



Glen Lake Association Annual Meeting Minutes
August 11, 2019

Directors Present: Corrine Cochran, Dale DeJager, Tom Dutmers, David Herr, Ranae Ihme, Edward Lanphier, Lori Lyman, Bill Meserve, Vic Peirce and Bill Witler.

Staff Present: Joe Blondia, Tricia Denton, Cecelia Denton, Bruce and Laura Hood, Rob Karner, Sallyanne Morris, Lenora Paige and Laura Wiesen.

Meeting called to order at 10:09am.

Motion was made to approve the 2018 Annual Meeting Minutes. All approved.

President David Hayes presented agenda items and introduced the directors and staff that are present. He also introduced our Parliamentarian Mike Lyman and our Proctor Sue Dutmers.

Our proctor Sue Dutmers announced that we have a Quorum.

Slides 1-5

Stewardship Awards:

Rob stated that presentation of Annual Stewardship Awards is one way the GLA recognizes outstanding efforts to protect and preserve our watershed. This year we focused in on the Fisher Lake Canal. We are recognizing two families, one on each side of that canal.

Jim and Barbara Backus and Mimi and Judy Gass were recognized and presented an award for maintaining a natural shoreline to protect the water. As owners of the bottom lands of the Fisher Canal, the way they maintain their property has a significant and direct impact on water quality.

Slides 6-11

State of the Lake:

Rob spoke about the major threats to our water such as biological pollution, including invasive species, malfunctioning and failed septic systems, and the dam that holds back sediment in Hatlem Creek.

Home visits by invitation of property owners began in 2004 and continue to be one of Rob's favorite aspects of the job. The consultations are free. Rob works with owners to find ways to meet needs of the owners that are also water friendly. County Drain Commissioner, Steve Christiansen, also notifies Rob when shoreline permits are requested so that Rob can offer his consultation services to property owners making alterations along the shore

The GLA conducted its first drone survey in 2017 and we are ready for round 2 in 2019. The archived images from 2017 will be compared to 2019 to identify changes to our sensitive shorelines.

In 2017 our Intern Erica Becker completed a bio-diversity health study of the lower regions of Crystal River and in 2019 the upper and lower reaches were surveyed by staff Bruce Hood with assistance from Intern Cecelia Denton.

Sediment from Hatlem Creek remains a concern for the south shore residents. The GLA has budgeted for the next maintenance dredge and is making annual contributions in preparation for the next maintenance dredge estimated for 2029.

A Glen Lake-Crystal River Watershed Management Plan was created in 2009 and is due to be updated. Yarrow Brown with the Leelanau Conservancy is chairing the Update Steering Committee. Mike Litch has approved use of his wife's memorial fund to help start this project. and make the project eligible to apply for grants. The update will take place over the next 2 years.

The Watershed Protection Project Task Force is an effort of the GLA to engage with the four townships in our watershed to adopt uniform water protection ordinances. The goal of the Task Force is to better protect surface and groundwater. Rob co-chairs the Task Force with Jim Dutmers, representatives of the four townships in the Glen Lake-Crystal River Watershed also participate. The first goal of the Task Force has been to promote adoption of time of transfer well and septic inspection ordinances in each township. Glen Arbor and Cleveland Township have already passed well and septic inspection ordinances. Empire will vote Tuesday. Approval of an overlay district with enhanced water protection ordinances will be pursued next.

Boat wash staff have begun collecting information from people fishing in order to conduct a Creel Census. This information will help the DNR improve their fish stocking process.

We received our second year of \$30,000 from the Trulaske Family Foundation to support GLA boat wash operations. The Trulaskes have pledged \$90,000 total.

Ongoing hydrolab measurements are taken on Big Glen, Little Glen and Hatlem Creek and are conducted with assistance of Laura Weisen. Water temperature is going up and it is staying warm longer. This is not good in the long term. Our PH is staying stable. Our turbidity (cloudiness) is not worrisome. Mike Litch has assisted with data tabulation and troubleshooting technical difficulties.

Studies of septic system studies are taking a shift. Formerly we walked the shoreline and looked for algae. Beginning in 2018, we began testing for enteric bacteria in the water and will use this

information along with aerial drone images to better identify problem areas related to human caused pollution.

Conductivity readings taken each for the last 6 years at 12 inlet locations show no major problems.

Our Swimmer's itch trap team set a record this year with 16 broods and 159 mergansers trapped and moved off our lake. One theory is that the storm of 2015 created more nesting sites. A new species of itch parasite has been discovered in fecal samples taken of swim rafts and docks. Every Tuesday volunteers are taking water samples at ten different sites around both lakes.

GLA Intern, Cecelia Denton helped with trapping, migratory bird survey, water sample collection and the Crystal River Study. Thanks to both the Dutmer and Witler families for funding the Internship Program.

The Discovery Boat had 12 educational cruises this summer, each lasting 2 hours. Thanks to Ann Davey, Joe Blondia and Laura Weisen for their hard work assisting.

Aquatic Gardens diversity are studied by raking and grabbing plants, aerial and underwater drone shots and snorkeling.

Slides 12-39

Guardian Program: Tricia stated that everything that happens in the air, on the ground or under the ground, all affects our water. She is encouraging everyone to become engaged and take the Guardian Pledge and minimize adverse effects on our Watershed. We had 445 Guardians at the end of last year.

Our Michigan Shoreland Survey participants put us top in the state at 89 having completed the survey in our Watershed. There are about 40 questions in the survey.

Tricia encouraged anyone who loves the watershed and loves talking to people to consider becoming a neighborhood ambassador.

We have had some great news coverage. We continue with a series of mailings that includes ex-members, riparians who are not members and riparians along the Crystal River.

We were represented in the 4th of July parade. We are gearing up to celebrate our 75th Anniversary in 2020.

Slide 40

Financials: Treasurer David Herr introduced his Finance and Investment Committee. It includes himself, Andy DuPont, Jim Good, Roy Pentilla, Charles Ofenloch, Kurt Rivard and Bill Stege. David stated that the Net Assets of the General Fund, for everyday expenses, are \$437,248. The Net Assets of the Watershed Fund, for unforeseen events, are \$451,414. Net Assets of the Temporarily Restricted Fund, set aside for specific purposes, are \$122,140. And the Net Assets of the Endowment Fund, a permanent mixed bonds fund with GTRCF, are \$251,214. Since 2018 there has been an increase in Net Assets of \$119,251.

Our revenue has exceeded expenditures for the last 3 years, in 2016 by \$8,000, in 2017 by \$5,000 and in 2018 by \$16,000.

Of the \$285,000 in revenue sources, 75% are from member contributions. General expenditures for 2018 were \$221,000 which included costs for Administrative, Membership communications, Guardian Program, Invasive Species, Water Quality and Swimmer's Itch.

Motion was made to accept the Financial Report for 2019. All in Favor.

Slides 41-48

Committee Summary Reports:

Strategic Plan: Our Mission is to preserve and protect the water quality, natural resources and quality of life in the Glen Lake watershed through leadership, education and collaboration. The Vision is to be the recognized leader in evidence-based strategies for protecting the Glen Lake watershed while advancing environmental education, sustainable policies and quality of life. What everyone can do personally is to join in protecting our natural resources, learn about the Association, become a Glen Lake Guardian, Volunteer, share your thoughts and questions with us, donate and help us attain our goals and build your own legacy around making a difference to protect and preserve this one of a kind place.

Slides 49-53

Membership Records: Membership dues received as of August 1st, is ahead of prior years at \$118,550. The membership drive continues in 19 neighborhoods, seeking Ambassadors for 4 more. 45% of our members support the GLA at Sustaining Level or above.

Slides 54-59

Cooperative Lakes Monitoring Program: These volunteers, Andy DuPont, Edward Lanphier, Bruce Lichliter, Mike Litch, John and Barb Lund, Bill Meserve and Tim Westbay, monitor phosphorous, transparency, chlorophyll a and aquatic plants. There is value in comparing our lakes to others in the state and it is a great asset to our Water Quality program.

Slide 60

Aquatic Invasive Species: Volunteers conduct annual invasive aquatic plant surveys by raking up plants from many locations in Big and Little Glen, Big Fisher and Brooks lakes. Early detection enables a rapid eradication response. Last year curly leaf pondweed was discovered in Brooks Lake, the only invasive aquatic plant found in our watershed lakes in the past 11 years. This year a small patch was again present, but it had not spread. Coltsfoot eradication on the shore continues and Yellow Iris has spread. Plans for eradication are underway. The secchi disk readings indicate that the water clarity of Big Glen is increasing over the last 15 years. This is probably due to zebra mussels filtering out plankton which small fish feed on.

Slides 61-65

Water Level: The committee consists of Rob Meyer, Dave Bohmer, Rick Fink, Greg Halik, Alan Kasper, John Kassarian, Calvin Killen, John Lund, Dale DeJager, Mike McDonald, Bill Merserve, Victor Peirce, Dave Pejsa, John Pepler, Vic Theiss, Tim Westbay and Matt Wiesen. The water level charts track some impressive rain events. July has been an unusually wet month. There were over 100 trips to the dam by volunteers and 32 dam changes during the past year.

Slides 64-66

Boat Wash: There are 5 paid staff and 4 volunteers that keep the boat wash program going. In 2018 there were 3,749 total watercraft. Year to date July 31 there were 2,241. For the 2019 M22 Challenge, 563 kayaks were interviewed and washed. 2019 also was the inaugural year for our Creel Census which will help the DNR refine our fish restocking.

Slides 67-68

Auxiliary Committee: Volunteers include Joan Kramps, Felicia Bloom, Gay Budinger, Carolyn Chormann, Ann Davey, Meg DeJager, Barb LeJeune, Pat Smith, Marcia Rose and Rita Witler. They worked 50+ hours on 1500+ mailings which include newsletter, remittance envelopes and Proxy cards.

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Technology Committee: Members include Cal Killen, Dale DeJager Andy DuPont, Rick Fink and Bill Meserve. Using new technologies developed last year they recorded water level and flow on the Crystal River at culvert #3 near M22. This technology is useful for alerting to high water and/or culvert obstruction. This technology will replace obsolete technology for recording water level/river flow at the Narrows and Dam. These new technologies are less expensive to buy, less expensive to operate and provide more flexibility in operation. New technologies for measuring turbidity in Hatlem Creek were also explored.

Slides 70-71

Long Range Planning: Members include Peter Anderson, Denny Becker, Dick Chormann, Andy DuPont, Jim Dutmers, David Hayes, Charles Ofenloch, John Rockwood and Bill Witler. In 2018 the committee was in a standby mode as the GLA board developed its long-term strategic plan.

75th Anniversary 1945-2020: A new location and format are being planned for the Annual Meeting. A video is being produced commemorating 75 years of the GLA protecting the watershed. There will be e-commerce items for purchase, a website for archiving family history, stories and pictures and there will be bi-monthly eblasts sharing important GLA history.

Slide 73

Development Committee: Members include Bob Berlacher, Elizabeth Carr, David Cassard, Richard Chormann, David Herr, Lori Lyman, Charles Ofenloch, Dee Smith and Bill Witler. The goal of this committee is to provide long term financial stability for the association thus enabling the preservation of our fragile natural resource for future generations and support of our watershed protection programs.

Slide 74

GLA Legends Program: You can include GLA in your Estate Planning. Legends partake in an exclusive annual event. Contact the Development Committee to learn more.

Slide 75

Board Nominations:

Nominating Committee: Peter Anderson-chair, Joy Kryder and Bill Witler (non-voting/board liaison).

Board Nominations: Rick Fink – three-year term, Stan Kryder – three - year term, David Hayes – second three - year term, and Vic Peirce second three-year term.

Results of Election: All nominations approved.

Proposed By-Law Change for the Annual Meeting Date: Article V, Section 1 now states that the meeting “will be held on the second Saturday of August”. The Board proposes that it instead read “will be held on a date in July or August of each year as selected by the Board of Directors”.

Motion was made to approve the by-law date change for the Annual Meeting. Motion was approved.

Questions: Discussion followed on identifying yellow iris and a possible timetable for dredging the Fisher Lake Channel.

Retiring Board Members, Cal Killen and Bill Meserve were both presented with Funistrada gift cards in appreciation of each serving 6 years on the board.

Motion was made to adjourn at 11:36 All in favor.

Respectfully submitted,
Sallyanne Morris