gain information.
   7. Tom Koenigbauer stated that a lottery would equally put new people on the list with people who have been on the list for a long time.
   8. Kim Gallardo stated that Elizabeth Lake now has a problem with not enough slips. There was a lawsuit at that Association that gave way to the lottery. She stated that she waited a long time for a slip in this sub.
   9. Paulette Howell clarified that renters were not on the waiting list. The Boating Director should check for residency.
   10. Jeanette Steele asked if it was fair for a long time resident to lose to a recent resident in a lottery.
   11. Shawn Knedgen asked how many on the list have a boat. Don’t know.
   12. Greg Warholak – stated that he was on the boat slip waiting list twice. He waited 7 years the first time, but gave up the slip due to damage to his boat. He waited 10 more years on the list for a slip. He stated that the real issues are a democratic process, supply and demand and the low fees for a slip. He stated that if the cost of a slip goes up, the desire for a slip may likely go down.
   13. Joe Swain asked how many slips were approved by the then DNR.
   14. Don Swanson stated that he went to the Township office to get information about dock and slips. He said that the present organization replacing the DNR, controls the number of boats on the lake by not letting more boats on the lake than what the parking lot can hold at the public ramp, as well as the number of houses with boats. Don also stated that removeable docks are not controlled by that organization. The Association cannot add permanent slips, but it can and has added removeable docks.
   15. John Mayer, a past Boating Director stated that the issue is supply and demand. There were 30 people on the list when he was director. One year he went through the whole list before he found someone to take an empty slip.
   16. Karen Somerville stated that she’s lived in the sub for 30 years. They were on the boat slip waiting list for 15-17 years. They have a pontoon boat, but no trailer, like many other pontoon owners. People with a pontoon and no trailer would have a hard time with a lottery. She thought that if people on the waiting list wanted a lottery, that might work.
   17. Carolyn Bree stated that when she was told of an open slip that she had 2 weeks to purchase a boat.
   18. Don Swanson thought that it would be hard to purchase a boat in a short time. He also said that if a member on the list purchased a boat, but didn’t win a slip in a lottery, they what do they do with the boat.
   19. A question came up about the zoning on the beach lots. Lee Howell has the deed to the beach property. The Association owns the property. Anyone can get a copy from Lee. The Township has the right of egress. Lot number 54 was purchased in 1957 and is zoned residential. The Association pays taxes on that lot.
   20. Russ Silvas asked when the survey would be available. Marty Edwards answered that it would go out in 1-2 weeks.

Keith made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Several people seconded the motion. The meeting adjourned at 9:06 PM.