

BEAR LAKE LAKE BOARD

REGULAR MEETING

Thursday June 10, 2021, 6:00PM

Virtual Tele-Meeting held via Zoom as permitted by Governor Whitmer's
Executive Order #2020-75

MINUTES

CALL TO ORDER: The meeting was called to order by Kim Arter at 6:02PM

ROLL CALL:

- **Present:** Kim Arter, Darrell Van Fossan, Brenda Moore(Phone), and Craig Howell
- **Absent:** Doug Brown(Excused)
- **Also:** Dr. Jennifer Jermalowicz-Jones of RLS, Jeff Connors and John Tucci of EverBlu, and Tracy DeMarse (NM City Treasurer)

MINUTES: To be presented at next Meeting.

REPORTS:

- **Restorative Lake Sciences** – Dr. Jones reported that the Lake had a fast warm-up and surface temperatures were in the low 70's. When they did their survey, they found 10.8 acres of Eurasian Watermilfoil, 1.6 acres of Curly Pond Leaf and a 10th of an acre of Phragmites. On May 5th the water quality sampling low phosphors levels in some areas and high phosphorus levels in others. The Lake is sensitive to nutrient input and can cause algae to take over. The algae is Green Algae, which is not as bad as Blue Green Algae, it contains no toxins. Darrell Van Fossen asked if RLS could do a Green Algae treatment. Dr. Jones commented that a algae shoreline treatment could cause fish kills in these higher temperatures. A Discussion on Fenner's Ditch and aeration which also talked about circulation. Dr. Jones commented that Se-Clear and chelated copper could be used which doesn't get into the sediment. Brenda Moore commented that Green Algae is unsightly and a nuisance but not toxic. Darrell Van Fossan commented that with the Green Algae along the shoreline you can't use the Lake. Dr. Jones talked about a press release and will work on something for the Board.
- **EverBlue** – Jeff Connors began discussing the Public Hearing for the aeration permit. After the publics hearing EGLE has 60 days to make a decision on permit. They then have 30 days to issue/or not the permit. John Tucci talked about the supplies needed for the aeration project. Products could take longer due to Covid and supply chains. Brenda Moore asked what the drop-dead date would be to get the system in place. John Tucci replied that it could be installed this Fall before Winter shutdown. Could have a month to run before shutdown. The Fall install and running would not be charged for payment would start in the Spring. Kim Arter asked if something for Fenner's Ditch could be done. John Tucci advised that the Ditch needs horizontal water movement, which would be better than bottom movement, and can be done. This would be a portable unit that can be moved around depending on the conditions. Craig Howell added that he doesn't see much on the N. Muskegon side. That side isn't as bad as it was 2 years ago. Darrell Van Fossan commented that the N. Muskegon side is deeper than the Laketon side. Darrell Van Fossan commented that there are approximately 260 residents for a mailing.

- **Treasurer** – Darrell Van Fossan will update report at next meeting for second quarter

COMMUNICATIONS: None

OLD BUSINESS: None

NEW BUSINESS: Darrell Van Fossan made a motion to treat algae along the shoreline and Fenner's Ditch. Brenda Moore Support.

Roll Call Vote: Yes-Arter, Howell, Moore, Van Fossan
No-None

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Peter Yonker(524 Lake Dr.)Press release good idea to not just riparian owners. Useful idea to educate and raise more awareness within N. Muskegon. Overall, not against aeration. Study done by GVSU in 2008 deals with nutrient levels. Lives next to storm drain, large amount of waste water going into lake. What else can we do?

Paul Pek(52 N. Bear Lake Rd.)Thank you for treating the lake for algae. Aeration system leased? What is lease fee. Concerned about transparency of system. Yearly lease?

Jim Panici(1505 Glenwood Ave.)Has any work been done to get Grants. Not a private Lake. Press release should be sent to residents.

Casey Fowler(580 Glenwood Ave.)wait and see. How much for each year and for how long?

Julia & Eric Keen(90 N. Bear Lake Rd.)Not just for aesthetics when treating for algae. Happy to hear Blue Green Algae is better.

Lori Archer(149 Glenwood Ave.)Why rush when we are seeing benefits? People think this is a 5yr. project.

Dave & Deb Shields(154 N. Bear Lake Rd.)heartened by number of residents participating. Felt they weren't being heard. Celery field makes it better. Number of septic systems on Lake. Maybe help for cost of hook-up is available.

Jim Panici(1505 Glenwood Ave.)overall cost of project. Grants for Bear Lake. Mileage for taxpayers in the County. Cost would go down. Oil on bottom of Lake. Will aeration get rid of that?

Merritt Archer(1499 Glenwood Ave.)Bear Lake has been here for generations. It can take care of itself.

Deb Shields(154 N. Bear Lake Rd.)Try to raise issue of spreading across City and Township.

Cindy Panici(1505 Glenwood Ave.)where will the power to run be. Will this take most of the dollars?

BOARD COMMENT:

Darrell Van Fossan commented that the past Budget for spraying was \$20,000 and have spent 12,000 this year. Will review 5 year plan and look at reducing the dollars. Muskegon Lake and Bear Lake are in the Area of Concern(AOC). The money came from EPA(Environmental Protection Agency) for Fenner's Ditch oil leak and celery flats. This grant is done and the AOC will be delisted soon. Grants will no longer be available thru this funding source. Brenda Moore commented on the work that was done upstream. The Ribe Drain, 4.5 miles at 3.2million assessment over 20 years. WMSRDC(West Michigan Shoreline Regional Development Commission)received smaller grant for a flow thru marsh upstream. Dr. Jones is always looking for grants. Will check and see if Mileage is feasible. Dr. Jones commented that no one was aware until feasibility study of the levels of oil on bottom of lake. Levels are not alarming. Vegetation allowed to grow and out compete with algae. Brenda Moore commented that we have had lots of public hearings. The Bear Lake Association walked away from managing Lake.

ADJOURN: Brenda Moore made the motion to adjourn at 7:30pm, Craig Howell supported the motion. Motion carried by voice vote.

Respectfully Submitted:
Tracy DeMarse
Recording Secretary

Approved by the Bear Lake Lake Board on _____

Signed:_____