

Lake Tippecanoe Property Owners, Inc.
Board Minutes
March 15, 2008

The Board of Directors of the Lake Tippecanoe Property Owners, Inc. held its March board meeting at the North Webster Community Center on the 15th day of March, 2008. President Dave Swart called the meeting to order at 8:00 a.m. Those in attendance introduced themselves.

Changes & Additions to Agenda—Jim Hayes asked to have “LTPO Events Dates” added to New Business. Dave Swart added “Septic Tank Management DVD”. Holly LaSalle added “Phosphorus-Free Fertilizer”.

Secretary’s Report—Carolyn Haggard moved to accept the secretary’s report. The motion was seconded by Bob Smith. The secretary’s report was approved as written.

Treasurer’s Report—Gary Calhoun moved to accept the treasurer’s report. The motion was seconded by Carolyn Haggard. The treasurer’s report was approved as written.

Committee Reports

Aquatic Plant Management/Dredging—Holly LaSalle reported that she has received the aquatic management plan updates for 2007. Holly said the report shows what the treatment and survey areas were in 2007 and what they found. Holly said the report also has a plan through 2011 for what areas we should treat and what we should treat for, which is basically the same as we’ve done every year. Holly gave Jim Hayes a CD containing the report so it can be posted on the website. Holly said one difference this year is that, in addition to our grant received for weed treatment, we received \$5,000 for ecozone planning. The grant award for weed treatment this year is \$13,311, which is less than what we received last year. Holly said we will probably only receive one more year of grant funding. Holly said we only get three years of funding and then we’re on our own. Holly said our first big funding will be for curly-leaf pondweed. Last year curly-leaf treatment was about \$34,000. Nate Long of Aquatic Control told Holly that if we do the full treatment for curly-leaf, which would treat the same areas as last year, we should eradicate a lot of it and it won’t come back. Holly said if we can use the grant funds of \$13,311 for curly-leaf, which the DNR has not allowed in the past, plus the \$15,000 the board approved from the general fund at the February meeting, we are still short on funds by about \$6,000. Holly said that the estimated cost for Eurasian water milfoil treatment this year is \$14,790. The estimated cost for eel grass treatment is \$4,000. Holly noted that they thought this year we would be allowed to treat additional areas of eel grass by percentage of shoreline, but that will not be the case. The DNR is allowing treatment only of those areas which have been historically treated and, if we wish to add new areas, they will send out the fisheries biologist to survey the areas and make a determination if they are actually bad enough to treat. Holly said that since eel grass comes on in late summer, by the time the survey is done and the permits are applied for, the eel grass will die out on its own.

Constitution & By-Laws (Ad Hoc-Tax Exempt)—No report.

Dinner Dance—Dave Swart reported that he recently spoke to Suzanne Lattimer and the committee has a nice agenda put together with entertainment instead of a band.

Directory—Jim Hayes reported that he is hard at work on the directory. Jim said ad sales have exceeded last year’s and he hopes we will have a record year.

Fireworks—Dave Swart reported that, at a previous meeting, we voted to hold future fireworks displays on Saturday, which this year is July 5th. Bob Schwartz reported at the February meeting that he had arranged with the fireworks company to have the fireworks on Friday, July 4th this year with a rain date of July 5th. Dave said we can move the display to Saturday, but he asked the board to make the final decision. Discussion followed. The board agreed to hold the fireworks on Friday, July 4th this year.

Fish & Wildlife—No report.

Fish Fry—No report.

Flotilla—No report.

Government Relations—A written report from Glenna Shelby, who was unable to attend today's meeting, was made available to the board members.

Lake Honoree—No report.

LTPO Lakeshore Development—No report.

Membership—Susan Hayes reported that membership is currently 742. Dues continue to come in.

Public Relations—No report.

Safe Boating—No report.

TELWF—Bob Smith reported that they have been very busy. Lyn Crighton is attending the Barbee Lake Association board meeting this morning. Mark Ennes asked about TELWF's name change. Bob Smith said that technically their name is still the Tippecanoe Environmental Lake and Watershed Foundation, but it seems difficult for people to figure out and understand. They've decided from a public relations standpoint to go with Tippecanoe Watershed Foundation (TWF), so it will be a little easier to work with.

Water Quality—Holly LaSalle said she did receive the water quality report from I.U., but did not bring it with her. She said that basically nothing has changed; all three lakes are eutrophic to mesotrophic. Holly said she will bring copies of the report to the next meeting. Holly reported that she has received a call from Sara Peel at J.F. New asking Holly to notify her when the ice is off the lake so they can put the protective frame around the plants that were planted in the test area last year. Holly said she will be monitoring the site again this year to see how the plants are doing.

Water Safety—Dave Swart asked Joe Westendorf about cleaning out the Tippy River at Oswego. Joe said that he spoke with Kerry Rookstool, who said he would be happy to do that, but that the land at that section of the river will soon be under new ownership. Holly LaSalle said she had spoken to the DNR because the question always comes up regarding whether we need a permit. Holly said we do not need a permit as long as we are not clear-cutting and are just cleaning from the water. Holly does not think a landowner can keep you off the water. Dave Swart said that the law reads that you can navigate the water on a river. If you have two property owners on both sides, they each own the land to the middle of the river and if you get out of your boat and stand on the riverbed, you are trespassing on their land. Dave said the river clean out has not been done in about three years, and they are trying to make sure we don't have any problems with the property owners.

Buoys—No report.

Website—No report.

Old Business

No discussion on Old Business.

New Business

LTPO Event Dates—Jim Hayes reported that on July 15, 2006 the board approved a motion that read as follows: *Ron Chambers moved to have the flotilla and fireworks display on Saturday July 7, 2006, and to continue to hold the fireworks on Saturday night in the future. The motion was seconded by Joe Westendorf and approved.* In light of the fact that the fireworks are being held on Friday this year, Jim suggested the motion be repealed. *Carolyn Haggard moved to repeal the motion regarding the fireworks display made on July 15, 2006. The motion was seconded by Jon Tyler. The motion was approved. Jim Hayes then made a motion that, going forward, the dates for the next year's events are to be set by the October board meeting. Gary Calhoun seconded the motion. The motion was approved.*

Septic Tank Maintenance DVD—Dave Swart reported that he received an email from Jane Loomis, who works for the St. Joseph River Watershed Initiative in the Fort Wayne area. They have spent about \$14,000 to put together a DVD on septic tank maintenance and are selling them for \$2.50 each. Dave said that TELWF has ordered about 100 copies of the DVD and he has asked them if we could put one on the LTPO website as a download, though he has not yet received an answer from them. Dave suggested we purchase some of the DVD's, although we would need a motion to do that. Dave stated that we have a lot of ineffective septic systems on the lake and he feels that if people knew how to properly maintain them they would do something about it. Holly LaSalle commented that any septic tank leeching, besides creating a health hazard, also promotes weed growth. Holly said we have enough money in our weed prevention fund to purchase some of these DVD's and give one to every property owner. Mike Lattimer asked if Dave had viewed the DVD, to which Dave responded he had not yet done so. Dave suggested a DVD could be hand delivered with each member directory this year, and it would be a great opportunity to give a DVD to non-LTPO members along with a membership application. Dave said he would try to get with Jane Loomis to obtain a few copies of the DVD so several board members could view it. *A motion was made that, once the DVD has been viewed by several board members and determined to be good, an order be placed for enough copies to distribute one to each lake residence using funds available in the weed prevention fund. The motion was seconded was passed.*

Phosphorus-Free Fertilizer—Holly LaSalle reported that the Wawasee conservancy has put together a list of lawn care and landscaping companies in our area. They are sending a letter to all of these companies stating that they are going to put a list in their spring newsletter stating which companies promote the use of phosphorus-free fertilizers so they can steer their members to only use those companies. They are going to list those companies which don't support the use of phosphorus-free fertilizer as well. Holly suggested that we could do the same thing and expand on their list by including companies in the Warsaw and Columbia City areas. Bev Ganshorn reported that she is still working on a packet of information that can be given to new property owners on the lake and she thinks that a lot of what is being talked about in this meeting, such as the DVD on septic tank maintenance and the list of companies who promote phosphorus-free fertilizer would be good items to include.

Adjournment

A motioned was made to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded and unanimously approved.

Attendance From Sign-In Sheet:

<u>Board Members:</u>			
Gary Calhoun	Phil Hoy	Robert Smith	
Mark Ennes	Marie Kempfer	David Swart	
Bev Ganshorn	Holly LaSalle	Betty Kay Turner	
Monty Ganshorn	Mike Lattimer	Jon Tyler	
Carolyn Haggard	Steve Matthias	Tom Webb	
Jim Hayes	Robert Paton	Joe Westendorf	
<u>Guests:</u>			