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PARADISE LAKE IMPROVEMENT BOARD

MINUTES

July 10, 2019

Meeting called to order at 7 P.M. Present were: Arden Bawkey, Toni Drier, John Siegel, Bob Smith and Paul Teike.

Minutes from May, 2019, were approved as written. Treasurer's report was accepted as presented.

The only correspondence received concerned weed collection boat.

Jennifer Jones, PhD, from RLS gave a presentation on the lake.

Comparing 2019 weeds vs. 2014, the weeds are taller this year but 60% is pondweed, not milfoil. The lake bottom has more hard bottom areas than in 2014 as the silt is reduced. It is not recommended that the aeration treatment be removed but other options need consideration: harvesting, DASH (Diver Assisted Harvesting, and herbicides.

During the mandated DEQ winter testing, ice on Paradise Lake was 21" thick. Secci disc reading was 4.5' vs. today's reading of 12'. Nutrient levels were average and chlphylls were low. When taking readings using the boat in summer months, DEQ requires a speed of no more than 6 mph; RLS uses 4 mph. They take 20-30K data points which a computer algorithm can then digitize. Bob Smith asked if today's testing included checking weevils and the response was that that would be done in September.

Jones stated that areas not colonized 10 years ago are still not colonized because of different substrates.

Questions from the audience:

Jim Cope – Why only the west basin in the report? A: An explanation of Hebron Twp's position was given.

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Greg Torsky – Neighbors are concerned that all the time/money is spent in the west basin and nothing is done in the east basin. A: One possibility is harvesting. A contractor recommended by RLS could do 30A. for \$18,000.

Tom Altman – Could we do north and a defined section in the west basin? A: That's possible.

Diana Nemcik: A few years ago, harvesting was ruled out because of the debris left floating to replant itself elsewhere in the lake. What happened now? A: Today's equipment is improved with sharper blades and better debris control.

Bob Roll: If pond weed crowds out milfoil, can we stimulate the pond weed growth? A: We can but pond weed also reseeds and could top out.

Jim Cope: I am surprised herbicides was mentioned. Why? A: There is now a new compound specific to milfoil. Previously, the chemical used was widely distributed and also attacked native weeds; the new herbicide requires contact with the milfoil. Also copper was considered in the past but is not approved now.

Bob Roll: Would a mapping of the bed be done prior to harvesting? A: It could be.

Bob Smith: Can the cost be lowered at all? A: We could try piggybacking with other lakes in this area to decrease transportation costs.

Discussion of a harvesting project by the Board followed. Teike clarified that previous attempts to extend the aeration to the east basin met with resistance to generators from residents. It was moved by Smith and seconded by Bawkey to harvest 30A. in the NE basin and a strip across the lake from the DNR access to the main site for \$18000.

Roll call vote: 5 ayes, Motion passed.

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Dave Edwards from Tip of the Mitt Watershed Council presented an overview of services available from the Council and current projects. They have been working on Paradise Lake since 1972 and would willingly share any data they have. At this time, Michigan is the only state not having septic regulations. Grenata Thomassy is coordinating this item in Lansing for TOTMWC. Water testing earlier this spring included testing for PFAs. There are 4000 types of PFAs and the testing covered the 14 most common. A very small amount, only 4 parts per trillion were found. This is not a problem.

The Board discussed the harvest boat. No applications had been received to manage the boat. Bawkey asked if a volunteer committee could be formed. They will try to form one.

The next meeting is September 11, 2019. It will begin with a budget public hearing followed by the regular meeting.

Public Comment:

Diana Nemcik thanked the Board for the explanation of the hardness of the lake bottom as she had not known this before.

The meeting adjourned at 8:30.