

**Austin Lake Riparian Board of Directors
Minutes of December 5, 2012**

Wightman & Associates - 9835 Portage Rd. Portage, MI

Present: Kirk Wolf, Gary Hahn, Win Larsen, Dan Peacock, Jim Pearson, Pat Guilford, Larry Pio, Steve Higgins, Brian Johnson

Absent: Brett Grossman, Norm Young, Dani Kinder

1. Open

The meeting was called to order at 7:05 p.m. in the conference room of Wightman & Associates by Board President Kirk Wolf.

2. Approval of minutes from September 12, 2012 meeting

The minutes from the September 12, 2012 meeting were approved unanimously. They have been posted on the website.

3. Treasurer's Report

ALR Treasurer, Larry Pio, reported that there have been no changes in our balance since the last quarter:

a. General Fund: The Treasurer's report indicates there is a total of \$3,742.87 in the general fund.

b. Lake Improvement Fund: The Treasurer's report shows \$113.700 in the lake improvement fund.

c. Social Fund: The social fund shows a balance of \$500.00.

d. The total bank balance is \$4,356.57.

Treasurer Pio said that the Federal 990-N has already been filed for our corporation for this year, but the Annual Michigan Corporate Report has not yet been submitted. He also clarified for the Members of the Board our non-profit status. Whereas we are a registered non-profit corporation in the state of Michigan, we are not a 501-C3. Therefore, donations to ALR are not tax deductible. The Treasurer's Financial Report details activity since the last meeting. It was accepted unanimously and is attached to these minutes.

4. Newsletter/Website Report

President Wolf reported for Norm Young in his absence:

a. Advertising summary: No advertising sales

b. Resident postings on the website: No Riparian has posted anything on our website.

c. Website advertising: We have had no requests to place ads on our website.

5. Social Committee Report

In the absence of our Social Chairperson Dani Kinder, President Wolf initiated a discussion of potential social events for ALR. He reviewed that in 2012 we hosted a Boat Brunch, a Boat Parade, and a Progressive Dinner. He proposed that we consider a golfing event on the ice in the south bay if safe ice forms.

6. Old business

a. Lake safety: President Wolf asked for a volunteer to draft a proposal for a lake safety sign to be placed at the public landing. Win Larsen offered to take on this project. It was also reported that someone has taken a sign that ALR had placed there previously.

b. Review of pontoon trailer rental agreement: Right Way Rental is still advertised on the ALR website for pontoon trailer rental because ALR has not yet entered into a formal arrangement with another company. We have not yet received a written proposal for our review.

c. ALR communication: Secretary Guilford reported that using mailbox notes to request email addresses for our mailing list does not result in any responses. However, door-to-door invitations are very successful. She suggested that we continue with the 20 neighborhoods concept and get a contact person for each one. Kudos to President Wolf and Member Win Larsen who have already found contact persons for several neighborhoods. All Board Members present volunteered to find contact persons for the remainder of the neighborhoods who do not have representatives as yet. Secretary Guilford offered to write up a description of the duties for the Neighborhood Contact Person. This may assist our Board Members in their recruiting efforts.

d. Board member liability issues:

There was an extensive discussion concerning the pros and cons of purchasing Board Member liability insurance, but there was no motion regarding this issue. It was suggested by President Wolf that we table this discussion until Alternate Member/Attorney Brett Grossman can make a presentation regarding board member liability at our next meeting.

e. Governmental Lake Board (GLB) Report: Brian Johnson, lake resident member on the GLB and Vice President of ALR, presented an extensive report regarding the current lake improvement project. He shared this information;

1) One south bay resident challenged the assessment and lost. He appealed to the State Tax Tribunal and was overturned there as well.

2) There will be a meeting of the GLB in January. There have been some changes in membership that will be announced.

3) John Tucci of Lake Savers thought that the bubbler system was working quite well during the summer months. They put in a partial bacterial load this summer as the compressors came on too late for a full load. Compressors must be powering the bubblers at all times after bacteria are added. The compressors have been wrapped in plastic and grills placed over them for the winter.

4) The bubblers continued in operation until December 1. The DNR requires they be turned off in the winter so that ice can safely form for recreational activities.

5) Complaints about the sound and aesthetics of the compressors will be addressed next spring. An architect has been hired to design attractive covers and planting arrangements.

6) VP Johnson praised the members of the GLB for their efforts to keep the budget for the Austin Lake improvement project as low as possible.

7) Since installation this summer, one bubbler was reported as having stopped. Lake Savers responded immediately and fixed it the next day.

8) Member Win Larsen asked if a contract with Lake Savers is available for the public to read. VP Johnson reported that he has not yet seen a contract but believes one should be available soon.

7. New Business

Secretary Guilford suggested we consider collecting dues. The discussion included President Wolf stating that our bylaws allow us to collect dues, but that all landowners on the lake are considered members. Thus, there would be no consequences regarding membership for those who did not pay. Other members thought it would also be very time-consuming. No motions were proposed.

8. Date/Time/Place of next meeting: Tuesday, February 5, 2013 at Gary Hahn's office at Wightman & Associates, Inc. located at 9835 Portage Road, Portage, MI

9. Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 8:36 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Patricia M. Guilford, Secretary