

**SHAKER PINES LAKE ASSOCIATION**  
**07/11/2023 Meeting Minutes**

**Meeting called to order:** 7:00PM

**Pledge of Allegiance**

**Board Members Attendance:**

Randy Daigle, George Temple, Jeremy Stefanik, Sharon Ledger, Charlie Macsata, Jaime Macsata, Betsy Nourse, Linda Ostapoff, Dan Smith

**Tax Collector** – Jaime Macsata

**Absent** – Dan Smith

**Reading of Minutes –**

June 6, 2023 – SPLA Monthly Meeting

Motion made by Jeremy Stefanik to accept the meeting minutes of June 6, 2023. Seconded by Linda Ostapoff.

8 in favor 1 abstain (Charlie Macsata)

June 10, 2023 – SPLA Annual Meeting

Motion made by George Temple to accept the Annual meeting minutes of June 10, 2023. Seconded by Linda Ostapoff.

8 in favor 1 abstain (Randy Daigle)

June 13, 2023 – Executive Board Meeting

Motion made by Linda Ostapoff to accept the Annual meeting minutes of June 10, 2023. Seconded by Jeremy Stefanik.

All in favor.

**Recommendations & remarks from SPLA Member**

Nothing to Report

**Correspondence –**

Nothing to Report

**Treasurer Report –** Jeremy Stefanik/Lorraine Creedon

Capital Account       \$ 141,933.24

Checking Account     \$     276.13

Activity Account       \$   2,483.68

Budget \$ remaining   \$  37,371.41

Lorraine provided an explanation of the reporting process and what information (Treasurers Report, Financial Report and SPLA Activities statement) is provided monthly.

If anyone has any receipts that they need to be reimbursed for. Please leave them in the designated mailbox at 131 Cottage Road for Jeremy to process. Since we cannot use the postal mailbox, Lorraine offered to provide Jeremy with an extra mailbox she has.

Randy Daigle, Jeremy Stefanik will coordinate with George Temple to go to M&T Bank to have George Temple added as an authorized signer.

**Tax Collector Report – Jaime Macsata**

Taxes collected for June 2023	\$ 653.31
Total July 2022 – June 2023	\$ 34,946.94
Manual Payments	\$ 24,453.52
Online Payments	\$ 10,493.42
Total Outstanding Taxes –	\$ 9,681.08

48 - Open liens as of June 30,2023

3 - Liens Released June 2023

13 - Warrants as of June 30,2023

Jaime reviewed the payment/collection process –  
July bills are sent out.

October 1<sup>st</sup> delinquency notification

December 2<sup>nd</sup> delinquency notification

March final delinquency notification

May lien process initiated.

Marshall is contacted to begin collection process on accounts that are more than 3 years delinquent.

Note: Marshal does not normally attempt to collect if balance is less than \$1,000, however, since the accumulated total exceeds \$1,000 the marshal has agreed to attempt to collect balances.

Also, if back taxes are owed this does not go against Motor vehicle outstanding taxes.

**Committee Reports –**

**Ecology** - Leslie Cunningham

The lake treatment took place on Friday, July 7<sup>th</sup>.

Pond and Lake management spent a few hours while they were here. We are very pleased algae if interested.

There are currently approximately 50 geese in the lake.

The water looks good. There is very little blue/green algae.

Water Quality Testing -

No issues currently. If the water testing results are not safe, we will be notified right away allow us to post no swimming signs.

The phosphorus levels are raised based on prior test results. The contract with Pond and Lake management had a based line bundle for \$400 to maintain the phosphorus levels , however we declined this. Then post no swimming signs.

There was \$2,830 left over in the budget from 2022-2023. The 2023-2024 contract was \$13,300 – with a 10% discount for paying upfront.

Scheduled treatments -

1. Initial inspection and treatment for control of Algae and Aquatic Weeds \$1975
2. Two follow-up maintenance applications at \$1e850 per application
3. Annual Phosphorus clarification treatment \$7625
4. A third follow-up treatment is beyond the contract and will be billed at \$1850.

**Spillway Repair – Randy Daigle**

Leslie Cunningham, Dan Hart, Dan Smith

We originally contracted with Wright and Pierce as we were happy with Stephanie Hubbard when we did the dam inspection. She has since left the company and we do not feel that we are receiving the same quality in the new contact. Randy contacted Wright and Pierce to discuss the original contract and the additional \$41k that is being proposed. He requested copies of all correspondence that has been provided to SPLA, including the original contract and the drawings.

Randy also feels the current contact does not have the expertise to successfully complete this project. He had requested that another representative from the company call him directly to discuss as this individual was on vacation. He has not received a call back. Randy would also like to have a face-to-face meeting between the board, Wright, and Pierce. He does not feel that the direction Wright and Pierce has taken is in our best interest. And based on his discussions with other firms he has relationships with they feel the cost of this contract is very high. Randy does feel that the information we have so far can be used.

We did not sign the amended contract and we could go out to bid for additional proposals within the next months.

Randy will also be meeting with the Town to see what is needed to have the ARPA funds and Town approved funds. There was much discussion regarding this as we were approved for the ARPA and Town monies based on the proposal presented last year. This is tabled to next month to allow Randy time to meet with the Town to determine what information the town requires to receiving the funds.

Jeremy will provide a summary of the bills that have been paid to Wright and Pierce

**Property Committee – George Temple**

George Temple, Leslie Cunningham, Linda Ostapoff, Cheryl Cote, Paul Cote, Dave Olson, Dan Smith, and Jeremy Stefanik

The fence at 106 Cottage that was damaged by the FedEx truck has been repaired and they also provided a \$40 donation to the activity club.

2023-2024 Landscaping bid

Brian Peterson of NE Landscaping Services provided a quote of \$4,743 and \$5,152 which includes the flowers at the entrance of Cottage Road.

This will include mowing for August, September, October 2023, May, and June 2024, which will include weed whacking around the guard rails at the spillway monthly. As well as the Fall 2023 and Spring 2024 clean up.

George will contact Brian Peterson regarding a 2-year contract.

George Temple made a motion to accept the proposal from Brian Peterson of NE Landscaping Services in the amount of \$4,743. Seconded by Randy Daigle. All in favor, motion carried.

George also received a bid from Henry's tree service to remove the tree that is growing out of the retaining wall at the upper Cottage beach that runs on the SPLA property and the 119 Property line.

George Temple made a motion to hire Henry's Tree Service to remove the tree that is growing out of the retaining wall at the upper Cottage beach that runs on the SPLA property and the 119 Property line not to exceed \$850. Seconded by Randy Daigle. All in favor, motion carried.

There appears to be a dead tree at lower Cottage Beach in front of the shed. George will investigate and report back to the board.

Properties appear to be in good shape. NE Landscaping will be maintaining the entire upper cottage beach lot. There is plastic down which makes it difficult to mow. George will investigate removing the plastic at some point.

The picnic table at Upper cottage one of the benches came off. At the lower cottage beach there is a damaged picnic table – George and Paul Cote will remove them. Jeremy has another picnic to donate. Dave Olsen will need repairs.

George talked to Brain Peterson at NE Landscaping regarding the knotweed at the retaining wall by Sherri Jackson's. This is very difficult to remove, George instructed NE Landscaping to hold off on doing anything until they hear back from him. Still in the process of researching.

Linda will research metal signs for the fences owned by SPLA.

George will put up the lot numbers for the SPLA properties. Sharon Ledger will provide him with the numbers.

#### **Communications –**

**Newsletter** - Jasmine Curry/Linda Ostapoff

Jasmine Curry will be preparing the newsletter going forward.

**Website** – Jaime Macsata, Jeremy Stefanik

The website is up and running. All meeting minutes are now on the website.

The picture galleries have not been updated to date. Jeremy and Curtis will be working on loading the pictures.

### **Activity Committee –Linda Ostapoff**

Leslie Cunningham, Jaime Macsata, Lori Parker, Carrie Temple, Stacy Daigle, Lisa Strom, Jasmine Curry, Kellie Dixon

July 4<sup>th</sup> event was very successful. We raised \$1,386 for the Shriners. The number of golf carts is dwindling.

July 15<sup>th</sup> movie date has been cancelled and will not be rescheduled.

Next event will be tie dye in August.

Will need a newsletter for late September/early October.

### **Old Business**

#### **Update on Water Testing – Linda Ostapoff**

Linda Ostapoff no new information.

There is concern that the Winstanley and East Longmeadow project will impact the water quality. All board members agree that we should have a baseline test prior to the beginning of the projects.

Enviro Tech will do the testing for potability and VOCs. The cost is \$225 for collecting and Testing and additional \$60 fee.

The do not test for POPS – Linda Ostapoff will follow up with Victoria Houle to see if she can refer someone.

The engineer and Pond and Lake management suggested we test at the upper beach where the rainwater drains and the head water at boom.

It was confirmed Pond and Lake management does not complete this type of testing.

Linda Ostapoff made a motion to hire Enviro Tech to collect water from the 2 sites - upper cottage beach where the rainwater enters and the head waters at the boom to have tested. The cost is \$225 for collecting and Testing and additional \$60 fee and should not exceed \$650.00. Seconded by Jeremy Stefanik. All in favor.

#### **East Longmeadow - Construction near Jaw buck Reservoir**

No Update –

### **New Business**

#### **Welcome Randy -**

Randy Daigle stated he only goes to battle with facts. Facts cannot be disputed.

There are 20 storm drains that flow into the lake that the Town is responsible for maintaining.

If any part feeds into lake the town should maintain every 2 years.t

- Testing diesel fuel
- GSI Map
  - Drains into lake which is detorating retaining wall as the water is being drained into the lake.
- Sand swells

Randy is going to meet with the Town Manager/Engineer to discuss the maintenance of the lake. As they should be sucking up the sand that is filtering into the lake, change/remove filters that are discharging into the lake.

Maintaining the lake –

Look into Dredging the lake and the hydro raking process we were looking into previously. Randy would like to have a meet and greet with WinStanley. Leslie will contact Randy to get more information and then set it up.

Randy was inquiring if we should have 2 cards for access to the Fire House. Charlie Macsata has a card to the Firehouse.

**Dam Emergency Plan** – Charlie Macsata

Add to agenda under old business for August 2023

**Records Retention** – Jaime Macsata, Leslie Cunningham, and Lorraine Creedon

Add to agenda under old business for August 2023

The filing cabinet is a mess and needs to be cleaned up.

The State Library will tell you what information needs to be saved and for how long.

Effective July 1 the firehouse will be staffed daily from 8am – 8pm

Closing Remarks/Round Table

Janice Labroad

Was asking if she could still make donations for the Shriner's. She will contact Dan Smith.

Stated that there is a person on Shaker Road that makes picnic tables if we are interested.

There is concern with the water quality based on the toxic waste(trash), iron from pipes, DEEP concern, and no grate.

Lorraine will provide a summary of what was sent to Wright and Pierce.

ARPA money – estimate on work to have done. Due to the deadline of the Town approved funds, we should use town funds first.

Leslie Cunningham -

Posters need to be taken down.

Mowing at Memorial lot – Mow only do not weed whack.

Volunteer is needed to bring Trash at lower Cottage out weekly. Randy will ask Jeff if he is willing to do this.

Stacey Daigle -

Ways to distract geese from the area were discussed. Low fences and or the metallic spinners work well. Linda will write something up for the next newsletter. And encourage all homeowners not to feed the geese.

**Meeting adjourned**

Linda Ostapoff made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:06 PM. Seconded by George Temple. All in favor, Meeting adjourned.`

Respectfully submitted,

*Sharon Ledger*

Secretary, Shaker Pines Lake Association