

## Minutes

### Perch Lake Owner's Association 2014 Annual Membership Meeting July 5, 2014

1. The Annual meeting of the Members of the Perch Lake Owners Association was held on July 5<sup>th</sup>, 2014 at the Foster camp. Dave Foster, President called the meeting to order at 9:00 AM. 15 members of the Association were present, constituting a quorum.
2. The Agenda was approved. The minutes of the previous annual meeting (July 6, 2013) were reviewed. A motion by Ole , seconded by Cliff was approved to accept.
3. Presidents Report:
  - a. **501C3 UPDATE/STATUS** – Our application was approved by letter dated February 27, 2014 from the IRS with an effective date of exemption of May 15, 2010 (see copy of IRS Letter).
  - b. **FEDERAL BACK TAXES** - as a result of our 501c3 approval and our filing of Federal tax form E-990 our entire tax liability has been eliminated, thus resolving our back taxes issue.
  - c. **CODE OF CONDUCT SIGNED** - document was signed by all BoD members present at the May 2014 BoD meeting and after I get the signatures from the absent members I will distribute the document.
  - d. **PLOA MEMBERSHIP IN WESTERN PENINSULA INVASIVES COALITION (WePIC) WITH THE OTTAWA NATIONAL FOREST** - PLOA BoD decided to continue our membership in this group formerly called the Western Upper Peninsula Cooperative Weed and Pest Management Area
  - e. **IRON COUNTY WATERSHED COUNCIL PARTICIPATION** – Jim N is our representative and currently serving as a board member for the start-up of the Council. When Jim provides his report the options for being a member will be described.
  - f. **HISTORIAN POSITION IN PLOA** – this is an important idea that we will continue to pursue, so it will stay on our agenda. We are looking for good information about the lake that can be recorded for the future.
  - g. **NATIONAL FOREST SERVICE (NFS) BOAT LAUNCH MONITORING AND CONTROL PROGRAM** – We have received sufficient funds to have monitoring at the launch this year and Jim is really working this issue. We are planning a capital improvement at the launch that would involve silt curtains along each side of the launch for about 200 ft. and some type of opening that would allow easy boat ingress/egress, yet contain weeds. I am guessing we will need a design, then NFS support, then a permit from the DEQ before we can install anything. Chris Quinn, Jim Novitske and I have been discussing the idea. Any/all ideas are welcome
  - h. **PERCH LAKE/RIVER – WATER LEVEL MONITORING** - After my first request to get a copy of the annual report filed by the NFS with the DEQ resulted in a demand that they would only release under a FOIA request, I am continuing to pursue. I am working with Hal to word my request such that we can satisfy the FOIA requirements without making a formal FOIA request. (Freedom of Information Act)
  - i. **OUTREACH AND MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE** – we lost two members and are now down to 19 total members. As a result , the BOD decided to establish a new committee to work on this issue along with reassigning some of the past treasurer duties, such as selling PLOA gear and

keeping track of the members and property owners. Nancy Foster is working with Liz Quinn to develop an updated map with all the current owners.

j. **FRIENDS (AND "NEXTERS") OF PERCH LAKE** - This is an important issue that the BoD will continue to pursue. Any advice, volunteers, etc.. is welcome. Cliff commented that with the 501c3 status people can now include Perch Lake in their wills.

4. Secretary's Report: A copy of the minutes from last year was distributed. Being they have been on the website comments and corrections was asked for. I made a comment that Our Association is blessed to have so many quality people willing to do so much for our lake.

5. Treasurers Report: Liz quoted a balance of \$792.17 in the general fund and \$10,483.25 in the EWM Donation account.

- Dues for Michigan Lakes and Stream is paid. Representatives are Dave Foster and Hal Petrimoulx
- Membership there are 36 parcels on the lake , in 2013 we had 23 members this year we have 19.
- New Riparian Owners: Donald & Michael Fold bought WM Robillard Property  
David Maydocic bought the Hollar property  
Vain and Patricia Smith bought the Bieber Property

7. Communications Committee report: Tom says he needs more articles and pictures so please send your favorite stories and pictures. Jim suggested to extend our mailings to even more organizations as we have been getting many positive responses .

8. Lake Management Committee Report:

-Correction there is no EWM in Winslow Lake, The property owner mistakenly identified Coontail as EWM. Good news.

-In handouts are Graphs based on data collected of the water quality tests we have been doing for the past few years . Hal presented more information on the Phosphorous and Chlorophyll cycles on the handouts.

-Jim asked for 4 volunteers to monitor the crayfish population by setting out traps once a month and record the data. Send the data to Jim and he will establish a baseline for the Lake. Cliff will do the North end, Mike Obrien will do the East end, Tom Haight will do the West side and Mike Brown will do the south.

- We completed a dive around the boat landing area and found nothing to be concerned ab out. Thank you to Colleen Quinn for providing the diving expertise again.

-We are able to have people monitor the boat landing inspecting boats on Thursday thru Sunday. 10 to 12 hours a day. We currently have 5 people to monitor and the schedule is not filled so if you know of someone who would be interested in making a little money let Jim know.

-We also have been discussing how we can improve on protecting the lake from invasive species. The idea centers around creating an enclosure of sorts at the boat landing area. Our resident engineers Dave and Chris explained a floating boom available at the Laster Company. Idea calls for getting the ok from many agencies. Getting the Forest Service to help convince the state to approve etc. Some questions brought up: Al Madsen asked how difficult is it to maintain? How long so they last? Hal asked about Liability.

Continued information will be in the newsletter.

We still have the very generous offer to match any donation made to our EWM fund, which is tax deductible. In order to implement this new idea we will need some cash in order to demonstrate the viability of this system and obtain permits. This should prove to be more cost effective in the long run than paying monitors because it will be in place 24 hours a day every day all boating season.

-For the past year Jim has been involved with trying to establish a count wide association of lakes. . They are in the last stages of incorporation. They are applying for 501c3 status and will be electing permanent board members. It is going to be basically an individual membership with membership voting for board members and board members controlling everything else. An individual membership will cost \$10.00 per year. They have plans for reaching out to the public at some festivals coming up in the area, such as a booth at the fair and some parade work. They also are going to be reaching out to the school districts and sharing their message with students. Al Madsen made a motion to open our association for the opportunity to join to benefit the county. Jim will put together Pros and cons about joining the county association. He seems to believe that it would be beneficial to have more individual members join from our association.

#### 9. Outreach and Membership Committee:

Cliff just found out a couple day ago that he was chairman of this committee. He understands the need to reach out to get more members questioning who we want to reach out to. Campers was mentioned . Jim spoke up to have only Riparian's and that campers would fall into the Friends of Perch Lake group. We need to ask nonmembers to join. Liz shared that some are fearful of regulations we might have that are common in other Associations and the need for personal touch and information may negate that fear.

#### 10. Old Business:

a. Continue to pursue a historian position in PLOA. We are looking for someone interested in the history of the lake to step forward and lead this project.

b. Friends of Perch Lake - Hal shared information he received from Jill on how to begin this venture. We decided to place emphasis on 3 groups -1) nonmember riparian's 2) campground occupants and 3) "nexters" (family of riparian's) We will need a data base addresses and other information. Maybe do a survey to find out what we could do to involve them. And of course we need volunteers to implement.

#### 11. New business:

##### a. Election of new Board Members

Chris Nominated Dave and Cliff to renew their terms. Margo seconded - carried  
BoD has a problem with no one taking the position of Treasurer with the resignation of Liz.

Cliff made a motion to change the by laws for board members from 7-9 to 7-10 members. Unanimously carried

Chris made motion to give the President authority to appoint a treasurer to this term without separate membership vote. Seconded by Charlie – carried by vote of 10 to 3.

b. A big THANK YOU to Nancy Foster for the lovely dish towels embroidered with "welcome to our Perch Lake Camp" . Everyone who attended the meeting received one.

12. Additions to the agenda: Is it possible to have a directory of members?? Margo, Nancy and Liz will put one together.

13. Motion made by Al seconded by Margo to adjourn. No objection

14. Annual Picnic next door at Hicks-Brown camp. All family members and guests welcome.

Respectfully submitted,

Carol Hicks – Brown

August 1, 2014

ENCL:

1. Agenda for July 2014 Annual Meeting

2. IRS letter for 501c3 status

**AGENDA**  
**Perch Lake Owners Association (PLOA)**  
**Annual meeting July 5, 2014**  
**Held at the Foster Camp at 10:00 AM**

1. Roll Call for Quorum – Dave
2. Adoption of Agenda – All
3. Review and Approve previous (JUL2013) Annual Meeting minutes – All
4. Officers' Reports
  - a. President's report – Dave Foster
  - b. Secretary's report – Carol Hicks-Brown
  - c. Treasurer's report – Liz Quinn
5. Committee Reports
  - a. Communications Committee – Tom Haight
  - b. Lake Management Committee – Jim Novitski
  - c. Outreach & Membership committee – Cliff Janiak
6. Old Business
  - a. 501c3 update/status
  - b. Federal back taxes
  - c. Code of Conduct signed
  - d. PLOA membership in Western Peninsula Invasives Coalition with the Ottawa National Forest
  - e. Iron County Watershed Council participation
  - f. Continue to pursue the development of a historian position in PLOA
  - g. Perch Lake/River - Water Level Monitoring
  - h. Friends of Perch Lake
  - i. Upcoming meetings
    - i. Summer board meeting immediately following annual meeting
    - ii. Fall board meeting – October 4, 2014
7. New Business
  - a. Election of New Board Members – re-elect/replace Dave Foster and Cliff Janiak
  - b. Door Prize for attendance at annual meeting
8. Additions to the agenda
9. Adjourn
10. Collection of dues and Summer Board meeting

INTERNAL REVENUE SERVICE  
P. O. BOX 2508  
CINCINNATI, OH 45201

DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY

Date: FEB 27 2014

PERCH LAKE OWNERS ASSOCIATION  
12885 GREEN ST  
GRAND HAVEN, MI 49417

Employer Identification Number:  
61-1695764  
DLN:  
17053213359033  
Contact Person:  
APRIL D GARRETT ID# 31493  
Contact Telephone Number:  
(877) 829-5500  
Accounting Period Ending:  
December 31  
Public Charity Status:  
170(b)(1)(A)(vi)  
Form 990 Required:  
Yes  
Effective Date of Exemption:  
May 15, 2010  
Contribution Deductibility:  
Yes  
Addendum Applies:  
Yes

Dear Applicant:

We are pleased to inform you that upon review of your application for tax exempt status we have determined that you are exempt from Federal income tax under section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code. Contributions to you are deductible under section 170 of the Code. You are also qualified to receive tax deductible bequests, devises, transfers or gifts under section 2055, 2106 or 2522 of the Code. Because this letter could help resolve any questions regarding your exempt status, you should keep it in your permanent records.

Organizations exempt under section 501(c)(3) of the Code are further classified as either public charities or private foundations. We determined that you are a public charity under the Code section(s) listed in the heading of this letter.

Please see enclosed Publication 4221-PC, Compliance Guide for 501(c)(3) Public Charities, for some helpful information about your responsibilities as an exempt organization.

Sincerely,



Director, Exempt Organizations

Enclosure: Publication 4221-PC

Letter 947

