

HIGGINS LAKE PROPERTY OWNERS ASSOCIATION  
ANNUAL MEETING – JULY 19, 2014  
ROSCOMMON HIGH SCHOOL

The meeting was attended by 159 represented memberships. President Pat Springstead began the meeting at 9:20 a.m. and immediately turned the podium over to Bob Blamer as acting parliamentarian. After his opening remarks, he gave a brief summary of the election process for both directors and other issues. Bob explained that Herb Weatherly made a motion and seconded by Bob Blamer for all ballots and proxies to be picked up and, if verified and legal, to be counted at a future date. All ballots and proxies are to be placed in a locked box. Bob explained that anyone from the audience wishing to make comments would be limited to 4 minutes and the time cannot be yielded to another person.

Bob asked Pat to return to the podium to call the meeting to order at 9:30 a.m. and give opening remarks.

**Approval of 2013 Meeting Minutes:**

Pat Springstead called for a motion to approval the minutes of July 20, 2013 annual meeting. The motion was made by Ethan (?) and seconded by Ken Dennings. Motion carried.

Bob Blamer returned to the podium to continue the meeting. He introduced the Board members in attendance: Don Cornell, Mary Jane Hartman (Secretary), Rick Meeks (Vice President), Kathryn Bangs, Tom Kizer, Marv Bolton (Treasurer), Herb Weatherly, Bill Case, Jim Vondale, Pat Springstead (President) and himself. Bob turned the mic over to Tom Kizer for the next agenda item.

**Report of the Bylaw Committee:**

Tom Kizer reported on the activity of the Bylaw Review Committee. He introduced the committee membership: representative of the HLPOA Board are Tom Kizer and Bob Blamer with Jim Vondale acting as liaison between the Board and the Committee; at large members are Carol Vondale, Chuck Brick, Dan Alderman and Throck Osborn (non-voting member). This committee has completed their task and agreed that no action to the Bylaw revisions will take place until the annual meeting next year. Bob returned to the podium and gave the floor to Chuck Brick to read the motion he made, which was seconded by Throck Osborn.

**BYLAW COMMITTEE MOTION**

Whereas, Louinia Mae Whittlesey brought a motion, which was passed at the July 20, 2013 annual meeting establishing an ad-hoc Committee of five to review in depth the HLPOA Constitution, By-Laws, and Rules of Order and to report to membership in six months, with a final report four weeks before the 2014 Annual Meeting; and

Whereas, the Motion directed that the composition of such committee would consist of two non-officer members of the Board chosen by the Board and three at-large members (with one of the at-large members being a past-president, if able to serve, but otherwise just another at-large member); and

Whereas, the Board appointed its two voting members and the at-large members volunteered for such committee and such volunteers made a determination as to its voting members of such committee; and

Whereas, the final report of the committee was produced and distributed in advance of the 2014 Annual Meeting; and

Whereas, the full committee prepared a report summarizing its findings and enclosing proposed sections upon which a consensus was reached by the full committee; and

Whereas, the committee also included separate proposals where the Board-appointed members of the committee and the at-large committee members could not reach a consensus but where the separate proposals created a good exhibition of the differences in philosophy of the Board-appointed members and the at-large members; and

Whereas, the at-large members of the committee have requested a survey and input of the full membership of the HLPOA in order to craft a definition of Member that reflects the consensus of the full membership; and

Whereas, the at-large committee members feel that it would be worthwhile to have a new resolution to allow the Committee to continue to work on educating the membership as to the nature of the differences in the proposals and to work on gathering member input to craft a definition of Member; and

Whereas, Ms. Whittlesey's prior motion worked well to establish such a committee;

**IT IS HEREBY MOVED that there be an ad-hoc Committee of five (5) made up as follows: two non-officer Board of Director members (chosen by the Board) and three at-large members, chosen by those HLPOA at-large members who wish to participate on the 2014-2015 committee, to gather member input on the definition of Member via survey, to conduct informational meetings and to present proposed By-Law amendments (including competing proposals) to the membership for review and vote at a special meeting occurring before the 2015 annual meeting.**

The motion carried.

**Treasurer's Report:**

Marv Bolton presented the 2013 Financial Report. Throck Osborn made a motion to accept the financial reports; with Throck's permission Robert Whittlesey made a motion to incorporate Mr. Smith's recommendation to add a statement that shows the change in fund balances and a column showing the difference between actual expense and budget. Kay O'Malia seconded the motion. Motion carried

Total income in 2013 was \$63,843.81

Total expense was \$54,354.64

Net income for 2013 was \$9,489.17

Total assets at 2013 year were \$64,191.21

Questions came from the audience about the lease and maintenance of the HLPOA/HLF building. Vicki Springstead explained the HLPOA building question; Pat gave further clarification. A motion was then made by Bill Wichers that the lease all documents related to the building be made available to all members at the office; seconded by Pat Springstead. Motion carried.

**Audit Committee Report:**

Herb Weatherly reported that the committee met on June 26 and found the records in order.

**Environmental Committee:**

Marv Bolton gave comments and update of the milfoil control. The Diver Assisted Suction Harvester (DASH) boat used to harvest and remove the milfoil from the lake. The milfoil removed was substantial. Funding is being sought to continue operation of the DASH boat.

Rick Meeks reported on water testing. It started in May; the water clarity is good. The dissolved oxygen temperature indicates the health of the lake and the lake is very healthy. Rick then fielded questions.

**Legislative and HLPAC Reports:**

Pat Springstead reported that the local and State relationships have improved over the past ten years. He also reported that the HLPOA has raised sufficient funds to cover legislative expense and the PAC to provide support for candidates during election years. Public Affairs Associates (PAA) gives us access to legislators and officials at the State and local levels. Public Act 680 passed, giving public dock management to local government.

**Special Presentation:**

Rick Meeks gave historical remarks about the Higgins Lake Foundation and their support to the clean lake effort. The Foundation is celebrating their 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary this year and Rick wanted to acknowledge the organization for all their work.

**Nomination and Election of Directors:**

Bob Blamer read a motion made by Herb Weatherly, seconded by Bob Blamer that all ballots and proxies to be picked up and be counted if verified and legal at a future date. All ballots and proxies will be collected and put in a locked box. Bob gave instructions to vote for six (6) candidates only. There will be nominations from the floor. Bob gave Eric Ostergren the floor for election discussion. The Board has 52 proxies. A motion was made that the election proceed and that the 52 proxies be returned and given a new ballot including all nominations. Then these new ballots would be counted in the final vote within 30 days. Jim Frye seconded. An amendment was made that these 52 votes be returned to a third party if the original motion passes. Amendment failed. The original motion failed with 44 yes votes and 88 no votes.

Ken Dennings offered a motion to establish the integrity of the voting process: That immediately following the nominations and vote, all ballots, proxies and related materials be sealed and signed for and delivered to the law offices of Carey and Jaskowski for the purpose of tabulation, determination and announcement of election results. And further that one volunteer representing Board nominated candidates and one volunteer representing floor nominated candidates be selected by Pat Springstead and Ken Dennings, respectively, to take possession of all sealed election documents, be responsible for delivery and serve as observers during the count of ballots and proxies. The membership to receive notice of the election results as soon as possible following tabulation by the law office. Motion seconded by Pat Springstead; motion carried.

Rick Meeks read the slate of nominations from the Nominating Committee: Kathryn Bangs, Bill Case, Don Cornell, Mary Jane Hartman, Tom Kizer and Herb Weatherly. Nominations from the floor: Charlene Cornell, Chuck Brick, Ken Dennings and Brad Gibson. The nomination process was closed.

Bob Blamer explained that when the ballot was complete, the ballots were to be placed in the box and taken to the attorney offices. Ballot #111 was withdrawn and replaced by #791; ballot #174 is invalid and replaced by #790.

**President's Remarks:**

Pat declined making any additional comments. Bob Blamer returned to the podium to address issues of concern. Lowell Butman made comments about swimmers' itch. Discussion followed.

Motion to adjourn at 12:33p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Pam Mills  
HLPOA Secretary