

Gravel Lake Association
Board of Trustees Meeting – Minutes
April 6th, 2019

- I. Called to Order: 10:02am
- II. Roll Call: Craig DeSimone, Melissa DeSimone, Pinkos, Brown/LaForge, Lalone, McDevitt, Micheli, Rinaldi, Roeder, Toso, Vitkauskas, Zwartz.
- III. Not Present: Reed, Carlie DeSimone, Hochsprung, McGreal, Paramski, Rockwell
- IV. Approval of minutes – 10/20/18, minutes approved with no changes, Kevin Lalone moved to approve them and Chris Toso seconded, passed
- V. Treasurer’s Report – Janice Pinkos reported the deposits and expenses. Tom Zwartz would like to know who donated \$500 from off the lake. We will discuss later in the meeting.
- VI. Officers’ Reports –
 - A. Secretary – no report
 - B. Editor – Memorial Day Newsletter delivery. Linda Vitkauskas would like to see something about the garage sale request in the newsletter, she would like to write the article about it. Linda also volunteers to sell the Lake Association Tshirts during the event.
 - C. Internet Ops. – 2019 dues form has been updated on the website, the 2019 calendar is updated on the website too, the fall 2018 newsletter is posted, the minutes are also posted on the website, Jim McGreal is looking for more interviewees for the archives, Jim also has some google statistics about website usage.
 - D. Fundraising – The tshirt design contest is posted on Facebook and we encourage people to design shirts, it ends April 22 and we have about 15 submissions so far. There was discussion on Facebook about bringing back the Gravel Lake Social, there is only one date available at The Rock and it is the weekend after the Poker Run. Dave Brown thinks we do one or the other - Poker Run or Social and back to back is a bad idea, one or the other is enough for the volunteers to handle. Linda Vitkauskas suggests that we look for more venues like the new one in Lawton. Craig DeSimone says that the conventional wisdom is that attendance goes down when the venue goes away from the lake. Melissa DeSimone says that last time we had a social we only made \$100 in the end which was not worth the work. Tom Zwartz says that perhaps we didn’t have as many events in the past and people went to the social because it was all we had going on, we have a lot more going on now. Kevin Lalone thinks it should be alternate years to the Poker Run (he said this from the beginning). The board does not support having the social this year. Phil Rinaldi suggests that we address the question of the social by asking people different questions on Facebook to see what members would really like to see. Craig DeSimone is going to talk to Tricia Barker about this discussion and let her know we are not interested this year but we will find out what the membership is interested in for the future. Craig DeSimone would like sale dates set for shirt sales during the summer, soon.
 - E. Water Quality – CLMP phosphorus sampling, score the shore - Melissa DeSimone was going to try to do the training but she is unable to attend. We need another volunteer to do this training, there was not interest among the board, we need an outside volunteer.
 - F. AIS control – Craig DeSimone was sent an email from the DNR about the sonar treatment we were planning to apply, there is a DNR officer against it. Craig DeSimone and Ken Hochsprung are going to work with the DNR to understand the intent of the

information. Dave Brown says maybe we should take this advice, do we really need this treatment anyway? Phil Rinaldi mentioned that we discussed this as a board and approved the treatment. Craig will send the email to the board so they can see what the DNR officer mentioned. Kevin Lalone suggests that we send the email to PLM to see what they say. Craig DeSimone described eurasian water milfoil and asked if anyone is seeing it. Tom Swartz wants to know if there is any other way to treat aside from a full lake treatment.

- G. Buoys/signage – Tom Swartz says that the buoys are not in the water yet. Tom was approved last year to replace some equipment, he will get a bill from Apollo Marine for us to cover that cost. Apollo only charges us the cost of the supplies we need.

VII. Old Business

- A. Poker Run - Janice Pinkos reports that we have already started working on the poker run, we moved up the deadline for the dock hosts to May 31st, we have 1 dock so far. Once we have the dock commitments then Janice will go ahead and find an after party venue if we even want to have a party. Tom Swartz suggests an article for the newsletter with an interview from a past dock host to express how fun the experience is and get people to volunteer. Janice is going to have an extra dock to turn in cards so it's not done at the after party. Melissa DeSimone suggests we take a video of the past dock host's interview for Facebook since the newsletter will come out days before the dock host deadline. Janice is going to keep the payment sheet format, that worked well last year. August 3rd is the tentative date of the Poker Run.
- B. Public Access – signage - Craig DeSimone says there is a plan in place to put that together, Ken Hochsprung is going to get the sign approved with the DNR when we are ready.
- C. Shaw Rd. pedestrians – Craig DeSimone will get back to Phil Rinaldi about a meeting with Greg Brucks to see what would need to be done to Shaw Road for the pedestrian project. Dave Brown would be interested in attending that meeting. The trailer park is not interested in letting people walk through their property.
- D. Phone book - Tom Swartz is still handing out phonebooks, he will finish up when people come back for the season. Linda Vitkauskas would like to know how to approach new residents, we will get her a welcome basket that has a membership form in it.
- E. Legal defense fund - Craig DeSimone would like to keep the discussion open but not belabor it. There is support and concern on the board about this topic. We will continue investigating nonprofit status first. Melissa DeSimone suggests we have Paul Sniedeki from MLSA and Eagle Lake come to talk to us about a legal defense fund. Tom Swartz is not in support of a legal fund because of the legal nature of it. Jen Micheli says it is just about being prepared. Janice Pinkos would like to know how much money other lakes set aside for a legal fund, Craig DeSimone says \$10,000 to \$20,000. Melissa DeSimone will talk with Paul Sniedeki about coming to speak to our board. Craig DeSimone will keep this on the agenda so we can discuss it over time.
- F. Halloween 2019 - October 12th because people are off for Columbus Day. Phil Rinaldi would like trick or treating, Tom Swartz will do a hay ride. Phil Rinaldi will put together a plan.

VIII. New Business

- A. Fish stocking/donation - Craig DeSimone reports that we received a letter and \$500 donation from a Kalamazoo resident who fishes on our lake. Melissa DeSimone suggests that we send him a physical letter with a clean boats/clean waters sticker. Tom Swartz

suggests that we let this guy know that we stock based on DNR recommendations.

Janice Pinkos explained that his money will go to the fish stocking fund as he requested.

- B. MI House Bill 4362 - Craig DeSimone explains that this bill gives the DNR authority to set boating hours, there were many concerns that came up with this bill among boaters and riparians. Dan McDevitt read the bill for us. Craig DeSimone would like the board to think about this issue so we can take a position and write a letter from the association.
 - C. MLSA meetings:
 - 1. Annual conference at Crystal Mountain: May 3-4
 - 2. Spring region meeting at Porter Township Hall: Saturday May 18th, 9am-12pm
 - D. Membership: Craig DeSimone knows about some new owners - Forcash, Witteveen, Bartock?. Linda Vitkauskas has a new contact, Jen Micheli has a new contact as well. Janice Pinkos will have a record of who has paid for dues after the picnic/membership meeting. Craig DeSimone would like board members to go around and get dues from people on the beach that are "warm leads". Craig DeSimone suggests that you just introduce yourself and invite new residents to join the association.
 - E. 4th of July - Craig DeSimone reports that Kerry Moore will organize the 4th of July activities.
 - F. Garage sale - Linda Vitkauskas reports that it was suggested that we have it June 27th through the 30th. Linda will put the plan together. Tom Zwartz recommends we remind people to keep their garage doors closed if they are not involved.
 - G. Other new business - Janice Pinkos would like to know if there should be a flyer in the invoice for the picnic, Dave Brown does not think that is necessary. Janice would like to put a sheet in with information about the Picnic, Garage Sale, Poker Run, Halloween activities. Janice suggests we put in a sheet that has a sample letter for Bill 4362. Dave Brown suggests we put a newsletter article together about what the association is doing for you.
 - H. Picnic - Dave Brown says the picnic is on track thanks to Janice.
 - I. Jen Micheli is going to do an Earth Day clean up again this year on April 27th at 10am
 - J. There is a dead tree at the DNR site that needs to be removed. Tom Zwartz and Chris Toso will take care of the tree.
 - K. Next BOT meeting – Saturday, May 11th at 10am at township hall
 - L. Next Membership meeting and Picnic – Saturday, June 8th - had to be fixed from agenda
- IX. Announcements – none
- X. Adjourned: 11:28am