

BIRCH BARK

Newsletter of WHITE BIRCH LAKES RECREATIONAL ASSOCIATION
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KOZLOWSKI VOLUME NOVEMBER 2007 No. 3

PRESIDENT'S CORNER
by Brian Kozlowski

We recently lost a neighbor. Mike Turner suddenly passed away on Nov. 14. For those of you who did not meet Mike, he was the driving force and architect of the work done at Timber Lake Beach and Park in 2005. Many of our Members were witnesses to Mike's unique knowledge of conservation. His fervor in promoting the preservation of flora and fauna exemplified his character.

It was apparent to all that Mike had a sense of "neighborhood". He often addressed a group of Members as "Neighbors". In that spirit, many of our Members were the recipient of Mike's efforts to be a good neighbor. It was often that Mike and I had differing views on issues of importance to our community, our neighborhood. But you always knew where Mike stood, and what he believed based upon his knowledge. He spoke passionately of it, and did so publicly. He did not stoop to speaking behind his neighbors' backs. That's called integrity. Mike will be remembered, amongst many other things, for his integrity.

We can not know how the loss of Mike is felt by his family. We do not know their future. But we can pray for their peace and their future. We can comfort them by paying the greatest honor to Mike, by being like Mike, that is; just be a good neighbor.

SPECIAL REQUEST

In regards to the decorating of the clubroom Christmas Tree, we would like antlers given or loaned (to be returned after holidays). We are decorating in a Lodge theme for the tree. If anyone has pheasant feathers, fishing lures (don't have to be old). If anyone has a large undecorated wreath for above the fireplace that would be

helpful as well.

Thank you, the office.

WBLRA IS ACCEPTING LETTERS
OF INTEREST FOR BOARD OF
DIRECTOR
POSITION: SUBMIT LETTERS TO
THE OFFICE

All Correspondence to the Board of Directors,
a Director, a Committee Chairperson and all
responses are on file at the office.

Board of Directors and Staff COMMITTEES AND CHAIRPERSONS

President Brian Kozlowski Activities Joe Romine

Mary Alice Harrington

588-3155

588-2561

1st Vice Pres. Sharon Bridges By-laws Sal Scozzari 588-4415

2nd Vice Pres. Marv Frayer Campground Fred Witchell

Al Willoughby

588-6797

588-0749

Director Greg Hernden Birch Bark

Director Al Isaac Election

Director Brian Heiden EPC Chick Witchell 588-6797

Director Pat Graham Dennis Karlson 588-3346

Garden Club

Hospitality Sue Nethaway

Just Community Russ Abney

Manager Gail White Maintenance Jerry Bridges

Secretary Elaine Carrasco

Treasurer Priscilla Moore Planning Arnie Van Overbeke

Security Bob Pelfrey

588-7066

Whitebirch.org Todd Graham 588-9192

NOTICES FROM COMMITTEES:

Reminder from EPC Committee: to Weekenders and Campers,

Please take your trash to the dumpsters in the campgrounds, if you leave it out by the road for the truck to pick up on Wednesday the animals have generally invaded the trash and leave a mess in front of your area.

Thank you

Notes from Fred Witchell

White Birch Lake and Timber received Wall-Eye, Blue Gill, Perch and Fat Head Minnows these are feeder fish for the big fish to eat. Next Spring we hope to plant some Bass, more pan fish and some more feeder fish in all the lakes.

Additional Pool hours in December during Christmas break. Pool will also be open December 26, 27 and 28 from 1:00 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.

Unique Holiday Gift For A Child

Looking for that special gift that can become a child's treasured keepsake from you? How about our...

Personalized Children's Books

Child's name is printed throughout the book

Keeps reading fun . Child becomes the star

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Reading for children of all ages
Source Code: MIWBL . Toll Free Phone: 800-461-2995
www.READINGISPERSONAL.COM

AMENDMENT OF THE C & R's

There may be some misunderstandings amongst our members in reference to the recently mailed ballots. These are BALLOTS that shall determine whether our deed restrictions are amended. If a sufficient number of "yes" votes are received on either of the amendments, that amendment, or amendments, shall go into effect, and be recorded with the deeds. This is not a survey.

Some of our members are engaging in their usual mendacious sermons, claiming superior knowledge as to the correct method as to how the C & R's are to be amended, what is legal and illegal, and generally trying to throw a monkey wrench into the process. The process in progress is the recognized method to amend the C & R's. Whatever your position is on the issues, some of our members have expressed the desire to have the two issues placed before the membership for a vote. Your Board of Directors is responding to those members.

Note regarding Maintenance Area - It has become necessary to lock up the maintenance area at night due to misuse by some drivers. The compost area located on Oak Run will be open from 9:00

a.m. To 3:00 p.m. daily for our members.

A bracelet was found; it looks like something someone would like to keep. If you have lost one, call the office with its description so we can get it to you. Thanks, Gail White, manager

THE BIRCH BARK

BOARD MEETING MINUTES PROPOSED

OCTOBER 27, 2007

CALL TO ORDER President Brian Kozlowski called the meeting to order at 9:04am. Board members present were President Brian Kozlowski, 1st Vice President Sharon Bridges, 2nd Vice President Marvin Frayer, Director Al Isaac and Director Patricia Graham. Brian Heiden and Greg Hernden absent. Also present, Manager, Gail White and Elaine Carrasco. The meeting opened with prayer by Director Al Isaac, Pledge of Allegiance led by

President Brian Kozlowski. President Brian Kozlowski introduces Elaine Carrasco as the Administrative Assistant.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES 1st Vice President Sharon Bridges moves to approve the minutes from the September 8, 2007 Board Meeting. 2nd by Director Patricia Graham. All in favor, motion carried.

TREASURER'S REPORT For the month of September 2007, Elaine Carrasco reports income of \$18,428.55 and expenses of \$36,543.07. Total cash on hand September 30, 2007 was \$185,398.19. Motion made by 2nd Vice President Marv Frayer to approve Treasurer's report, second by Director Al Isaac. All in favor, motion carried.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT President Brian Kozolowski thanks the membership for all the cards, letters and memorials he received. They were much appreciated, thank you. There appears to be something afoot in our community, unfortunately, some individuals who are not as mature as the rest of us and have to continue with malicious pranks within the association, and the best I can ask from you is to pray for these individuals to at least come to their senses and act like mature adults.

MANAGER'S REPORT Manager Gail White reports that Treasurer, Priscilla Moore is doing well after surgery. Talks about the Carlton Co. and states that it cost us nothing to use them . Currently

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they have collected over \$52,000.00 in back assessments. She was quoted as saying in a study conducted that campers were not wanted

in the association. When in fact she was expressing how much they contribute to the association. Another Myth-buster she would like to clarify is that Fred Witchell does not get paid for all the work he does in the campground, it is all strictly volunteer work. Thanks Fred. She also reports that the lakes are restocked. Proxy cards are here.

ACCOUNTS PAYABLE

Director Patricia Graham moves to approve the accounts payable, second by 2nd Vice President Marvin Frayer. All in favor, motion carried.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Campground committee: Fred Witchell reports that letters were sent out to owners of campers in storage left abandoned, letters were returned. He called the Sheriff to remove four units under the abandonment law. We have a couple empty storage spaces. Suggests you remove boats from holiday lake, they are being stolen and sold for the aluminum.

EPC committee: Chick Witchell reports a new house is going to be built on Hemlock.

COMMENTS

A member comments on the income statement.

OLD BUSINESS Only order of old business is the approval of the ballots for the questions to the members regarding the two C&R amendments that were approved at a previous meeting.

Amendment 1: Director Patricia Graham moves to approve, second by Director Al Isaac. All in favor motion carried.

(Condensed Board Meeting Minutes continued on page 4)

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(Condensed Board Meeting Minutes Cont. from Page 3)

Amendment 2:2nd Vice President Marvin Frayer moves to approve, second by 1st Vice President Sharon Bridges. All in favor, motion carried.

Return date on ballots is December 15, 2007. 1st Vice President, Sharon Bridges moves for a 45 day return on ballots. Second by 2nd Vice President Marvin Frayer, all in favor, motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS Director Patricia Graham motions that boats not on storage racks must be removed by November 30th, second by 2nd Vice President Marvin Frayer. All in favor, motion carried.

2nd Vice President Marvin Frayer moves to table storage fees for RV's and Pavilion rental fees, second by Director Patricia Graham, all in favor, motion carried.

Director Patricia Graham moves to table Clubhouse rental fee and Campground fees, second by 1st Vice President Sharon Bridges all in favor, motion carried.

Appointment of Bylaw committee: Director Al Isaac motions by law committee appointments, second by 1st Vice President Sharon Bridges. Motion carried.

Chairperson: Sal Scozzari Members: Joe Romine, Ken Passage, Chuck Lutz and Jerry Bridges

Appointment of Just Community Committee: Director Al Isaac motions community committee appointments, second by 1st Vice President Sharon Bridges, motion carried. Chairperson: Russ Abney Members: Mike Turner, Bob Adair, Kevin Dombrowski, Joe Romine

Appointment of Maintenance Committee: Director Patricia Graham motions maintenance committee appointment, second by 1st Vice President Sharon Bridges, motion carried. Chairperson: Jerry Bridges Members: Fred Witchell

Appointment of Planning Committee:2nd Vice President Marvin Frayer motions planning committee appointments, second by 1st Vice President Sharon Bridges, motion carried. Chairperson: Arnie Van Overbeke Members: Jerry Bridges, Fred Witchell

Appointment of Assistant Treasurer per Bylaws:
1st Vice President motions appointment of
Assistant Treasurer, Elaine Carrasco, second by
2nd Vice President Marvin Frayer.

Appointment of Secretary: Elaine Carrasco, 2nd
Vice President Marvin Frayer motions
appointment of Secretary, second by Director
Patricia Graham, motion carried.

1st Vice President Sharon Bridges and 2nd Vice
President Marvin Frayer affirm purchase of new
maintenance truck.

2nd Vice President Marvin Frayer motions to
purchase extra items for truck, second by 1st
Vice President Sharon Bridges, all in favor,
motion carried.

COMMENTS FROM THE FLOOR Comments from
the floor will be available at the Clubhouse.

ADJOURNMENT

2nd Vice President Marvin Frayer moves to adjourn
the meeting, second by Sharon Bridges, all in favor,
motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 10:44am.

All Board of Directors Regular meeting minutes in their entirety will be
available at
www.whitebirch.org/birchbark.asp after approval by the Board of Directors. Any
attachments
mentioned will also be available at the office.

THE BIRCH BARK

BOARD MEETING MINUTES

PROPOSED

NOVEMBER 10, 2007

CALL TO ORDER

President Brian Kozlowski called meeting to order at 9:05 am. Board members present were President Brian Kozlowksi, 1st Vice President Sharon, 2nd Vice President Marvin Frayer, Director Patricia Graham, Director Al Isaac, Manager Gail White, Secretary Elaine Carrasco. Brian Heiden and Greg Hernden absent.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Director Patricia Graham moves to approve the October 27, 2007 minutes, 2nd by 1st Vice President Sharon Bridges, all in favor, motion carried.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Assistant Treasurer, Elaine Carrasco reports for the month of October 2007 total income of \$14,295.87, expenses of \$43298.52 and total cash on hand as of October 31st, \$163,970.32. Motion made by 1st Vice President Marvin Frayer to approve Treasurer's Report, 2nd by Director Patricia Graham. Motion carried.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

President Brian Kozlowski reports that Greg Hernden has resigned from the board and when he has his resignation letter in hand they will post the position. He also reports that Brian Heiden was not able to attend the meeting because of work conflict.

MANAGER'S REPORT

Manager Gail White reports problems with the gate. Another Myth buster she points out is that it is being said that 80 of the absentee ballots were illegal which is interesting because other than the teller committee, no one saw those ballots. The teller committee reported that there were 14 refused ballots and did not say whether they were from absentee or present voters. Again, misinformation given out. Asks

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that the board consider allowing the purchase of new furniture for the clubhouse.

ACCOUNTS PAYABLE

1st Vice President Marvin Frayer moves to approve the Accounts Payable, second by Director Al Isac. All in favor, motion carried.

COMMITTEE REPORT

Fred Witchell, campground committee reports 14 campers and 3 sheds are still on lots.

AGENDA COMMENTS

No comments

OLD BUSINESS

Director Al Isaac motions to increase storage fees in both the campground and storage area beginning the 2008-2009 season, second by 1st Vice President Sharon Bridges. All in favor, motion carried.

A motion is made by 1st Vice President Sharon Bridges to increase camping fees as follows: Electric Only to \$15 per night, Full hook-up \$20 per night, Monthly full hook-up to \$250, and Monthly Electric only \$200 beginning the 2008-2009 season. Second by Director Pat Graham. All in favor, motion carried.

1st motion is made by 1st Vice President Sharon Bridges to increase winter camping fees, second by 2nd Vice President Marvin Frayer. Motion Carried.

A motion was made by Director Patricia Graham to increase the pavilion rental fee, second by 1st Vice President Sharon Bridges, all in favor, motion carried.

Motion by 2nd Vice President Marvin Frayer and second by 1st Vice President Sharon Bridges to increase bath key deposit, withdrawn.

Motion by 2nd Vice President Marvin Frayer, seconded by Director Patricia Graham to increase clubhouse rental, withdrawn.

NEW BUSINESS

Director Patricia Graham 1st motions to approve lot improvement application revision, second by Al Isaac. Motion carried.

Assessory building regulation approval tabled, with motion by 2nd Vice President Marvin Frayer and second by 1st Vice President Sharon Bridges.

Director Al Isaac motions to approve clubhouse furniture purchase, second by 1st Vice President Sharon Bridges, not to exceed \$1800, all in favor, motion carried.

Motion to table discussion on distribution of privileged documents. Motion made by 1st Vice President Sharon Bridges, seconded by director Pat Graham. Motion carried.

COMMENT FROM THE FLOOR

Available at the clubhouse

ADJOURNMENT

1st Vice President Sharon Bridges moves to adjourn, second by 2nd Vice President Marvin Frayer, all in favor, meeting adjourned at 10:26am.

FINANCIAL STATEMENT SEPTEMBER 2007

INCOME

Membership \$10,689.91
Delinquent 741.34
Interest 598.75
Misc. 30.72
Sales of Goods 933.40
Sale of Reclaimed Property 3,506.44
Campground 1,385.00
Boat Storage 190.00
EPC Fees 352.99
Total Income \$18,428.55

EXPENSES

Administration \$11,250.40
Office Expense 1,456.22
Road Maintenance 1,049.25
Clubhouse Maintenance 4,245.35
Campground Maintenance 1,948.11
Entrance Costs 180.55
Capital Improvements 746.37
General Assoc. Maintenance 2,433.23
Maintenance Building 39.45
Goods for Resale 889.92
Spec. Events/Activities 0

Professional Costs 9,438.00
Boards & Committees 102.60
Security 1,482.71
Lakes 1,227.91
Taxes and Insurance 53.00
Total Expenses \$36,543.07

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From the Mailbox

.Our condolences to the family of Mike
Turner on his untimely passing.

CAMPGROUND FEES - NOV. 10, 2007
Members in Good Standing must make

reservations for their guests
Power only \$15.00
Full hook up 20.00
Monthly for full hook up 250.00
Monthly-electrical only 200.00

Winter Storage
Campground \$100.00
Storage Area 50.00

Winter Camping
Winter camping fees \$15.00 per day
November 1 - December 1 (bathrooms open)

Electric use in winter \$10.00 per day
(this includes campers left plugged in)

The board passed the new fees for staying at the
campground. Here are some particulars.
One of the reasons is that we need improvements
made at the campground. Also we are expending
much more than we receive (56% in 2005-2006
and 58% in 2006-2007). The improvements we
are looking at are bathrooms (stools, ceilings and
floor), fireplace, cement pad under dumpster and
additional gravel to mention just a few.

FINANCIAL STATEMENT - OCTOBER 2007

INCOME

Membership \$10,112.75
Delinquent 569.00
Interest 448.21
Misc. 85.11
Advertising 30.00
Sales 872.05
Campground 1,993.75
Boat Storage 100.00
EPC Fees 85.00
Total Income \$14,295.87

EXPENSES

Administration \$13,785.26
Bad Debt 12.00
Office Expense 2,108.78
Road Maintenance 5,141.13
Clubhouse Maintenance 7,097.43

Campground Maintenance 2,444.39
Entrance Costs 1,559.56
Capital Improvements 0
General Assoc.
Maintenance
4,601.44
Maintenance Building 35.40
Goods for Resale 1,333.08
Spec. Events/Activities 0
Professional Costs 2,987.00
Boards & Committees 121.76
Security 1,455.91
Lakes 562.38
Taxes and Insurance 53.00
Total Expenses \$43,298.52

COMPLETE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS CAN BE
OBTAINED AT THE WHITE BIRCH LAKES OFFICE

Advertise in the Birch Bark

Rates for
Advertising in The Birch Bark -\$15.00
(Business Card Size)
Rental of facilities - Call 588-2853
Articles for The Birch Bark
Addressed to 4730 Lake Rd.
Farwell, MI 48622-9618

Call (989) 588-2853, White Birch Lakes office.
Payment must be made prior to listing. Fees and
ads must be submitted by the 15th of the month for
publication in the following month's issue. Business
cards must be clear enough for clean scanning.
Make checks payable to White Birch Lakes
Recreational Association to the attention of The
Birch Bark for accounting purposes.

White Birch Lakes Recreational Association does not endorse and is not
responsible for
products and/or services advertised in the newsletter.

White Birch Lakes Recreational Assoc.
4730 Lake Road
Farwell, MI 48622-9618

Clubhouse Hours

8:00 a.m. - 9:00 p.m., Mon, Fri
8:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m., Tues., Thurs.
8:00 a.m. - 9:00 p.m., Sat
1:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m., Sun
Closed Wednesday

Office Hours

9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m., Mon, Tues, Wed,
Thurs., Fri
9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m., Sat
Closed Sunday

Pool Hours (Beginning Nov. 1)

4:00 p.m. - 8:30 p.m., Mon, Thurs
10:00 a.m. - 8:30 p.m., Sat
1:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m., Sun
Closed Tues., Wed., Fri..

Community Calendar

Dec. 8, 2007 - Board of Directors Regular
Meeting

9:00 A.M. At the Clubhouse
Dec. 8, 2007 - Christmas Potluck at the
Clubhouse

5:30 P.M. - 8:00 P.M
We're on the Web!
Visit us at:
www.whitebirch.org

