

**PAW PAW LAKE ASSOCIATION**  
**Meeting Minutes**  
**NOVEMBER 7, 2009**

**Called to order:**

The meeting was called to order at 9 AM by President Stepich.

**Members Present:**

Joe Stepich, Ken Kregel, Ray Lechner, Charlie Pater, Lou Presta.

**Members Absent:** Barb Van Hout, Len Metheny, Scott Hoadley, Kip Wright.

**Approval of Minutes:**

The secretary was absent; minutes were not available to approve.

**Financial Report:**

The treasurer was absent; there was no report to review.

**President's Report:**

President Stepich gave an update on the lake clean up project and joint committee of the township boards. Recommendations from the committee will then go to each township board. Then the work of that committee will be complete and the township boards will need to decide what work will be done and how it will be paid for (including a special assessment). There will be 2 public meetings.

The first public meeting will be one to review the report, the recommendations made and the related cost projected. The first meeting will be for informational purposes only. After the 2 Boards determine what they action they will take, then the assessments will be calculated. The second public meeting is about the assessment itself, including the formula for determining the assessment, the actual amount of the assessment, how the taxes will be divided among which property owners, and for what period of time.

After the second hearing, then a decision will be made. Both townships need to do this final work in exactly the same way. Both townships need to agree to the language, the formula for the assessment and the period of time. There are multiple ways to determine the assessment and who will be assessed. There are many options to consider and both boards need to be identical.

The Association believes that this recent research provided the best look/analysis of this lake. President Stepich commented that he believes that this project will not be completed by spring and that the Lake Association needs to move forward with the weed treatment.

Given that, the Lake Association needs to move ahead with the weed treatment for summer 2010.

**Unfinished Business:  
2010 Weed Treatment prices**

The Board determined that the cost to treat the lake was increased by \$514. Instead of raising prices, it was recommended to keep the prices the same and the Lake Association would pick up the difference.

**Motion** made by Ken Krengel seconded by Charlie Pater to authorize the weed treatment program for spring 2010 and to keep the prices the same for the spring treatment. The motion was unanimously approved.

**Member Survey planning.**

President Stepich noted that once the weed treatment is no longer a function of the PPLA, the question remains, what will be the relevant function of the PPLA? The purpose of a survey is to answer that question.

A draft list of possible survey and project areas was discussed. The List is attached to these minutes. This was a discussion with the audience, and the following items were included.

Discussed fire lanes and how owners have been taking care of them (e.g. landscaping) and how at times the “care” provided blocks access of fire equipment to the lake.

Discussed the possibility of having the Paw Paw Lake Association join the Paw Paw Lake Foundation and whether that was legal. It was determined that this could happen, having separate boards, with the charity arm a subset of the other organization.

Discussed the needs to get names and addresses of all lake members. One condominium association did not release mailing list to the Association because of a need for privacy. Discussed giving information to the Condominium President, which gets sent to every owner. This is current practice.

Reviewed the items to be surveyed and asked for items to be removed/added. Discussed survey design and the development of a proto-type, which will be reviewed by the Board and sample tested by members. The goal is to have the survey completed by the first meeting in April.

President Stepich commented that an important key is the proper construction of the questions, so as not lead the answers.

Charlie Pater asked to add a question about providing organized winter activities for lake users. This will be added to the survey.

Concerning projects, President Stepich asked about the projects list and asked members to review.

There was a discussion about a floating fire hydrant on the lake and whether this will be a project for the Lake Association.

There was a question about the deicers and what was happening. This is presently with local authorities.

There was a question about aeration testing. Explained that by oxygenating the lake it would help consume the nutrients. This is expensive.

There was a question about realtor support. It was recommended that every time property was sold, the Association would provide realtors a packet of information about the lake to give to new owners.

There was a question about lake property development. This involves the Association's role in monitoring big projects that developers may be initiating.

There was a question about future revenue. What does the Association do when there is no longer a revenue source from the weed treatment program? One suggestion was that in the past there was a house walk, which is a good fundraiser.

Discussed sonar use in other lakes and how it eradicated Eurasian Milfoil. Discussed how another lake association was able to get this funding approved. There was a highly involved education campaign. President Stepich is going to develop a similar campaign for Paw Paw Lake.

Discussed clean roads, and how this too will keep our lake clean. Also, many people rake their leaves into the lake, as well as grass clippings; this is problematic.

Another project is new signage on the public access areas. This is in need of replacement.

President asked the audience, from the list of items, what would be the 2-3 items that we could do that would help maintain our membership.

Floating Hydrant

Safety (new signage: e.g. No Wake Signs)

Realtors/new owners contact

### **New Business**

None.

**Audience and Board Comments**

Thanks to the Board for there efforts and have a good year.

President Stepich thanked Scott Hoadley and Barb Van Hout for their service to the Association; he welcomed Kent Walczak and John Phillips who are joining the Board in April.

Joe talked about the Yacht Club and the support they offered for the food pantry. Next year the PPLA will support the local food pantry as well.

**Adjournment**

A motion was made by Charlie Pater and seconded by Ken Kregel to adjourn the meeting. The meeting was adjourned at 10:45 AM.

Respectfully submitted,

Ray Lechner, PPLA Board Member

**2010 PPLA MEMBER SURVEY  
DRAFT OF SURVEY AREAS AND PROJECTS**

**SURVEY AREAS**

Lake quality  
Safety  
Preservation of wildlife  
Community involvement  
Government involvement  
Social  
Property development  
Member participation  
Communications  
Future revenue  
Relationship with PPLF

**PROJECTS**

Seawalls/ rip rap  
Floating hydrant  
Roads & road safety  
New owner contacts  
Rain gardens  
Realtors' support  
Clean boats/clean lake  
Ecology dive  
House signs  
Extra sheriff lake patrols  
Boating safety education  
Use of PPLA website  
Dock deicers  
PPLA merchandise sales  
Lake level management  
Aeration testing