

Gravel Lake Association
Board of Trustees Meeting – Minutes
September 21st, 2019

- I. Called to order: 10:02am
- II. Present: Craig DeSimone, Reed, Melissa DeSimone, Pinkos, Brown/LaForge, Lalone, McDevitt, Micheli, Rinaldi, Rockwell, Roeder, Toso, Vitkauskas
- III. Absent: Carlie Desimone, Hochsprung, McGreal, Paramski, Zwartz
- IV. The approval of minutes for 7/20/19 and 8/17/19 was moved by Dan McDevitt and seconded by Suzanne Reed, motion carried.
- V. Treasurer's Report – Presented by Janice Pinkos and handout provided.
 - A. Craig DeSimone question: Is any outstanding invoicing and newsletter advertising resolved? Janice says we are missing some payments so Bob needs to follow up with those advertisers. Bob Vic is soliciting for ads and Chip Van Schoyck and a friend of his are invoicing for the ads.
- VI. Officers' Reports -
 - A. Secretary – no report
 - B. Editor – Craig DeSimone reports that Jamie Paramski plans to have the newsletter ready to be delivered by mail in mid October.
 - C. Internet Ops. –
 1. Discussion on a new Facebook policy tabled for October.
 2. Craig DeSimone presents a report from Jim McGreal that the web site has been updated with Poker Run winners, the BOT and membership meeting minutes are current online through August 2019, the community page has been updated by Mark Fazinni, we will put up the latest video interview as soon as it's edited, and the Andrews/Rockwell interview was recorded last month.
 - D. Fundraising – Suzanne Reed reports that we did really well with the t-shirt sales, all new items were sold this year, we only have one bin of shirts left.
 1. Why the success this year? We think the Tshirt contest was a good idea, Jen Micheli said we gave people what they asked for, Suzanne Reed said we did one first order and smaller orders as requested but next year we will take orders at the beginning of the summer, put in one order, and deliver those later in the season. They will do a t-shirt contest in March so they can have t-shirts available as early as Memorial Day. The committee wants to have other fabrics available and even other merchandise.
 2. Ann LaForge wondered if we should put shirts in local shops, Suzanne Reed is concerned that we will struggle to keep up with money coming in from the outside retail locations. Phil Rinaldi wonders if we could put merchandise at the copper ridge market. Suzanne Reed discussed the coffee/ice cream shop in Lawton but thinks they upcharge and might have a backlog of products to put in the shop already.
 3. Congrats to the fundraising committee for making t-shirt sales successful this year.

- E. Water Quality – We have three volunteers interested in training and taking over the CLMP testing from Greg Garrett: Robison, Horenziak, Barber.
 - 1. Melissa DeSimone will work with these three to get them set up to train in the spring to keep the testing going.
 - 2. Phil Rinaldi is concerned about a recurrence of zebra mussels. Craig DeSimone said there are others who have mentioned it too but he is not sure if there is a treatment for them.
 - 3. Linda Vitkauskas is concerned about AIS contamination from the overflowing swamp over 93rd Ave. but that water is pretty well managed by Wayne Roussel (the owner), it would be more of a concern that people are contaminating the swamp by driving through there.
- F. AIS control –
 - 1. Craig DeSimone and Ken Hochsprung are talking to PLM almost weekly, keeping up with issues and treatments.
- G. Buoys/signage – Craig DeSimone says that Tom Zwartz reports that buoys will be in the water until about October 25th, he said we need to pay Apollo marine but Janice Pinkos says the bill has already been paid.

VII. Old Business

- A. Picnic - feedback
 - 1. Ann LaForge says that Dave Brown still needs to turn in receipts from the picnic.
- B. 4th of July - feedback
 - 1. Suzanne Reed would like to go back to Venitian night since the daytime boat parade didn't work out this year. Arlene Rockwell said it was the Sunday afternoon time that made the parade unsuccessful.
- C. Poker Run - Janice Pinkos reports that this is the first year that we sold out of hand so quickly since the first year we had the poker run, at the time there were only 300 hands and we are up to 400 hands now. Janice Pinkos thinks she is going to ask people to limit one per person.
 - 1. We discussed that people should have gotten there early to get in line for tickets. Should we increase the price to \$20 a hand to limit the sales and let other people participate?
 - 2. Craig DeSimone suggests that we talk to the dock hosts about what they gave out for refreshments, ask them if they ran out, and/or if they felt people were taking advantage.
 - 3. Kevin Lalone thinks we should give more money to the dock hosts if we charge more for the hands. Janice said she gave more money to the dock hosts this year than in the past anyway.
 - 4. Kevin Lalone says we can put more into the docks and prizes if there is no after party. Craig DeSimone doesn't think we need to guarantee a party just because we increase price. All decisions are ultimately up to the planning committee.
- D. Halloween 2019 -
 - 1. Tom Zwartz says the hayride will be ready for the halloween event.
 - 2. Phil Rinaldi reports that the Halloween activity schedule was posted on facebook for the Oct. 19th with trick or treating from 2-2:45pm with

activities following at the Rinaldi's house. Phil is going to flag the homes that have candy for trick or treating and is encouraging others that want to participate but don't live on Gebhard to bring candy and pass it out along the route from Minnie Ct. to Gebhard Dr. The Rinaldis are planning activities like painting pumpkins, caramel apple dipping, and the hayride. They would like to see 50-60 kids.

3. Craig DeSimone and Janice Pinkos approved \$150 for the activities and Phil Rinaldi feels that it is a good amount and hopes to have some local donations as well.
- E. Public Access – Janice Pinkos asked what was holding up the signage, Craig DeSimone says he wants to weigh in on the design and is holding it up. Craig DeSimone also says the DNR is holding up the installation of a natural shoreline at the public access too.
- F. Shaw Rd. pedestrians – This issue has stalled, Craig DeSimone wants to throw it back to committee and have a meeting about how to proceed. The Road Commission and Township are passing the responsibility back and forth. Jim McGreal, Dave Brown, and Mark Hunter would all like to be involved in the issue with Phil Rinaldi and Craig DeSimone. Craig DeSimone recommends we show up at township meetings to keep bringing this up. Phil Rinaldi suggests we have a group of people go together to the meeting to bring it up. The township meeting is always the second Wednesday of every month. Dan McDevitt suggests that we offer to pay for the work. Craig DeSimone would like a committee meeting before the end of the season on this issue.
- G. Legal defense fund - Craig DeSimone wants to know if we want to set aside money for this or broader purposes.
 1. Dan McDevitt talked to residents on Huff's Landing and they are in favor. Ann LaForge agrees that we should do it. No one brought up any dissent.
 2. Craig Desimone asks if we should make this a pure legal fund, a broader account, and how do we want to manage it? How much would we like to put in the account? Paul Sniadecki said a good target is \$20,000 when he gave his presentation in July.
 3. Craig DeSimone says we should take some money out of our current funds for a CD or other type of account and it is set aside for a certain purpose with guidelines for how it can be used.
 4. Trustees who were not there but wanted to weigh in said: Tom Zwartz said he is concerned we have a high checkbook balance and we should move it to a CD for the emergency/legal fund. Ken Hochsprung says he wants to see solid guidelines.
 5. There is support for Craig DeSimone to present the information from Paul Sniadecki's presentation for the membership.
 6. There is also support for taking some of the money we already have in checking to start the fund.
 7. Janice Pinkos thinks we need to get some advice/assistance and maybe from a lawyer to make sure we are doing this correctly.
 8. Janice Pinkos said we used to have CDs but they didn't earn very much so we haven't been doing much to earn interest with our money right now.

9. Melissa DeSimone makes a motion to create a savings account attached to our checking account with \$20,000 to start setting aside money for a future legal/emergency fund. Seconded by Arlene Rockwell. Carried unanimously.
 - a) There was discussion to amend and include an amount of money to start the fund with.
 - b) We need to discuss if we should bring in a lawyer/accountant to make sure this is done properly.
 - c) We need to discuss what and how this money can be used.
 - d) Phil Rinaldi says we should use fundraising money to contribute to the fund. Janice Pinkos wants to make sure we have a plan for how much and when money should be moved into the account.
- H. Dues increase
 1. Craig DeSimone said that when it was brought up at the last membership meeting the membership was still positive about it.
 2. Linda Vitkauskas would like us to publicize all the things people get for their dues. Suzanne Reed has a letter she will share and Craig Desimone will add things to his article for the next newsletter.

VIII. New Business

- A. Executive officer elections
 1. Melissa DeSimone is not a trustee as the secretary. Suzanne Reed does not have to be a trustee as the vice president but if she were to take the president's office she would need to be one so she is technically a trustee.
 2. Dan McDevitt makes a motion that all the executive officers retain their current positions. Seconded by Phil Rinaldi. No discussion. Carried unanimously.
- B. Trustee elections (2020) - Craig DeSimone says that everyone is up for reelection at the same time next year. This will be publicized so the general membership feels they can participate. If we have multiple people interested in the same trustee positions then we will have a secret ballot election.
- C. 2020 calendar - Dan McDevitt suggests that we handle this via email, Craig Desimone will send out some dates with contingencies so everyone can weigh in before we make a decision at our October meeting.
- D. MLSA Region meeting update
 1. Mute swans - Craig DeSimone says there was a lake at the meeting with 250 swans and they had to take action to reduce the population.
 2. e-newsletters / constant contact - Craig DeSimone is going to bring this idea up to the newsletter team but in the past we have chosen a printed newsletter because we felt it reached more members/residents. Janice Pinkos is familiar with constant contact through work and would be willing to help with that if we went that route.
 3. watershed mgt plan/township master plan - It was discussed at the region meeting that these are good things to get involved with locally.
 4. legal issues - There were quite a few issues that people in our region are monitoring, many lakes cannot afford to do anything to protect their interests.

- E. Membership status by beach - Craig DeSimone asks if anyone was able to get new dues payers with the membership lists created by Janice Pinkos. Jen Micheli said people thought it was too late in the season and told her they would pay next year. Carole Roeder and Tom Zwartz used the list to talk to neighbors about dues. Janice Pinkos gets a lot of membership dues right after the invoice goes out but could put out the invoice even earlier if we think that would help. Arlene Rockwell says that putting the paid list of members in the newsletter works and Craig DeSimone says we are doing that in the October newsletter. Janice Pinkos suggests the trustees email the members to get them to pay dues, emails are included on the membership lists.
- F. Boat wash presentation - Craig DeSimone wants to know what people want to learn more about a boat wash, asks that trustees email him with thoughts and questions.
- G. 93rd Ave. flooding - Craig says maybe we should give people phone numbers to call and complain about the flooding. Linda Vitkauskas suggests that maybe someone should come to our meeting to explain why the water is there or what progress they are making on fixing the issue. Craig DeSimone wants to know if there is additional action we want to take. Linda Vitkauskas says that maybe we need to keep complaining about it. Arlene Rockwell says we should go around to Dugan Ct. instead of going through the water.
- H. Priorities - Craig DeSimone says we do not have time to discuss priorities, he wants people to weigh in on what's important, this will be discussed via email.
- I. Trustee attendance - Melissa DeSimone read the absences and all trustees are in good standing. Trustee cannot miss three consecutive meetings, we do not have anyone with this issue.
- J. Gravel Lake in Riparian - Craig DeSimone says this project is moving along.
- K. Other new business -
 - 1. Pat Beebie is requesting a letter from the lake association to approve the placement of the ski course for the summer. He must get association approval to leave the course in the water for the duration of his permit. Craig DeSimone will send an email about this.
- L. Next BOT meeting – Saturday, October 19th at 10am at township hall

IX. Announcements – none

X. Adjournment: 11:27am