

Gravel Lake Association
Semi-Annual Membership Meeting – Minutes
August 17th, 2019

- I. Meeting called to order at: 10:06am
- II. Opening Remarks – thank you to our hosts Phil & Mary Rinaldi, pay your dues, buy raffle tickets, and buy paraphernalia!
- III. Craig DeSimone explained what new business is vs. announcements you might want to make during the meeting.

- IV. In Attendance: Craig DeSimone, Reed, Melissa DeSimone, Pinkos, Brown/LaForge, Carlie DeSimone, Hochsprung, Lalone, McDevitt, Micheli, Rinaldi, Toso, Vitkauskas, Zwartz.
- V. Not Present: McGreal, Paramski, Rockwell, Roeder

- VI. Treasurer's Report – Janice Pinkos reports that we started with \$37,859.01, we have deposited \$25,820.51 since then and expended \$11,906.96 for a current total of \$51,772.56. 232 paid members this year. We netted about \$5,000 on the Poker Run.
 - A. Dave Brown asks if we are running a deficit or a surplus, Janice Pinkos and Craig DeSimone agree that this year, due to the better t shirt sale program, we are actually at a surplus.

- VII. Officers' Reports
 - A. Secretary – no report
 - B. Editor – Jamie Paramski sent a report to Craig Desimone - Great feedback on the newsletter, will do a facebook poll about what people want to see in future newsletters, Craig DeSimone will also take feedback, October newsletter will be mailed to your home address.
 1. Darla kelleher would like to know who to talk to about putting an ad in the newsletter, she will talk to Bob Vic.
 - C. Internet Ops. – Jim McGreal sent a report to Craig Desimone - 4th of July race results are on the website, Anna McGreal is writing a history of gravel lake for the *Michigan Riparian* magazine, if you have anything to add please let Anna know, looking for interviewees from families who have been on the lake for around 100 years, contact Craig DeSimone if you are interested
 1. Survey of hands - how are you getting your internet - majority getting internet through xfinity, some are using MEC
 2. We are thinking about changing the GLA Community Facebook page to include guidelines for posting, the membership is in favor of guidelines
 - D. Fundraising – Carlie DeSimone thanks Jen Micheli, Janice Pinkos, Suzanne Reed for help with fundraising, the tshirt contest was successful, limiting inventory has helped to make shirts more profitable, publicizing the sale dates has helped the committee sell them more regularly
 1. Sue Eberly asks if we could do presales? Have people prepay and pick up so they can get sizes and styles they want without having inventory.
 2. Last sale date this year - Labor Day weekend and possibly halloween if there is anything left.

- E. Water Quality –
 - 1. Craig DeSimone reports that Greg Garrett has stepped down and we are preparing to replace him, there are 3 volunteers and Craig is putting together some requirements and planning for their training in the spring.
 - 2. Dave Brown says there is a lot of foam on Winkler Beach, Craig DeSimone has pamphlets about foam on the lake and most of the foam we find is natural.
 - 3. Mike Herring says he wants people to stop spinning wheels on Idle Ease, he also says it is legal to shoot guns away from houses as long as neighbors are ok with it, a neighbor has goose poop on their dock that they are sweeping into the lake - is it illegal to do that? Craig DeSimone responds: No, but you should clean it up like you would dog poop to reduce nutrients in the water and minimize swimmers itch on your beach.
- F. Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS) control –
 - 1. Craig DeSimone says we've been watching algae on the channel and testing to see what kind it is. We have oscillatoria and that is natural, we also have microcystis in low levels which is blue-green algae and toxic. Nutrient loading (through runoff) in the water causes algae blooms and natural shorelines can reduce runoff. If you see something on the lake and especially in the channel, let us know and if you can take a sample we will get it checked.
 - 2. Ken Hochsprung says PLM checked the channel and did not find a need to treat for algae and they did not find any Starry Stonewort or EWM on the main lake body.
- G. Buoys/signage – Tom Zwartz reports that one sunk from a gash and will need to be replaced.

VIII. Old Business

- A. Picnic feedback - Dave Brown needs to be reimbursed for his expenses from the picnic and thanks the volunteers, especially new ones, he said it went very well
- B. Garage sale feedback - Linda Vitkauskas reports that 29 families participated, there was an Animal's Best Friend donation from her sale, and let Linda know if there is any feedback.
- C. 4th of July feedback - In 2020 it will be Saturday 7/4 (observed Friday 7/3) -
 - 1. 2019 boat parade on Sunday afternoon was not a good idea because no one participated. Darla Kelliher said it was fun to watch kids games and there was a big turn out. Craig DeSimone says we should try to use the Friday night for an activity to avoid activities on Sunday in 2020.
- D. Poker Run recap & feedback - Janice Pinkos says it went very well, the tickets were sold out with a line still waiting, we can't really add more hands. Everything else was very smooth and thanks to Suzanne Reed, Darla Kelliher, Alyssa Pinkos, Sue Eberly, and all the dock hosts.
 - 1. Tom Zwartz suggests we raise the price of a hand since there is so much demand.
 - 2. Janice Pinkos says that this year we raised the dock host stipend
 - 3. and this is the first year with a line of people who had to be turned away.
 - 4. Sue Eberly suggests we raise tickets to \$20.
 - 5. Paul Carlos recommends we lower the hand limit. Vicki Carlos says we might need to limit the people on the boat because there were some boats with

few hands but many people taking advantage of the handouts from the docks.

6. Darla Kelliher says we need to try to have it every year because it is so popular.
- E. Halloween 2019 - Phil Rinaldi says there is a facebook update on this activity, October 19th will be Halloween on Gebhard, Hayrides with Tom Zwartz, games and activities, look for more updates on facebook, open to all lakers (not just for Gebhard residents).
- F. Public Access - no update
- G. Shaw Rd. pedestrians - Craig DeSimone says this is still a topic, the township is going to talk to the road commission about this, we want at least signage and possibly more protection for pedestrians.
- H. Dues increase - membership discussed and passed a dues increase to \$50 effective 1/1/2020. Preceding discussion included expenses vs. income, boat wash, legal fund - no questions or comments at this meeting.

IX. New Business

- A. Boat wash
 1. MSU mobile boat wash at public access - the volunteers washed 6 boats, approached all boaters, fishermen were most knowledgeable about boat washing laws, pleasure boaters were least knowledgeable.
 2. Craig DeSimone reports that we are interested in a permanent boat wash vendor presentation from a company called CD3, the unit would cost around \$30,000 and require some upkeep.
 - a) Dave Brown says this might take a while since we will need to work with the DNR who own the public access.
- B. Gravel Lake in the *Michigan Riparian* magazine - contact Craig with history information for this article, we discussed it during internet ops as well.
- C. 93rd Ave. flooding - Linda Vitkauskas says the flooding was bad last year and over the winter, then it got better. Linda talked to the Roussels, the property owners, about clearing it out but they do not want live traps and would be willing to try other resolutions. Craig DeSimone says it has to be addressed by the road commission, there is a new law/ordinance that allows the road commission to trap animals that are causing road impediment. Linda and Craig will talk offline about the issue, we will let the membership know if we need the help of homeowners in contacting the road commission or other agencies.
- D. Trustee elections - August 2020 - Craig DeSimone reports that if you want to be on the board, we can have an election with ballots so you can participate on the board. If you want to be a trustee you will need to come to meetings, speak up, collect dues, deliver newsletters. Please let Craig know if you are interested. You can help in other capacities as well.
- E. Other new business - no new business
- F. Next BOT meeting – Saturday, September 21st at 10am at township hall
- G. Next Membership meeting – June 2020 (TBD)
- H. 50-50 raffle winner - \$88 to 372256 - Kevin Lalone donates it back to the lake association, thanks to Kevin

X. Announcements – Suzanne Reed would like to know about new members, Darla still has raffle prizes from the Poker Run so please pick them up, Happy Birthday Carlie DeSimone who will be 40 tomorrow.

XI. Meeting adjourned at: 11:11am