

THE LAKE CHEMUNG
HERON



LAKE CHEMUNG RIPARIAN ASSOCIATION

Meeting Minutes

February 1, 2017

Meeting Minutes By: Kay Beher, LCRA Secretary

Attendance:

- **Board Members Present:** Ryan Hoffecker, Jackie Cozart, Marie Lloyd, Kay Beher, Ginny Himich, Theresa Smith, Jason Hendley
- **Board Members Absent:** Patty Warner
- **Other Attendees**

Meeting called to order: 7:05 p.m. by Ginny Himich

New Business:

Training Opportunities

We discussed the upcoming training opportunities available to the board. The LCRA will pay the registration fees for interested participants.

Theresa Smith expressed interest in attending the Shoreline and Shallows Conference to be held March 9, 2017, at the Kellogg Center. Early bird registration fee is \$45; late registration fee beginning February 25th is \$50. Ginny indicated that three people from Sunrise Park had also expressed an interest in attending and suggested the LCRA pay their registration fees. All were in agreement.

Ryan Hoffecker will be attending the Michigan Lake and Stream Annual Conference to be held at Crystal Mountain Resort on April 21 & 22, 2017.

The Lake and Stream Leaders Institute is conducted in three in-depth sessions. Dates are June 2-3, August 18-19 and October 6. Registration fee of \$400 (includes lodging and meals) must be received by the end of March. No one committed to participating in this intensive program at this time.

Water Sampling

CLMP – Volunteer sampling for Summer 2017. The Board discussed selecting a volunteer to replace Patty Warner's husband who was conducting the water sampling and testing for Lake Chemung. There are three separate tests: chlorophyll is conducted monthly on the 15th of the month from May through September; Secchi disk testing (for turbidity) is conducted weekly from May through September, and phosphorous is collected twice during the summer season (once approximately two weeks after the ice melts from the lake and once in late August). **Ryan Hoffecker** volunteered to perform the tests with **Jason Hendley** as his back-up. One or both will need to take the training at Crystal Mountain in April to learn the procedures for sample collection.

Special Assessment District Renewal

There was considerable discussion about the renewal of our Lake Management special assessment district (SAD). When the assessment was originally set up, Genoa Township added the special assessment tax into the summer tax bill. As such, the money has historically been collected by the township in September. The SAD is renewed every five years and the current SAD is due to end December 31, 2017. Our Lake Manager, ProgressiveAE, has approached the township to see if a switch could be made to pay the assessment in our winter taxes so the monies are collected in March and available for summer work up front. Ginny Himich has been in contact with Polly Skolarus, the Genoa Township Clerk, and if we make the switch now, the downside is that residents will be double assessed for the first year (the current assessment is \$99.25).

All board members were in agreement that changing the SAD to the winter tax bill is beneficial, but it is important that the information and benefits be conveyed to taxpayers in advance. The township will need to conduct two public hearings. **Ginny Himich** will coordinate with Pam Tying of ProgressiveAE to put together a budget to be presented to Genoa Township. The township will then set up two public hearings (required by law) to solicit comments from residents to be included in the SAD. During the hearings, Pam (or another lake management representative) will be available to answer residents' questions about the various weed control measures proposed for use during the upcoming five-year SAD extension (2018-2022). Ryan Hoffecker will alert residents via Facebook and Ginny will put a notice on www.lake-chemung.com. **Ginny Himich** will coordinate with Genoa Township and ProgressiveAE on the SAD extension and the necessary public hearings.

The Board discussed the possibility that we may want to invite Pam Tying to attend a board meeting prior to the two upcoming public hearings to talk about lake management. This possibility will be explored further at a future meeting.

LCRA Newsletter

The Board also discussed how we could better communicate with lake residents and threw out ideas on how we could generate interest in the LCRA and raise funds for social activities (such as the 4th of July fireworks) that cannot be funded through money collected for lake management ONLY.

Marie Lloyd and **Ryan Hoffecker** volunteered to brainstorm ideas for a newsletter that will be published in the spring. It was suggested that we sell "advertising" space in the newsletter and on our website to local businesses in exchange for donations.

All board members are to bring topics and ideas for the newsletter to the next meeting. **Marie Lloyd** volunteered to work on the design for the newsletter.

Other Business

Ginny turned over keys to the LCRA post office box (195 at Howell post office) to Marie Lloyd and Kay Beher. Kay will check the box periodically and alert members of any mail that requires the group's attention.

Ginny turned the LCRA's checkbook over to Treasurer Marie Lloyd.

Next Meeting: Wednesday, March 8, 2017, at 7 pm. Ryan will check on availability of the Elks Lodge.

Meeting adjourned at 9:00 p.m.