

THE BIRCH BARK

WHITE BIRCH RECREATIONAL ASSOCIATION

4730 Lake Rd, Farwell MI 48622

Office: 989-588-2853 Fax: 989-588-4924

Emergency: 989-588-7066

February 2011

www.whitebirch.org

**Hoping the new year brings the very best
of everything your way**

BOARD MEETING DATES FOR 2011

*All meetings are held at the clubhouse
unless otherwise specified.*

February	11	7:30 pm
Board workshop		
February	12	11:00 am
March	12	11:00 am
April	9	10:00 am

Vandals Take Copper Gas Tubing

Please be advised that there have been several incidents of vandalism of copper gas tubing at residences within the association within the last week or so. The tubing has been cut at the propane tanks and at the residences, presumably to be sold as scrap metal. Please be assured that the Clare County sheriff's department is involved and will prosecute to the fullest extent of the law but we need your help. We ask that everyone please be aware, observant and report any suspicious activity to the sheriff immediately.

Thank you!

Presidents Corner:

I would like to congratulate the Board, the employees, and the members of White Birch for the work and sacrifice's that have been done in the last two years. Because of the efforts on collecting back assessments, cost cutting and containment efforts the Association will have saved enough money to be able to make repairs to areas it hasn't been able to address for the last fifteen years or more due to the lack of funds. One of those would be the new windows in the clubhouse which has already been accomplished. There will be more repairs in the near future, as the board decides which line of order should be followed. There is very little around here that isn't lacking for some repairs.

In the last two years due to reducing payroll, the number of employees, supply costs being cut, services being limited, closing the pool for two months, and the collection efforts, White Birch's funds have grown well over \$200,000.00

Good job everybody for all your different parts to make this happen.

Thank you,
Bob Briggs



TREE TRIMMING

During the next several months, our maintenance crew will be cutting back the trees and brush along the roadways. Many of our roads are severely overgrown & they will be working on getting them cleaned out. If you would like to have any of the cut down trees for firewood, please take what you want. The piles of brush will be picked up in the spring during a final clean up.

NOMINATING COMMITTEE

The Nominating Committee is looking for volunteers to work on the 2011 Election. If you are interested, please sign up at the clubhouse. You can also call (989) 588-2853 or send an e-mail to the office. supervisor@whitebirch.org

The committee will be named by March 15, 2011. Thank you!



You don't have to wait to receive your Birch Bark? You can have it delivered a week earlier by e-mail.

Over 60 members have already signed on. It saves a lot of time and helps to keep our cost down.

Just e-mail Alice to be added to the list.

supervisor@whitebirch.org

OPERATION GRATITUDE

The activities committee is joining with the nonprofit, volunteer-based corporation Operation Gratitude to collect products for the care packages this organization sends to individual troops deployed all over the world. We are collecting for their Patriotic Drive which starts March 1st. We will continue to collect until April 15 at which time the donations will be sent to Operation Gratitude's headquarters. We have a wish list posted at the clubhouse or you can go to their website www.OperationGratitude.com to get more information. This is a new function for the Activities Committee and we encourage all members to help us give back to those who give so much.

THANK YOU



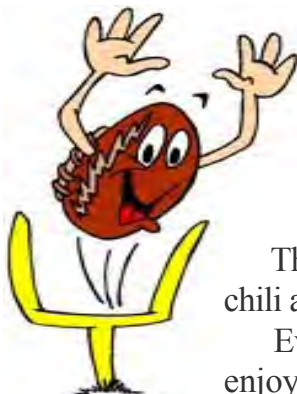
The activities committee would like to give special thanks to all the members that donated food products for our collections for both the local food pantry and the Christmas boxes.

The food pantry collection is on going and we hope that you will continue to donate to this worthy cause as the year continues. Thanks to all of you!!!

We also want to thank all who donated hats, gloves and mittens for the mitten tree. We have one member that goes above and beyond for this collection.

Special thank-you to "Grandma Betty" who has donated some of the most beautiful hand knit items. This is an ongoing project for her and anyone who would like to donate yarn for her can bring it to the clubhouse and we will make sure she gets it!!

February Activities



Come one come all to the 3rd annual
SUPERBOWL / CHILI COOK OFF

Sunday Feb. 6th starting at 4:30 pm.

The judging will start at 5:00 sharp so you need to have your chili at the clubhouse by 5:00 pm.

Everyone is welcome and you don't have to bring chili to enjoy this event - in fact it's a pot luck so you don't even have to eat chili if it's not your thing - there will be lots of other good things to enjoy !

50/50 Football squares \$2.00 a sq. \$25 a quarter and the remaining half of the proceeds go to future activities.

Come shake off the winter blues and enjoy spending some time with your neighbors!

KICK OFF approximately 6:25 est



**LINCOLN PARTY, Saturday February 12
8:00 – Midnight**



Costume optional! Bring your own beverage and a snack to share.
Play cards, darts, pool or just hang out and have a good time.

Board of Directors and Officers

President Robert Briggs
cofbriggs@yahoo.com

1st Vice Pres. Teresa Stephens
ravidstamper@yahoo.com

2nd Vice Pres. Dorothy Nalepa
Dnalepa8990@charter.net
(734)-878-8990

Director Steve Bryant
Sfbryant1@yahoo.com

Director Linda McNeil
Lucymcn79@hotmail.com

Director Kevin Dombrowski
Kd460@sbcglobal.net

Director Mary Cox-Perkins
funk49pt@yahoo.com

Secretary/Treasurer Elaine Carrasco
ecoffice@whitebirch.org
(989)-588-2853

White Birch Lakes
January 8, 2011
Board Meeting Minutes

I.) Call to Order: President Briggs called the meeting to order at 11:00 a.m. Board members present: President Briggs, 1st Vice President Stephens, 2nd Vice President Nalepa, Director Bryant, Director Cox-Perkins, Director Dombrowski and Secretary, Elaine Carrasco. Director McNeil absent due to illness. Al Isaac led the membership in prayer, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance led by President Briggs.

II.) Additions to the Agenda: Director Nalepa adds under old business, docks. Under new business Director Nalepa adds the 2011-12 budget and assorted purchases. Director Dombrowski adds a purchase under new business.

III.) Approval of Minutes: *(1) Director Nalepa moves to approve the minutes as written, second by Director Stephens, all in favor carried.*

IV.) Income Statement-Treasurer's Report: For the month of December the Treasurer reports income at \$25,718.21, expenses \$20,016.47 leaving a net ordinary income of 5,701.74. Total cash on hand \$136,223.21, restricted accounts \$130,474.89, total all accounts \$266,698.10. **(2) Director Nalepa moves to accept the financial report as written, second by Director Stephens, carried.**
(3) Director Cox-Perkins moves to pay the bills, second by Director Bryant, all in favor, carried.

V.) President's Report:

Good morning everyone, welcome to 2011. I wish everyone a healthy and enjoyable year at White Birch. Right after last months meeting we were greeted with a heavy snow that not only blocked our roads with snow, it also blocked them with trees. As this was the first snow of the season for our new maintenance men, they got things cleaned up in good time.

The new windows are all installed, minus the two little ones at the top of the fireplace. These two were measured incorrectly and did not fit. The new ones are supposed to arrive Tuesday so the job will be completed. They really look nice, and brighten things up in here, more then the others did.

There has been reports of gun shots, and also another deer was killed. I have instructed the office to contact the sheriff and the D.N.R. so we can have some help putting a stop to this.

This is all I have for this month.

Thank you,
Bob Briggs

VI.) Committee Reports:

Finance Committee: Terri Obrecht reports The Board and Finance Committee have reviewed the 2010-11 expense. The Association is expected to be roughly \$29,423.00 under budget at the end of the fiscal year.
Activities Committee: Sally reports that the Christmas pot luck was a success we had a really nice turnout. She wants to thank everybody for donating food for the food drives, this is an ongoing thing, please continue to donate.

Communications Committee: Director Stephens reports that the communications committee hasn't met as yet. She would like to remind everyone to consider signing up to receive the Birch Bark via e-mail opposed to mailing, to save on expense. We mail over 700 monthly at a cost of over \$300 in just postage.

EPC Committee: Director Nalepa reports that one camper is still on a lot, the sheds and temporary sheds have been removed. A treehouse application was submitted and they decided that it was not an EPC requirement to get approval. An application was submitted for tree removal.

Campground Committee: Director Dombrowski reports that all is well in the campground, the porta potty is in place. He would like to thank the member on Mockingbird Circle who came and did a check on the campground shortly after he arrived.

VII.) Comments (Agenda Items): none

VIII.) Old Business:

(4) Director Stephens moves to accept the bid from Weinlander-Fitzhugh to do our accounting for our audit and 990 for the 2010-11 fiscal year, second by Director Cox-Perkins, all in favor, carried.

(5) Director Nalepa moves to accept the Younkers bid for docks on all 3 lakes for a \$4754.10, second by Director Dombrowski, all in favor, carried.

IX.) New business:

(6) Director Cox-Perkins moves to allow \$600 or less for a new hutch and desk for Alice's office, second by Director Dombrowski, withdrawn.

(7) Director Nalepa moves to accept the offer of \$6500 on lots, 1046 and 1047 on land contract with \$2400 down and payments over 3 years with 8 percent interest, second by Director Cox, all in favor with exception of Director Bryant, who recused.

(8) Director Nalepa moves to set the White Birch Lakes Recreational Association income and expense budget to be set at \$360,552.00 for the annual year beginning March 1, 2011 and ending February 28, 2012 as reviewed at the board workshop of January 7, 2011 with the following stipulations, 1) Increases in line item expenses are neither guaranteed or automatic with the approval of the budget. 2) Remaining funds from the year ending February 2011 are allocated \$40,000.00 to savings and the remaining balance to the depreciation fund, second by Director Stephens, all in favor, carried.

(9) Director Nalepa moves to purchase a new multi-use vacuum at a cost of no more than \$300 and a new lock box at a cost of no more than \$150, second by Director Stephens, all in favor, carried.

(10) Director Nalepa moves to purchase a new recorder at a cost of no more than \$150 and upgrade Quickbooks to the 2011 edition at a cost of no more than \$350.00, second by Director Stephens, all in favor, carried.

(11) Director Nalepa moves that \$500 be allocated to purchase assorted tools and a chainsaw, not to exceed \$500, second by Director Stephens, tabled.

X.) Comments From the Floor: Available at the clubhouse.

XI.) Adjournment:

(12) Director Stephens moves to adjourn, second by Director Nalepa, all in favor, carried.

Adjournment at 12:10 pm

Submitted by,
Elaine Carrasco

The Birch Bark

White Birch Lakes Recreational Assoc.
4730 Lake Road
Farwell, MI 48622



Wednesday, February 2, 2011

HAVING A PARTY

Why not have it at the Clubhouse?

Contact Alice at the Clubhouse for more information, pricing and reservations.

(989) 588-2853

WINTER POOL HOURS

With an end to the Holidays reg. winter hours have resumed

Monday 9:00 am – 3:30 pm

Tuesday 9:00 am – 3:30 pm

Wednesday Closed

Thursday 9:00 am – 3:30 pm

Friday 12:00 noon – 8:30 pm

Saturday 12:00 noon – 8:30 pm

Sunday 10:00 am – 2:00 pm