

Lake Sherwood General Membership Meeting

July 26, 2023, 6:30 PM

Oak Valley Middle School

52 households in attendance

The Official Start of the Lake Sherwood General Membership Meeting was at 6:34 PM by President Steve Biebel.

Steve asked if there were any new members in attendance. Jim Byrne on Winewood, Erik Peterson on Driftwood, and George Fadool on Wavewood introduced themselves and the membership welcomed them to the neighborhood.

The first order of business is the approval of the minutes from the May 20th, 2023 General Membership Meeting. Motion made by Adam Piper and seconded by Dan Devine to accept the minutes as printed in the View, motion passed.

He asked that everyone be courteous and not interrupt whomever is speaking. He went on to let homeowners know if they have suggestions, or would like to volunteer to contact anyone on the Executive Board or Area Representatives, which can be found in the View or on the website.

Vice President, Jody Payne introduced herself. Please let her know if anyone has any suggestions.

Treasurer, Paul MacDonald reported that we are still early into the season for billing purposes. There have been 2 weed applications thus far. As of last week, there are 16 members who have not paid their dues. Letters will go out to those members soon. He thanked Gloria Hughes for all she contributes to making the fireworks happen. This was the first time the fireworks were delayed a day due to weather. The Board will be having a meeting in August to set up the budget for next year. If anyone has anything they need budgeted please send the information to Paul soon. He mentioned that our volunteers save us thousands of dollars every year. The Association saved approximately \$20,000.00 on Sunset Island alone. The reserve fund at this point has approximately \$500,000, with many bills yet to be paid for the year. It was suggested by a couple members that we look into an interest bearing account with some of the money now that some banks are paying 4% interest. Paul said we may pay fees that would offset the interest earned on the financial statements. He also will look into a better interest earning account.

Recording Secretary, Diane DeVincent had nothing to report.

Corresponding Secretary, Thea Vagiates, not present, and had nothing to report.

Water Quality, TJ Gurski, not present. Steve B. reported that he is in possession of 35 Eutrosorb bags and has 3-4 volunteers to help place them in culverts this upcoming weekend. The committee will maintain the bags over the rest of the season. A map will be posted of the known culverts, if anyone knows of others, they should contact Steve. A new committee has been suggested that would go by the name of Water Health. We are looking for a few volunteers to help address water issues in the lake and how to remedy the water quality. Dan D. reported that Dr. Jude's analysis will not be ready till maybe February.

Boat Ramp, Todd Wood said that there have been 714 uses of the ramp with no issues. There has been only 4 technical issues and 8 violations of people not closing the gate and lending out their ramp card. Nine members have lost their cards, replacement cards cost \$20.00. The system is costing the Association around \$30-40 dollars per month in electricity. He will be purchasing some spare parts over the coming months in case of a breakdown. The main dock at the ramp was in bad shape and some volunteers repaired and upgraded it. Lastly, on the board at the ramp is a list of the 9 members on the ramp committee, if someone has a problem, they should contact one of the members.

Beautification, Karen Adams said that the grass is scheduled to be cut once a week. However, rain or mechanical issues may alter the schedule. He will be mowing till November 15th. Arbor Green is in the 2nd of a 3-year contract. He is paid extra to clean up goose poop. Skiers Island has been seeded 3 times now and nature has not been good for growing grass with heavy rains and drought. The addition of new top soil will be assessed. Some topsoil will be added and it will be seeded again this fall. Cheryl Mueller made a point that we could do better with the landscaping and asked what we could do to help. It was suggested that more money be added to the budget. A comment was made regarding the 4 corners of the Ledgewood Bridge being overgrown. Kathy Sawicki said that 3 of the corners are on privately owned land, she will contact the homeowners to see about what can be done to clean it up.

A-Lot, Linda Gepper there are 11 open slips, with 2 of them able to fit a pontoon boats.

Website, Rick Kirchner reported that there are 304 registered users. There are photo galleries that are being worked on. The site will host the previous 6 issues of the View, along with maps of the lake and Association. The Board minutes will also be posted. He is looking for comments and ideas going forward for improvements.

Social Committee, Jody Payne said the next event is the Anchors Down, Bottoms Up music event at the Katzman's point. Come and anchor your boat and enjoy the music from 2 till 6 PM. Then on August 6th the Fishing Tournament will take place, no registration is necessary. Be on Higgins Island at 6:30 AM, the event runs till 11:00. On September 16th at the south end of the lake by U-Turn Island there will be music from 3-5PM. Lastly, on October 7th is the Chili Cookoff at Kendall Park. Cheryl M. suggested we look into having a holiday party in December.

Islands, Tom Hochthanner and Andy Sarkisian reported the Skiers Island seawall project took several years to complete due to the State holding up permits for the work. Going forward they recognized that there is much more to do, so they came up with a 5-year plan to address future island issues, such as reseeding, deteriorating seawalls, shade structures and plantings. The deflector on Skiers Island needs to be sanded and painted. Another suggestion was to add steps to access Higgins Island. There are currently 8 members of the committee and are looking for a couple more from outside of the Board. They will have a meeting on July 27th at the boat ramp at 9 AM for anyone interested in helping.

Water Safety, Brandon Leslie is asking for consideration and be nice to each other while boating. If you see a boating violation, contact him with the information and he will contact the owner of the boat/jet ski to address the situation. The sheriff will be out on the lake periodically.

Ad Hoc Committees

Wildwood Canal, Gary Koch and Steve B. are working on multiple issues with the canal. The testing has taken place and the results were what they expected. The next step is with the State EGLE to let us know

what we can do. They were expecting a permit to take 3 more years, but it looks like we may get it this Fall. So, they are working on getting new quotes for the dredging. In the meantime, two different devices/methods for eating the muck will have been installed shortly. Measurements are being taken upon installation and performance will be evaluated in an ongoing fashion to determine if one performs better than the other. This information will be used if we decide to install these types of systems as a long-term maintenance measure after any dredging or silt removal if approved. These actions will be used for ongoing muck control at the end of the canal and possibly other areas if successful. This canal is the main source of water coming into the lake. To date \$27,781.00 has been spent on the project. They expect the dredging to be around \$100,000, which will require an additional vote by the membership. The initial money (\$77,000) was approved back in 2021.

By-Laws, Kathy Sawicki reported that the By-Law changes will have been published in the View the required 2 times and will be voted on at the Fall General Membership Meeting in October. They will take effect immediately after the vote. Any questions from the members can be directed to Kathy. The 2nd phase of the By-Law revisions will be worked on in the coming months. She would like to have 2 groups to handle the issues, one group dealing with home businesses and the second group handling short term rentals.

New/Old Business

Steve B. brought up the new group called the Kendall Park Preservation Committee. They as volunteers stepped up and cleaned, fixed, painted, and installed many yards of mulch to make the park a nice place. They have asked for a budget to maintain the park and the Board is happy to accommodate them with a budget for the coming years. This will be a new Operating Committee headed by Anna Thompson & Nalani Forster.

An appeal was made for some new volunteers to assist with the many projects in the neighborhood. A couple Area Representative positions may be available. Dave Fregerio and Anna Thompson volunteered. Any others who wish to be nominated should contact Steve B. by August 25th. The fall issue of the View will publish the nominations.

The beach closures due to E.coli at the Ledgewood A-Lot were caused by the large goose population on the lake and their poop. The beach has now been cleared for swimming. A permit is required to do a goose roundup. There was no goose round up for the past 2 years due to an Avian Flu. The State does not want to spread the virus to other areas in the state, so no permits were given and the result is a larger number of geese on the lake.

The township is in the process of requiring a septic tank inspection prior to the close of a home sale. It is felt that this will help to clear the lake of pollution from leaking septic tanks/fields. The system must pass to complete the sale of the home. Local Realtors will hopefully be educated soon on the requirements.

Motion to adjourn the meeting made by Rick Kirchner and seconded by Paul MacDonald. Meeting adjourned at 8:57 PM.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Diane DeVincent, Recording Secretary

