

Maple Lake Association Meeting May 15, 2025

The board members present: Frank, Don, Anne, Doug, Dona, Diane, Sherry. Missing Mike Pioch and Sue Founé. Public attending Roman.

Minutes of April Meeting (Mike): No changes. Approved by Dona and 2nd by Diane.

Treasurer report (Anne) Balance in Bank account \$11,229.57. Still need to pay subscriptions to Riparian and MLSA. New members still are not receiving the Riparian. Frank suggested speaking to Melanie P. Approved by Dona and 2nd by Doug.

MLSA meeting (Mike) Absent from meeting this week.

Region 3 Lake meeting (Don/ Frank): Good meeting with a lot in attendance by several lakes in the area. Representatives from the lakes discuss what they are doing on their lakes and share information about the weed applications.

SAD (Special Assessment District) (Frank): Frank has composed and sent the letter to the Township clerk and attorney regarding the request to renew for additional 6 years (2025 – 2031) to avoid having to get signatures from everyone that owns property on the lake to agree to a change. Will continue with the same 3% lake assessment as it has been for the past years (no increase to property owners) There is \$20,000 in the MLA fund to possibly cover anything lacking. Approved by Anne and 2nd by Doug.

Weed Control (Don): Getting ready to schedule the treatments to the Lake. ½ of the lake treated first (1st week of June). The other half of the lake will be treated approximately 2nd week of June. The entire lake must be treated by June 15th. State of MI requirement.

Lake Clean Up (VBCD) (Frank): Van Buren County Conservation district wants to do a lake clean up on Maple Lake. The date is scheduled for Aug 9th with a rainout date of Aug 16th. They want to come and make a presentation at one of the Township meetings to explain the plan/process. The plan is to go around the lake with Kayak, Canoes or boats and pick up trash in and around the lake. Suggested that the MLA members join on that day to assist with the cleanup. Additional information is also in the section where Roman gives Village updates.

Village Updates (Roman): Roman has filed the 501C3 form to keep MLA a non-profit. This needs to be done electronically. Roman has given Anne a copy which she will forward to Frank. The State of Michigan also requires a filing, which is usually done in the fall. Roman will take care of this as well.

Damage has been done again to the bathrooms on Maple Island. In the process of repairing them now. They will re-open when they are completed. They will remain open once completed until the bridge construction begins.

Bridge construction is slated to start right after July 4th. The bridge will be closed to foot traffic until the project is complete. Maple Island will be closed to pedestrians. Will still be able to access the Island via boats but there will be no restrooms or maintenance service while the construction is ongoing. The potential proposed end date is late October. The lake will not be lowered to complete this project.

Board members mention the lake seems very high as it is splashing over the docks and retaining walls. Roman mentioned the dam automatically controls the levels, but said he would check with the maintenance team to see if they can make a slight change to correct that for a while until the lake recedes. (4-6" was a suggested amount)

The Village has approved maple Lake cleanup. Dates are listed in the prior topics' Aug 9th / rain date Aug 16th. Van Buren County Conservation will put out a request for volunteers. June 3rd is the meeting at the Township, which Frank Walters will be attending. A presentation will be done explaining the process and discussing how to discard the trash and so on. Cost was thought to be around \$2300, but the group feels there is no reason to rent a dumpster, and the Village can help manage that portion of the project. Dona will put an announcement on the FB page Frank mentions he can ask for some flyers to put with the flags that are put out when the lake gets treated.

Update on the Dam - still waiting for the permit from DEQ. It should be coming shortly. Bids are out and should be coming back in the next couple of weeks. Some contractors are afraid to bid now, due to the tariffs that could increase costs later once its approved. The tubes will be replaced with a different system (A Labyrinth dam). The state has allowed \$1.95 million dollars for this project. It needs to be done as it is 100 years old. There will be a new foot bridge over top. Contractors must satisfy the DEQ requirements. We have already spent \$500K on engineering drawings already.

Website (Dona): Newsletter has been delayed as we were waiting on the response regarding the SAD. Dona will now send out a sample to Frank for his comments and approval.

Packets for new lake owners are available. Discussion about adding 1 magnet to the packet which all seemed to approve of. Dona will meet Sherry and get 10 magnets to start, and Sherry will submit an invoice to the treasurer to be paid at \$6.00 each. A Packet will be dropped at to the people who purchased Ted Majors home. Doug approved the purchase and Diane 2nd the motion.

T-shirts / Hats (Diane): Diane has researched the hats, and we can get them for \$20 each and we all agreed to sell them for the same to be able to cover the cost. Diane will start with a purchase of 20 hats.

Discussion about getting flags to be able to put on the boats for the boat parade or just for anyone to purchase. Frank discouraged the: Yacht Club” printed on the flag and the discussion was to put Maple Lake Paw Paw on the flag instead. Diane will bring the information back to the printer and get us a cost.

Grants (Sue): No news Sue absent.

Communications (Dona): Dona reviewed the dates for the sand bar tie ups and will add the dates/times to the newsletter. Dates are June 21st, July 19th, and August 23 all at 6:30 PM.

Ladies of the Lake will be at the home of Reeva per Anne. August 2nd is the agreed upon date. More information to come on this.

End of the year potluck will be cancelled due to Maple Island being closed. A vote was taken and all agreed to cancel it for 2025. Motion approved by Anne and 2nd by Doug.

Boat parade is planned for Saturday of the Paw Paw Wine and Harvest Festival, which is Sept 6th. Sherry has agreed to head the committee and has asked Diane and Dona to help. This committee will meet in early June to discuss details. More information to come.

Motion to adjourn this meeting by Don and 2nd by Doug; all agreed.

