

HIDDEN LAKE ASSOCIATION
Annual Meeting
May 20, 2018
APPROVED MINUTES

OPENING:

President Jay Cassella called the Annual Board Meeting of the Hidden Lake Association to order at 1:10 p.m. on Sunday, May 20th, 2018 at the Haddam Town Hall Annex in Haddam, CT.

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:

Jay Cassella, President
Dale Fiore, Vice President
Laura Jenner, Past President
Sheri Berger, Tax Collector
Carolyn Chalifoux, Interim Board Member
Lori-Ann Hoberman, Secretary
Victoria Nicholson, Interim Board Member
Cindy Porriello, Interim Board Member

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT:

Alan Stokke, Treasurer

ASSOCIATION MEMBERS PRESENT:

James Nicholson
Barry Hoberman
Steve Zehalla
Carmela Della Mura
Eleanor Porriello
Sandy Kiehm
Noreen Endriss
Ted Endriss
Jim Kearney
Rose Fiore
Bobby Abate
Aline & Anthony Grandazzo
David Chalifoux
Peter Lombardo
Mary Shea
Phillip Porriello
Ed Shamway
Dean Fredericks
Ellie Morrison
Brian Polak
Jean Cassella
Teresa Resnick
Hollie Rose

A. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The minutes of the Annual HLA Meeting of May 21, 2017 were read and a motion to Accept the Minutes was made by Cindy Porriello and seconded by Lori-Ann Hoberman. The approved minutes will be posted on the HLA website.

B. TAX COLLECTOR REPORT

Sheri Berger reported on taxes paid and liens that have been filed. She reported that \$43,791.01 has been collected to date, and interest of \$4920.92 was earned on the money.

Sheri stated that there are 3 lots that the town will tag sale. These lots are posted at the Town Hall on the Haddam bulletin. The lots are not buildable properties. If anyone is interested Jay Cassella will send paperwork to all association members with the tag sale information for residence & non residence vacancy's.

Dale Fiore motions to accept the Tax Collector Report, Victoria Nicholson seconded.

C. TREASURERS REPORT

Alan Stokke is absent. The Treasurers Report is collectively read.

A motion to accept the Treasurer's Report for all past expenses is made by Carolyn Chalifoux, Dale Fiore seconded.

D. SEPTIC REPORT

Anthony Grandazzo reported that 30 septic tanks had been cleaned this year. Anthony said that July 1st, 2018, notices for upcoming septics would be mailed.

E. ROAD COMMITTEE

Peter Lombardo reports that the Eversource Company is still doing work around the lake. Peter is presently getting bids for chip sealing, drainage & road repair.

Volunteers are cleaning road surfaces & doing some tree trimming.

F. LAKE COMMITTEE

Dale Cassella reports that many stumps have been removed as well as a whole lot of weed cutting. The Winter draw down occurred which effectively froze the weeds. The beaches have been cleaned. Trees, brush & leaves have been removed. Dean Fredericks will do our water testing.

The Dam repairs have been completed. Large chunks of wall were repaired as well as several structural cracks.

The CT. Agricultural Experiment Station is coming to do a new weed study in July 2018 so that we can compare this report to the 2005 report that was done.

G. BYLAW COMMITTEE

Cindy Porriello reports that she has done intensive reading & study of the by-laws. Cindy reports that we can make changes to the by-laws but not to the charter. Jay Cassella explained how the BYLAW system works.

The BYLAW Committee needs to have more folks involved in this as we proceed in the new year.

Association Member, Sandy Kiehm has offered to assist Cindy. We are still in need of further volunteers.

H. AUDIT COMMITTEE

Dale & Rose Fiore as well as Jay & Jean Cassella will be the committee moving forward.

I. WEB REPORT

Jay Cassella explained the user id and password to use when trying to access the website. It is encouraged that people post pictures etc.. to the Facebook page. Everyone can now post pictures etc...

J. SPECIAL PROJECTS:

No projects discussed

OLD BUSINESS:

Cindy Porriello has boat stickers. Jay Cassella explained how the use of these stickers will help us all to find lost boats that drift away on us as well as help us to determine the boats that are abandoned at the beaches. We can then post these abandoned boats on the website and eventually have them removed. Laura Jenner further explains that the BYLAWS clearly state that boats are not allowed to be left on the beaches. While we have tried to be kind and this has been to date over-looked. It is clear now that this BYLAW is written with reason. The abandoned boats are an eyesore and a hinderance to the upkeep of our beaches. There will be a mailing sent out to inform association members that all boats without proper stickers will be removed by such & such date.

NEW BUSINESS:

Jay Cassella mentioned that he would like to see that some attention is paid to the mailbox huts that need repair as well as some poison ivy control in the near future. Around the room these items were agreed as reasonable & obtainable goals.

Jay Cassella then went over the Fiscal year budget 2018/2019 to seek authorization to allocate funds for the adoption of the Fiscal Year Budget 2018/2019.

The proposed budget was then read over line by line by Jay Cassella. Dale Fiore assisted for some of us visual learners by using the dry erase board to chart the numbers.

Laura Jenner stated that she personally felt that some of the allocated monies should be looked at and discussed between all board and association members. Jay Cassella agreed and opened the discussion to the floor. Amendments were made to increase the road chip seal, the lake weed/debris removal and the property maintenance lines each by \$5000.

It was also agreed upon to increase the legal fees line item from 1,000 to 3,000. A motion from the floor to accept these changes was made by association member Noreen Endriss and seconded by. Unanimous decision.

The next new business was presented by Sheri Berger, Tax Collector. Sheri has agreed to travel to Waterbury to get all of the training that she needs to learn how to use software that will assist in our Lake Tax needs. Sheri would like the board to agree to purchase this software in the sum of \$1200. The Town of Haddam uses this same software.

Dale Fiore made a motion to approve \$1200. not to exceed \$1500. for the purchase of the software. Lori-Ann Hoberman seconds.

Also noted...Sandy Kiehm & Rose Fiore, Association Members, would like to start a Beautification/Sunshine Committee.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS:

The Election of the Officers for the upcoming 2018/2019 year commenced with all existing posts continuing to be served by those currently holding said post.

The officers of the HLA Association, for 2018-2019, will be:

Jay Cassella, President

Dale Fiore, Vice President

Alan Stokke, Treasurer

Lori-Ann Hoberman, Recording Secretary

Sheri Berger, Tax Collector

Victoria Nicholson, Board Member (1) year term expires 2019

Carolyn Chalifoux, Board Member (2) year term expires 2020

Cindy Porriello, Board Member (3) year term expires 2021

Laura Jenner, Past President

Anthony Grandazzo recognized President Jay Cassella for all of his efforts. Anthony also stated that both Jay Cassella & Cindy Porriello should be commended for all of their continuous hard work around our lake. Jay Cassella thanks everyone for all of their help and support this past year. A round of heartfelt applause commenced.

Dale Fiore thanked Laura Jenner, Past President for all of her continued involvement on the behalf of our board. President Jay Cassella adjourned the Annual Meeting of the Hidden Lake Association of May 20, 2018 at 2:30 p.m. and thanked all for coming to the Annual Meeting.

The next regular board meeting will be held June 25, 2018 at 6:30 p.m. location TBA.

Respectfully submitted,
Lori-Ann Hoberman
Recording Secretary