

# The Birch Bark

Volume 19, Issue 2

March 2002

## Spring is Near,

and with it comes new life. There is a sense of expectation as we wait for the first crocus and tulips to break through the ground and finally the leaves and the grass paint the canvas Michigan green.

White Birch Lakes is certainly experiencing new life. Nearly every week I meet new people that introduce themselves as property owners at WBL. There is always a sense of expectation, an enthusiasm about the future and a sense of pride in calling WBL "home". It is always a refreshing reminder when I talk to one of our members; a reminder that WBL is more than roads, lakes and trees. White Birch Lakes is husbands and wives, children, moms and dads, neighbors, new acquaintances but perhaps most of all, "friends."

This is certainly one of our finest hours.

## BOARD MEETING MINUTES

Unapproved Board Meeting Minutes of March 9, 2002

### CALL TO ORDER

President Gail White called the meeting to order at 9:00 AM. Present were 2nd Vice President Todd Graham, Directors Don Kuester, Bob Adair and Marv Richardson and Manager Tim Fall. First Vice President Tom Dorcey and Larry Franklin were excused.

### APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Don Kuester moved to approve the February 2002 minutes. Seconded by Bob Adair. Motion carried.

### TREASURER'S REPORT

For the month of February the Treasurer reported income of \$8,001.99 and expenses of \$31,785.63. Cash on Hand at February 28, 2002 was \$17,649.62. This being the end of fiscal year 2001-2002, Manager Tim Fall explained procedures necessary to include all year end expenses even though not due until a later date. He also advised that the Accountant's Year End Report would reclassify some of the costs. A discussion of expenses and future needs for viable growth followed information explaining 2001-2002 major one-time capital outlays. Marv Richardson moved to accept the Treasurer's Report. Seconded by Todd Graham. Motion carried.

### CORRESPONDENCE

Marv Richardson, who had recent knee surgery, thanked all who signed his get-well card.

### COMMITTEE REPORTS

ENVIRONMENTAL CONTROL COMMISSION - Todd Graham, Liaison, reported for Chick Witchell, Chairman, that approval has been granted for an 8'x12' shed on lot 657, a new Pole Building-Garage on lot 1372 and contiguous status for lots 258-259. Noted at a recent ECC meeting that Clare County requires culverts to be 12" x 24' and that will be added to the Improvement Sheet. The Manager thanks Chick and Fred Witchell for the fine job they are doing.

FUTURE PLANNING COMMISSION - Meeting scheduled in April. We need an update after the meeting.

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

### WBL Board of Directors

April 13, 9:00 AM

### Future Planning Committee

April 13, 10:00 AM

May 12, Mothers Day Breakfast at the Clubhouse

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## BOARD MEETING MINUTES

Board Meeting Minutes of February 9, 2002

### CALL TO ORDER

President Gail White called the meeting to order at 9:00 AM. Present were 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President Tom Dorcey, 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President Todd Graham, Directors Don Kuester, Bob Adair and Larry Franklin and Manager Tim Fall. Director Marv Richardson was excused due to surgery earlier this week.

### APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Tom Dorcey moved to approve the January 2002 minutes. Seconded by Larry Franklin. Motion carried.

### TREASURER'S REPORT

For the month of January the Treasurer reported income of \$14,769.06 and expenses of \$27,196.23. Cash on hand at January 31, 2002 was \$41,433.26. Bob Adair moved to accept the Treasurer's Report. Seconded by Larry Franklin. Motion Carried.

### CORRESPONDENCE

President White read a note from Herb & Evelyn Breen, Lot 247, thanking all who spent so much time and effort working on the proposed Restrictions and Amendments. Other correspondence, having been addressed by the Manager, was circulated to the Board.

### COMMITTEE REPORTS

FUTURE PLANNING COMMITTEE – Don Kuester announced that Bob Vonderheid has accepted Chairmanship of the Committee. There will be a meeting of the committee after the close of this Directors meeting.

Fred Witchell, Lot 648, speaking for a group of residents known as the Curmudgeons, reported about their meeting on Jan. 31 with the Clare County Sheriff's Dept concerning lost children, missing persons and water safety. Representatives from the Dept were Sheriff Jeff Goyt, Lt Miller and Lt Martin. Much pertinent information was presented at the meeting. Further written information was forwarded from the Sheriff's Dept including, in part, specifications for a helicopter landing. The information will be circulated to all members. Joe Romine, Lot 542, informed this group of some of the recommendations for those first on-the-scene of an emergency and the steps needed to expedite the care of victims of an accident or other emergency. Information will be published in the Birch Bark on an ongoing basis.

ENVIRONMENTAL CONTROL COMMITTEE – Chick Witchell reported she has an application for a driveway

### MANAGER'S REPORT

Current fiscal year assessment dues are coming in well. Well rig is set up at Teal Lake. Well is not yet in but will be as soon as weather permits. Restriction ballots are coming in but not fast enough. Anne Hobart and volunteers will be making phone calls requesting their return. February has been an extremely busy month but he is pleased that records are current. He plans to present to the Board an additional Year End Statement of Income and Expense in a revised format in accordance with a Chart of Accounts provided by the new Accounting System. He hopes to re-state the last two years' ending statements in the new format for comparative purposes.

ACCOUNTS PAYABLE – Payables were reviewed and discussed. Bob Adair moved to approve payment. Seconded by Todd Graham. Motion carried.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS – Todd Graham provided a printout of a proposed web layout. White Birch already owns a Website He requests that people send their thoughts and suggestions. Discussion followed by the Board, some ideas were presented and web layout will proceed. More review and discussion next meeting.

### COMMENTS FROM THE FLOOR

Gary Cheadle, Lot 1010, commended Doug Lake for the great job he did clearing the roads last weekend during the snowstorm. He inquired about the status of the unfinished electrical work in the pool area.

### NEW BUSINESS

The existing White Birch logo was inherited from a past parent company. A new logo belonging exclusively to our Association is being discussed. The marquee at the entrance also needs to be replaced.

The Board is requesting members' input for a new entrance design and a new logo.

### ADJOURNMENT

Motion made by Don Kuester to adjourn. Seconded by Todd Graham. Motion carried.

Respectfully Submitted  
Priscilla Moore, Secretary-Treasurer

### White Birch Lakes Email Lost

We recently upgraded equipment and our email server. We realized after the fact that approximately 30 days of email was not received or responded to.

Please resubmit anything we did not respond to.  
Our apologies!

and a campsite; an approval for a garage addition and work is progressing on information for campers. An application received prior to Feb. 1 for a pole barn is being reviewed. The Committee is working on information packets to be presented to future homebuilders explaining application formats.

#### MANAGER'S REPORT

Tim called attention to the Capital Improvements that exceeded the line item budget. The overrun was for costs of a new roof on the clubhouse, a pavilion at the campground, insulating the maintenance building and installing an aerator at Teal Lake. He estimated there would be approximately a \$15,000 loss in income for February. However, please note that total income has far exceeded the Total Budgeted Income. For the present, office time will be spent mailing invoices, posting cash, recording restriction responses and follow-up of same. ACCOUNTS PAYABLE – Payables were reviewed and discussed. Bob Adair moved to approve payment. Seconded by Don Kuester. Motion carried.

#### UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Status of the no passing zone on Old State – Don Kuester has contacted the Clare County Road Commission and they have agreed to paint the yellow strip in front of the entrance in the spring when they regularly paint lines. They will also put up a sign that there is an entrance ahead.

#### COMMENTS FROM THE FLOOR

Joe Romine, Lot 542, stated that he would like to see a sole source propane gas supplier in White Birch. He also added that the Super Bowl Party was a great success. A special thanks to Chris Ptaszek who donated pitas, and to all who furnished food. Pat Zakalowski, Lot 1305, asked about the status of a disclaimer in the White Birch Realty Brochure suggested at the January meeting.

#### NEW BUSINESS

Todd Graham presented a proposal from Eric Bellmore to develop an interactive, database driven and self-maintainable website for White Birch Lakes. This site would house all information relative to White Birch including: Board and Committee meeting minutes, proposals, committee member information, bylaws, community calendar, directories, managers reports, schedule of meetings and other items of interest. After discussion of the proposal Bob Adair made a motion to approve the proposal. Seconded by Don Kuester. Motion carried.

ADJOURNMENT Motion made by Tom Dorcey to adjourn. Seconded by Don Kuester. Motion carried.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Priscilla Moore, Secretary/Treasurer

### Clubhouse Library Needs Books

Our library at the Clubhouse needs books, preferably published in the last year or two. Please make sure they are in good condition.

We also can use VHS or DVD movies if they are not copies. We cannot use copies of movies that violate copyright laws.

We have quite a few movies that have been out a long time. Please return them soon.

Thanks to everyone that has donated movies and books. Our library is getting more and more use all the time.

### White Birch Lakes Board of Directors

GAIL WHITE, PRESIDENT

TOM DORCEY, 1<sup>ST</sup> VP

TODD GRAHAM, 2<sup>ND</sup> VP

LARRY FRANKLIN, DIRECTOR

DON KUESTER, DIRECTOR

MARVIN RICHARDSON, DIRECTOR

ROBERT ADAIR, DIRECTOR

#### White Birch Lakes

4730 Lake Road

Farwell MI 48622-9618

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

Tim Fall, General Manager

Email: [manager@whitebirch.org](mailto:manager@whitebirch.org)

### Camp reminders as the new season arrives

The camping season runs from Memorial Day Weekend through October 31<sup>st</sup>. A current WBL sticker must be displayed on all camping units. Campsites need to be setback from any WBL road a distance of 100 feet. Only one camping unit is permitted per lot. Enjoy every minute of your stay at White Birch Lakes.

WHITE BIRCH LAKES  
4730 LAKE ROAD  
FARWELL MI 48622-9618

PRESORTED  
STANDARD  
US POSTAGE  
PAID  
PERMIT NO. 11 FARWELL  
MI 48622

**Watch for the New White Birch Lakes Web Site...  
Coming soon.**

Campers may be moved from the Campground to your lot starting  
May 11<sup>th</sup>.

All campers that are stored in the campground need to be removed by  
May 20<sup>th</sup> to facilitate repairs and cleaning of the campground. Thank You!

We will start taking reservations for the Storage Area and the Winter Campground Sites May 1<sup>st</sup>.

**Please return your Restrictions ballot promptly....**

If it is lost or misplaced please call the office for a replacement.

Your vote is important!

WBL Office 989-588-2853