

The Birch Bark

Volume 18, Issue 5

June 2001

Annual Election of Officers

BY ORDER OF the White Birch Lakes Recreational Association Board of Directors, the Annual Membership Meeting will be held Saturday afternoon at 1:30 PM July 21, 2001 at the White Birch Lakes Campground Pavilion.

Four positions are open for the Board of Directors. If you are not able to attend, an Absentee Ballot is printed in this issue. The instructions for its return must be followed for your vote to be counted.

Mail absentee ballots to: (in this issue)

White Birch Lakes – Absentee Ballot
4730 Lake Rd
Farwell MI 48622

Your lot number must be written on the outside of the envelope but should not be on the ballot. A WBL Member must have their Association dues in a current status for their vote to be counted.

Voter Registration for those members attending the meeting will start at 12:30 PM and conclude at 1:30 PM.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Annual Meeting and Election of Board Members

July 21st Annual Meeting and Election

Dinner at Noon – Meeting at 1:30 PM

Golf Outing at Snowsnake, Harrison

Tee Off at 7:50 AM

ATTENTION: Clare County Sheriff Department, at WBL request, will start enforcing motor vehicle and ORV laws in White Birch Lakes.

June WBL Board of Directors Minutes

Unapproved Board Meeting Minutes of June 9, 2001

CALL TO ORDER

President Gail White called the meeting to order at 9:AM. Present were 1st Vice President Pat Zakalowski, 2nd Vice President Jay Farr, Director Don Kuester and Manager Tim Fall. Directors Roy Miller and Linda Brabant were excused.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Pat Zakalowski moved to accept the May minutes. Seconded by Don Kuester. Motion carried.

TREASURER'S REPORT

For the month of May, Treasurer reported income of \$17,587.75 and expenses of \$25,400.96. Cash Balance at the end of May was \$161,358.13. Jay Farr moved to accept the Treasurer's Report. Seconded by Don Kuester. Motion carried.

ACCOUNTS PAYABLE

Pat Zakalowski moved to approve payment of payables. Seconded by Jay Farr. Motion carried.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

None

CORRESPONDENCE

None

COMMITTEE REPORTS

CAMPGROUND COMMITTEE – Jay Farr reported all projects are moving along fine. Photos of the Pavilion are on display. Cement for the Pavilion floor will be poured next Saturday, June 16th.

ACTIVITIES COMMITTEE – Pat Zakalowski reported that planning for the parade is progressing well with some surprises in the offing. Please be sure to

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attend.

FUTURE PLANNING COMMITTEE – Fred Witchell reported that the committee has been looking at the fenced-in old maintenance building as a potential place for storing boats for the winter with a nominal storage fee. He suggested that contact be made with teenagers to survey their preferences

for summer activities such as sports or some form of entertainment here at White Birch. Also we have need for a Welcoming Person to contact new home owners and some form of recognition of the death of long time home owners. Dorothy McArthur volunteered and has been appointed.

ENVIRONMENTAL COMMITTEE – Chick Witchell reported that Lots 691, 767 and 1013 have been approved for driveways and campsites, as has a new garage at Lot 1369 and a new residence at Lot 552.

MANAGER’S REPORT

Over the Memorial Day weekend there was a substantial increase in problems with ORV’s and blatant disregard of vehicular laws. Law enforcement was called. Past due accounts continue to be received. Water level in lakes has risen somewhat with the exception of Teal Lake. New and revised state inspections of campground and pool require some minor adjustments to the facilities. Information on Oak Wilt and Anthracnose has been circulated. MSU is to send a representative to identify the extent, if any, of Oak Wilt in White Birch. Special thanks is given to Moe Lombardo for organizing and getting the work done on the Campground Pavilion. A list of the volunteers will be published in the White Birch Bark. Re: law enforcement-contact has been

made with DNR legal department and local law enforcement and we have been informed that White Birch has the right to enact law enforcement.

COMMENTS FROM THE FLOOR

Dorothy McArthur, Lot 30, stated that she is taking up a collection for one of White Birch’s residents, Lucille Levandoski, who died on Friday, June 8, 2001. Mrs Levandoski was one of the original homeowners in White Birch. Joe Romine, Lot 542, stated his concern as to the possibility of liability in allowing ORV’s to drive on vehicular roads. Philip Stopke, Lot 1320, questioned if White Birch has the right to usurp certain motor vehicle codes, does it have the right also to usurp the authority in regards to building restrictions. Tom Crook, Lot 517, commented, based on information discussed at this meeting, that if we do not use some type of law enforcement the privilege of running ORV’S, golf carts and go-carts could be jeopardized. Ann Hobart, Lot 454, suggested that signs be posted and information be available at the clubhouse defining the rules and regulations and penalties regarding ORV’S etc. Gary Cheadle, Lot 1010, stated that every ORV has to have a state sticker and state stickers will not be issued for repeat violators. He also requested how no response to the Amended Covenants and Restrictions will be counted. That will be addressed at a meeting of the full board. Discussion followed concerning problems with visitors and the members’ responsibility for their guests.

NEW BUSINESS

As empowered and requested by the Board, the Environmental Committee has presented the *Regulations Regarding Accessory Structures Placed in White Birch Lakes* and the *Environmental Control Committee Violation Fines*. Don Kuester made a motion to vote on the *Regulations Regarding Accessory Structures Placed in White Birch Lakes*. Discussion of the *Structures Placed* and *Violation Fines* supported by Jay Farr. Both issues were discussed. Motion was defeated to approve the *Regulations Regarding Accessory Structures Placed in White Birch Lakes*. Jay Farr made the motion to approve the *Environmental Control Committee Violation Fines*. Seconded by Don Kuester. Motion carried. Discussion needed on clubhouse roof and the possibility of purchasing tables for the pavilion. List of roof bidders, when complete, will be presented at a future meeting. Approval is given to order tables for the Pavilion. Funds are available in the budget and from individual donations. Don Kuester made a motion that the manager invite law enforcement into White Birch to enforce State of Michigan Vehicular Codes. Seconded by Pat Zakalowski. Motion carried.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion to adjourn made by Pat Zakalowski. Seconded by Jay Farr. Motion carried.

Respectfully Submitted
Priscilla Moore
Secretary-Treasurer

May 2001 Income

Income	
Assessments	14,395.60
Sales, Permits & Other	3,192.15
Total Income	17,587.75
Operating Expenses	25,400.96
Net Income(loss)	(7,813.21)
May “EOM” Cash on Hand	161,358.13

WBL Board Candidates

White Birch Lakes Members,

My name is Robert Adair and I reside at 4711 Mockingbird Circle in White Birch Lakes with my wife Barbara. We are retired from full time employment, but have started a small business in Farwell.

As we grow into this area, it is my desire to become a board member of White Birch Lakes so that I can become more involved in understanding how our community works and what I can do to support that community.

Thank you,
Robert Adair, Lots 59, 60 and 61
989-588-4636
E-mail: vairadair@aol.com

To the White Birch Lakes Recreational Association:

I, Roy Miller, would like my name included in the list of candidates running for Board of Directors. I have been a Board Member for the past six years. During this time many significant improvements have taken place. White Birch is a very unique place. While the balance issue has been the most troublesome, I believe we have been successful in creating an environment that addresses improvements, while keeping our original vision of White Birch.

I have been involved on several committees. These have included Campground, Environmental and Activities. My goal for remaining on the Board is to continue the work we have begun, making White Birch a community to be proud of.

Sincerely,

Roy Miller Lot 636

HELLO FELLOW "BIRCH" MEMBERS

My wife and I have been with the "BIRCH" for twenty years now. We have seen many changes in those years. Our children have been raised there, so to speak. When I bought my first lot, a dear friend's children informed me that growing up at White Birch was like being on vacation all year. My children agree. While we were not living there, spending as much time as possible there gave them the same feeling. We started off the weekends in the campground, then on our lots. Now we are situated to begin building the home that we will spend the rest of our lives in.

I am writing this to the membership for a couple reasons. The first reason is to get the membership thinking about the future of the Association. I believe the time is at hand to decide what we want "THE BIRCH" to look like and be like in the future. A few years ago, the membership voted with the Board of Directors to keep the ORIGINAL "Purpose of the Association", (mission statement) that the Association developed and entered into the court document creating what we refer to as "WHITE BIRCH LAKES RECREATION ASSOCIATION". They read;

- (1) To promote pleasure, social recreation and sports activities for its members, their family and guests and to develop and maintain a recreationally oriented environment in the development
- (2) To provide a means whereby the streets, and those areas within the development as parks, lakes, recreational areas or other amenities on the plats thereof, and such other recreational facilities within the development as may be conveyed to the Association or established by it, may be operated, maintained, repaired and replaced, and
- (3) To provide a means for the promulgation and enforcement of all regulations necessary to the governing of the use and enjoyment of such streets, parks, lakes, recreational facilities or other amenities and such other recreational facilities within the development as may be conveyed to the Association.

Keeping the above "PURPOSE" in mind should be what the board makes their decisions based upon. I am asking the membership to do the same.

The other reason I am writing this is announce that I am seeking reelection to the Board of Directors again this year.

Sincerely, Jay Farr

WBL Board Candidates

Dear WBL Members,

Thank you for taking time to read my letter of introduction. My name is Todd Graham. My wife Sherry, daughter Sharayah and I moved to White Birch Lakes in May of 1999.

I have been a long time resident of the Farwell area, graduating from Farwell High School in 1986 and attending Central Michigan University in Mt. Pleasant. Many of you may know me as "The John Deere Guy" as I have enjoyed my position as Parts Department and Web Site Manager for Heritage Equipment – John Deere located in Clare for the past nine years.

I have had the pleasure of being part of the White Birch Lakes Environmental Control Committee for the past six months. Working with ECC Team and meeting some of the WBL members has given me the desire to be more involved with the future of White Birch Lakes and ask for your support for election to a position on the White Birch Lakes Board of Directors this July.

My definition of White Birch Lakes;

- A community of people drawn together by common interests.
- A safe haven for our children and grandchildren. A place where they can be free to learn, discover and enjoy childhood apart from many of the negative influences we fight to keep them safe from.
- An environmentally conscious community that takes great pride in the blessings we share. Blessings such as our lakes, wooded areas and great family oriented facilities like our Club House and Campground.

I see the future of White Birch Lakes as a community not known as "the place with the gate", but known throughout our area as the community that works together, plays together and stays together, striving to create a better future for ourselves and our children. Thank you for your consideration. Please feel free to stop by, call or e-mail me if you have any questions or concerns.

Sincerely, Todd Graham
5535 Clover Terrace, Lots 956 & 957
989-588-9192
E-mail: tssgraham@hotmail.com

White Birch Association,

My name is Charles T Dorcey, but I have been called Tom all of my life. Along with my wife Helen we own lots 1121, 1122 & 1123 which are at the end of Buckeye Ct. We became full time residents in September, 2000 when we moved here from Frankenmuth.

The reason we moved here was because we enjoy the outdoors, the snow in winter and like the relaxed atmosphere of White Birch Lakes.

I have worked in education and industry and retired as Director of Engineering Services from Duro-Last Roofing Inc. in September 1997.

My interest in being on the board is to assure that White Birch Lakes is a good place to live and enjoy the outdoors.

Tom Dorcey
4318 Buckeye Ct
Farwell, MI 48622
email: ctdsr@aol.com

GREETINGS WHITE BIRCH ASSOCIATES

I'd like to take this opportunity to introduce myself and solicit your support in the upcoming election of the WBLRA Board of Directors.

My name is Marvin L. Richardson, my wife Judy, my daughter Megan and I have lived in White Birch for the past four years. I'm currently the Middle School Principal for the Farwell School District. In addition to my 12 years of School administrative experience, my leadership and administrative experiences include serving as an Administrator for the County of Osceola, Board of Directors of West Michigan Emergency Medical Services and serving as Chairperson, president and vice-president of several State and Local committees and associations.

Being a property and homeowner in White Birch, my family and I have an enormous interest in the future of White Birch and the WBLR Association. Since I have no hidden nor personal agenda, except for the continued success and progress of the Association, I would serve as a member of the Board of Directors with an open mind and the ability to set realistic goals for our future! Best wishes, thank you for your consideration.

Marvin L. Richardson
Lots 550 & 551 E-mail: mlrichar@journey.com

Absentee Ballot

Please take the time to return this absentee ballot if you cannot attend the Annual Meeting, July 21, 2001.

IMPORTANT – Your **lot number** and “**Absentee Ballot**”
Must be written on the outside of your
Envelope.
Return by July 18th.

Mail ballots to: **White Birch Lakes – Absentee Ballot-Lot No _____**
4730 Lake Rd
Farwell MI 48622-9618

White Birch Lakes Recreational Association 2001 Absentee Ballot for Board Of Directors

Place an **X** by your choices. Vote for no more than 4 candidates for a 2-year term. You may write in names other than those listed.

Name	Lot(if known)	X
Robert Adair	59-61	_____
Marvin L Richardson	550-551	_____
Roy Miller (incumbent)	636	_____
Jay Farr (incumbent)	930-933, 941	_____
Todd Graham	956, 957	_____
Charles Dorcey	1121-1123	_____

WBL - Annual Golf Outing *Snowsnake Harrison*

Shot Gun Start, 9 Hole Scramble – Includes Cart

July 21st 7:45 AM

Lunch and Prizes at the WBL Clubhouse-Noon

Registration and \$30.00 fee are due by July 12th.

Please be on time (7:50AM). Golfers arriving late will not be permitted to play and will forfeit their Entry fee.

Make Checks payable to: **White Birch Lakes**

Mail to: **White Birch Lakes – Golf Outing**
4730 Lake Rd, Farwell MI 48622-9618

Name _____ Lot # _____

Res Address _____

City _____ St _____ Zip _____

No. in Party _____ Phone _____

Please list additional names. (\$30 each golfer) Call or email for Credit Card Payment

White Birch Lakes Board of Directors

GAIL WHITE, PRESIDENT

PAT ZAKALOWSKI, 1ST VP

JAY FARR, 2ND VP

DON KUESTER, DIRECTOR

LINDA BRABANT, DIRECTOR

ROY MILLER, DIRECTOR

White Birch Lakes Recreational Association
4730 Lake Road
Farwell MI 48622-9618

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

Email: manager@whitebirch.org

WHITE BIRCH LAKES
4730 LAKE ROAD
FARWELL MI 48622-9618

Absentee Ballot inside this issue – please return it promptly.

The following Businesses and individuals donated time or materials for our Pavilion.

Thank you!

**Tommy Bauer Excavating
The Humphrey Bros.
Rockcrete**

Fred Witchell
Gary Cheadle
Moe Lombardo (Crew Leader)
Cleo Friend
Doug Lake
Jim Shaw
Ron Shunk
Ryan Racine
Joe English
Fran Lombardo
Linda Reha

**Pete Norlander Const.
Wickes Lumber**

Bob Pelfery
Joe Romine(blueprint & pictures)
Frank Rose
Jerry Reha
Tom Dorcey
Ron Nethaway
Ed Poterek (campsite signs)
Chick Witchell
Carolyn Cheadle

Please let us know if we overlooked anyone. Also remember these businesses whenever you can.

Picnic Tables for the New Pavilion

White Birch Lakes would like to express their appreciation to those who have donated Picnic Tables for the new Pavilion.

If you would like to donate a table or make a memorial in someone's name please contact our office. A plaque is affixed to each table stating who made the donation or memorial.

The cost per table is \$100.00.

Environmental Control Committee Reminders:

Camping Units must be 100 feet back from your lot line and only one camping unit per lot.

If any violations are found you will receive a notice on the door of your camping unit.

Please keep your lot in a condition that is not an eyesore to your neighbors and other WBL members.