

## **Lower Spring Lake Protection & Rehabilitation District**

### **January 23, 2016 Minutes**

**Call to order:** President Carol Dixon called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m. Treasurer Vicki Bradford, Secretary Debby Bartolerio, and Village Board Representative Dave Turner were also present. In total, 24 Lake District members and Josh Gajewski were in attendance.

**Reading of the Minutes:** Debby read the minutes from August 29, 2015 Lake District Meeting. The minutes had several minor corrections and were approved as corrected.

**Treasurer's Report:** Vicki reported that the Lake District ended 2015 with a budget deficit of \$9,121.24. This was caused by a delay in the issuance of the Chemical Treatment Grant reimbursement check for \$13,856.57. Two factors contributed to this, a software change at the State as well as a misrouting of check by the Post Office. A new check has been issued and should be received this week. In addition, interest earned was \$148.57 higher than the budget projection.

The 2016 budget remains at \$14,125.00. There were slight adjustments in the allocation of funds, but the total remains the same as in 2015.

Receipts from the 2015 tax payments from the Town and Village have been deposited.

A \$50.00 donation to the Wounded Warriors Project was made in memory of Karen Smith.

**Chemical Treatment Grant:** Vicki reported the paper work has been submitted for the grant reimbursement.

**Boat Launch Improvement Report:** Al Fehrmann reported that a crane was brought in and the cement was lifted. Stones were forced underneath which improved the launch, however it still is not perfect. The width still poses challenges in launching and removing the weed cutter. Dave Henrichon stated the width of the Genesee launch is the same as ours.

Josh stated that the concrete post was removed and replaced with a plastic sleeve to facilitate launching the weed cutter. The approach and configuration are an improvement from the old launch.

**Dam Repair Update:** Josh provided a history of the dam and why the Village has assumed responsibility for the maintenance. He also provided details regarding the challenges as they relate to the repair/replacement. The "Mill Road" dam is surrounded by private property, and therefore inaccessible by Village staff without trespassing on private property. The current area is not large enough for a fixed crest dam. In addition, the foundation for the dam is shared by the millhouse.

Josh also provided a detailed explanation of the actions and considerations over the past 5 years by the Village to apply for a DNR grant. It has officially been approved by the Village Board and the application has been submitted.

The preliminary funding decisions are determined by a point scoring system, which has not been used in the past. Our application score was 348. The highest score is 380. Because this is a new system, it is unclear if this is a positive, negative, or neutral rating.

The grant funding parameters for the DNR's payment share are as follows:

50% of the first \$400,000  
25% of the next \$800,000

Based on a preliminary estimate of \$810,000, the balance to be paid after the grant funding would be approximately \$500,000. \$40,000 has already been spent by the Village for the work required to apply for the grant, some of which could be reimbursed by the grant funds. The approximate amount of funding needed is \$475,000, if all of the estimates are accurate.

Theoretically, in March the DNR will make the preliminary determination on the awarding of the grant funds. This will more likely take longer. Within 6 months of being awarded the grant, detailed plans must be submitted to the DNR. Once those are approved, within 3 months bids for the work must be obtained and presented to the DNR. The Village will make a final decision relative to the grant funds any time during or after this process.

**Carp Removal:** Pat Zimmerman provided some facts about carp - they affect the clarity of the lake, decrease the large mouth bass and sunfish population, and release phosphorous from the bottom sediment that causes algae. In an attempt to control, not eliminate the carp, a "Carp Shoot" is being organized. Anyone willing to help, or suggestions for "partners" in this event are welcome.

**Open Forum:**

As part of the dam discussion, a number of points were discussed:

- The Town can't be "forced" to contribute to the repairs
- The \$4,000 contribution from the Village to the Lake District, which was not received this year, could be considered a donation by the Lake District toward the dam repair.
- Jefferson County or FEMA may have funds available to help defer the cost of the dam
- Participation in both the Town and Village board meetings to reinforce the concern by residents about the dam condition/repair is encouraged

Gene Bevil advised that a new bicycle rack, which will hold 10 bikes, is being installed in the beach area, compliments of the Lions Club.

Al Fehrmann stated Scott will be our weed cutter again, and the Martins will take our weeds this year.

Greg Smith and Dave Henrichon advised that their group will no longer be able to remove the buoys from the lake. They will put them in this year, but they will not be removing them. DJ has shown an interest in performing this task, at a cost.

A number of people expressed concern about motorcycles driving on the lake. The issue is that they are extremely loud. The Police Department has been notified and will watch for them.

**Next Meeting:** Our next meeting will be March 12th at 10:00 a.m.

**Adjournment:** At 12:05 p.m. a motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Jim Dixon and seconded by Frank Loduha.