

Ryerson Lake Association Annual Meeting 2023

May 27, 2023, 9:08 a.m. start.

Welcome Statement

- Coffee and donuts served as refreshments.
- Thanks for coming! Beautiful day!

Pledge of allegiance

Intro of Board

- Jim May (President), Kurt Uhlir (VP), Marge Hallada, Chuck Yonker, Dave Hintz, Heather Lallo (Treasurer), Elise Brown (Secretary), John Thayer, Bernard Rocca (Camp Director).

Secretary Report

- A focus on updating our digital footprint with Facebook, email, website, and instagram
- A reminder that any email requesting online gift cards is not from the Ryerson Lake Board and should be deleted.
- Motion to approve last year's minutes (Elise), second by Dave, Approved

Treasurer Report

- Income to be reported on Facebook and Website
- Last year: collected \$3000 last year
- Expenses: fireworks, last year barge for launching fireworks, mailing, watermelons, state registration, MI Lakes & Streams membership
- Balance: \$2580
- Motion to accept treasurer report (Jim), second (Dave), Approved

Lake Improvement Board (Don Clark)

- Survey completed, treatment map generated, Treatment will occur Wednesday May 31.
- Phos Lock treatment June 6 in Chippewa Bay.
- Eurasian Milfoil is the primary plant that is targeted
- Savin services is who we contract with for spraying
- Herbicides used are cleared with Michigan Toxicology
- Any fertilizer used on Lakefront property needs to be XX-00-XX with the middle number 0 to show zero phosphates. The best water for your lawn is the lake water since it has plenty of nutrients.
- Tax increase from \$176 to \$197 per year. Extra money can be toward remediation work of reducing the nutrients in our lake.
- Working with local farmers to see where the excess nutrients are coming from that are getting into our lake and watershed.
- Dam at outlet of the lake will be upgraded in August by the drain commissioner.
- High levels of nitrogen coming into the lake at the north end inlet. Precautionary signage is posted in that area. Concerns are primarily related to ingesting the water, and skin exposure especially to infants.
- Algae bloom will be treated first, and then the eurasian milfoil.
- Algae this year is worse than ever. No rain, hot days, phosphorus in the water, the lake didn't turn over twice last year, and mild winter. Curly Leaf plant didn't die this winter. Usually we see it in July, but it's here now.

- Lake turning over: oxygenated water at the top goes to the bottom, and water from the bottom goes to the top. The water temperature changes lead to the lake turning over.

- Muskrat issues please contact the DNR

Newaygo County Commissioner (Jim Maike)

- Money in the bank, and projects are getting done.

Newaygo County Sheriff

- Goal is to educate not get folks in trouble.

- ORVs, Golf Carts, etc. can be ridden on the Right side of the road under 25MPH. Need to wear a helmet if there's not a roll cage and a roof. No open alcohol in the vehicle, applies to driver or passengers. Golf carts need an ORV sticker, headlight, and tail light. \$500 tickets are given out for ORV violations if education doesn't work.

- Golf carts can be driven by anyone over 12 with an ORV safety certificate.

- You can get an ORV sticker where you get your hunting license.

- When you're on the water, MC numbers and registration stickers need to be visible on both sides of the boat. Registration expires March 31 each year, so 2023 stickers are now expired.

- If you have any complaints you can call the department.

- They have 2 river boats, 1 big boat for Hardy, 1 lake boat.

- Need to stay 100 feet away from objects, boats, people, and 200 feet from shore.

- On your boat, you need one life jacket per person, approved by the coast guard, whistle or horn, flares.

Camp Echo Report (Bernard Rocca)

- Camp Director Bernard is here May through September, in Evanston with the Y the rest of the year.

- Property Manager Scott is here year-round

- Approaching 100th anniversary. 500 acres.

- Interest in engaging the lake community. Sharing stories of the Lake.

- Weekly 250 campers or 40 families. Total capacity 300 campers ages 7 to 18, including all programs including offsite camping. Total 1300 campers this year. 150 families at Family Camp.

- Call Bernard if you see any unsafe or inappropriate behavior from campers.

- Child safety is Camp's number one priority. Keep a safe distance from camp property and campers.

- Avoid the peninsula shallows for safety of boaters and campers.

- New construction of the dining hall.

- Cookout Saturday, August 19 at 5pm - everyone is invited. Come check out Camp after dinner! Most people drive over.

- Campers bedtime 10:30pm. Staff curfew 11:30pm.

Sea walls (John Thayer)

- Natural shoreline sea walls are a great alternative to solid surface sea walls.

- Coconut husk logs, pea stone, boulders, and native plants for first 6 feet of the shoreline.

- Easy installation, cost for 50 feet: \$2100 vs a solid sea wall could be \$10,000

- John can help anyone with submission and approvals

Sherman Township (Ken Smalligan)

- 5-year resolution to remove Mute Swans by USDA sharpshooters. 6 removed this Spring. This permit has been in effect since 2010. State has announced that Trumpeter swans are no longer an endangered species.
- Next weekend June 3 at Town Hall annual junk drive to accept trash. Better than putting it into the forest. Hazardous waste is done through the county, was done last Saturday.
- The dam will be replaced in August by County Drain Commission.
- Short term rentals 30 days or less need to be registered with the township. Fee penalty is steep.
- Email shermansupervisor@gmail.com

Fireworks (Scott Tyink)

- Same format as last year. Using Class C (\$3,500) not Class B fireworks (\$15,000)
- Position of the fireworks barge needs to be in the shallow areas, last year was on the island. This year will try the shallow area off the point to improve access from shore.
- Looking for an additional swim raft or pontoon to convert to a second fireworks barge
- Rain date for fireworks will be the following day, July 5.
- Looking for volunteers to help, Scott has been doing it for 25 years.

Boat Parade (Kurt Uhlir)

- Last year turnout was great, close to 20 boats
- 7:30 start time at the north end. Chuck Yonker as Grand Marshall. Watermelons for every participant. Trophies for 1st, 2nd, and Honorable Mentions.
- Online voting this year.

Loons and Turtles (Carole May)

- Loons are federally protected. We have only one male loon right now.
- If loons start flapping or making sound, you are too close.
- If you see anyone getting too close, let Carole know.
- 2 immature bald eagles (2 years old and 4 years old) are not loon chick predators yet.
- Snapping turtles are main predator for loon chicks right now.
- Encourage hunting of the large snappers.
- Clean up your fishing lines and avoid use of lead sinkers.
- Carole will be the official Loon Ranger for the lake.
- Turtle handout shows the types of turtles. Let Carole and the DNR know if you see a Blandings turtle. They're extremely endangered.
- Request to put out a floating log or board for turtles to come out and sun themselves and we can see them.

Fishing (Chuck Yonker):

- Don't clear out the blue gills while they're on the beds.
- Maximum in your possession including in the freezer is 50 bluegills per person.

Raising dues (Jim May):

- \$30 to \$40 approved by the board this year.
- 40% of residents are members, encourage new folks to join.
- New members - welcome!

Holiday decorating contest (Jim May):

- Winners received ornament and gift card
- Judging will occur between Christmas and New Years annually.

What folks would like to see at the lake (Jim May):

- Community yard sale day
- Neighborhood concert or talent show
- Book group
- Thanks from Merle for the Board doing a great job

Elections (Jim May):

- Bylaws amended to add a 10th board director to get representation from Chippewa
- Nomination of Steve Davis: John, Second (Kurt), Approved
- Motion to accept the board membership (Christian), Second (Don Tietsma), Approved

Attendance: 83

Board meeting:

Attendance: Jim May (President), Kurt Uhlir (VP), Marge Hallada, Chuck Yonker, Dave Hintz, Heather Lallo (Treasurer), Elise Brown (Secretary), John Thayer, Bernard Rocca (Camp Director), Steve Davis

- Motion to keep officers the same (Marge), Second (John), Approved.
- Go door to door on July 1 and July 8, (John) Second (Nardo), Approved. Eat together at the Mays around 5:30pm and then go around together.
- Motion to Adjourn (John), second (Heather), Adjourned.