

LTEA Board Meeting – February 26, 2020 – Oakwood Schools’ Unit Office, 7:00pm

Dr. Bartosh called the meeting to order at 7pm followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

Roll Call – Don Smoot (Secretary)– Those present: Dr. Bartosh, John Hines, Don Smoot, Sherry Cole, Rich Stipp, George Peterson, Bob Neff, and John Thompson.

Those Absent: Pat Bennett and Brian McQueen

1. Recognition of guests: 4 guests present
2. President’s report – no report
3. Vice president’s report & Health & safety – Pat Bennett (absent, presented by Don Smoot)
 - a. Sale of property at 117 Garrison Vision - Kelly Philips sold to Robert Smith. However, Don already has Robert Smith owning it. Sherry Mascari stated that Kelly and Robert owned it, and Kelly signed it over to Robert Smith
 - b. Last meeting he talked about contacting realtor and the lots offered on Flat Hill are for \$48,900.
 - c. Nominations – talked about trying to replace John Thompson. Jan stated that she put something on the bulletin board and on NextDoor. She knows a few people. Pat had some suggestions, all stated they would not be on the board. Don requested any suggestions for new board members by the 2nd week of March. Requirements to be on the board is to be in good standing. Mr. Smoot clarified that a non-resident would start immediately and serve for 3 years.
4. Treasurer’s report – John Hines
 - a. Mr. Hines thanked Rich for his help in Excel – there were incorrect formulas found in August. Prior reports from September 2019 through January 2020 are attached. Questions can be addressed at the next meeting for prior reports
 - b. Current Balances: checking account: \$6,225; savings: \$36,154.
 - c. Jan James had a question in December 2019 – roads and buildings budgets were increased. John Hines stated that we borrowed \$60,000. Mr. Stipp stated that \$52,400 of the \$60,000 borrowed went to the roads, which is why the roads budget increased. \$7,600 of the building increased which is the remainder of the loan. Roads is over budget due to the snow plowing. Buildings and grounds is calculated incorrectly on the spreadsheet for the “remaining” amount. There is approximately \$43,000 which has not been spent, which includes contingency fund.
 - d. Audit – Auditor does not have our audit complete, but when it’s done, it will be done through last year. Auditor requested tax returns. Mr. Hines stated that LTEA has not been filing tax returns. Gary James stated that Larry Mackey took information to Judy Coats, and she should have been filing them. Gary said that it’s a minimal report which is about 1-2 pages. Member stated she thought audit had to be completed first, and then the taxes could. John said we’ll have to play catchup for a couple of years of taxes.
 - e. Doc has set up a meeting with the attorney for liens so we can process the liens. There are currently 8 liens uncollected.
5. Don: Minutes –
 - a. Memoriams
 - i. Susan Modglin
 - ii. Jack Hafner – former long term resident
 - iii. Minutes of 1/22/20 & 2/12/20 planning sessions – approved as presented
6. Committee Reports
 - a. Sherry Cole – Roads

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- i. Sherry had one complaint about snow pushed into the driveway. Troy apologized and took care of the problem.
 - ii. Dr. Bartosh, Don Smoot & Rich Stipp cleaned the culvert out on Eagle Bluff, and the water has dropped 10-12 inches and is flowing again, and appears to be running as well as ever. As long as the clearance is maintained, it should run well. There is a pole in the shed to help with culvert blockages in the future.
 - b. Rich Stipp – Gates
 - i. North gate: AT&T had lowered rate and they stopped this due to the dry loop installed in January. Rich spent 3 hours on the phone with AT&T; got our large bill reduced and a refund given. LTEA now has a credit of \$76 for the north gate. The bill is now \$25 monthly plus taxes which is estimated to equate to \$35-\$40 monthly.
 - ii. South gate: Bill was 9 cents past due because of incorrect check amount. LTEA was charged \$15 for the past due. Rich called and got that waived. AT&T also issued a credit for \$10 on South gate, so next bill will only be \$22.
 - iii. DVR on south gate is not operational, and the tech rep does not know why. Johnson Control sent out a tech rep. The only explanation offered is the bandwidth isn’t large enough. However, North gate is working fine with the same bandwidth. Rich talked to the sales rep, as we’re paying for the repair. Sales rep will come out to try to fix the problem, and believes he can do so.
 - iv. On 2/11, Amazon arrived to install the automated system on the north gate. He installed the unit but couldn’t get signal on his phone to activate. Rich advised him to get a cell service that works in the area. Rep took out the unit and left. Rich called the rep who services the area in Champaign and the head office in Seattle, WA. He said the reps assured him it will be installed.
 - v. John Hines said that AT&T has put north & south gate on one bill going forward. Rich stated that it’s back to 2 bills because it’s 2 separate accounts.
 - vi. Don Smoot stated that Amazon in IL fired most contract carriers and the white vans with the Bears logo on them will not be coming any longer and neither will people in their cars. The explanation from Amazon was the contract carriers couldn’t deliver as fast as Amazon deliveries.
 - c. Brian McQueen – Building Codes – absent – no report
 - d. George Peterson – Water – No report
 - e. Bob Neff – Wildlife – No report
7. Old Business
 - a. Section 2 – A – 5 – Proposed rule changing weight limit on bridge – 2nd reading (requires motion, second & vote) – proposal states “as posted” and eliminates specific weight.
 - i. Motion by Don Smoot; Second by Sherry Cole. Passed unanimously.

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- b. Committee to review Bylaws Article 3.04(a), 9 (Annual Assessments)
 - i. Jan James asked for the purpose of this. Don stated that the purpose is to see if they can come up with something.
 - ii. Problems we are currently having:
 - 1. Example, the 4 lots that LTEA has for sale...if one person purchases all, that’s 4 assessments. We will check to see if the person LTEA purchased the lots from was paying 4 assessments or 1.
 - 2. In last 2 months, Don has had realtors tell him that they could have sold property if there was only one assessment.
 - iii. Don stated that he asked 4 people to review this: Gary as historian, and 3 others that have complained about this policy. He said that he has asked them to review to see if they can figure out something better.
 - c. Additional Insurance coverage – Don asked if LTEA decided to purchase umbrella policy for \$448. Asked if we have it now or not. Dr. Bartosh thought we did. Don will check to see if we currently have an umbrella policy.
8. New Business
- a. Annual meeting is at the Danville Civic Center at 3pm on May 17, 2020.
 - b. Change rule regarding boat stickers – 1st reading (Don)
 - i. Withdrawing for now
 - ii. Although it’s withdrawn, Jan James had a question regarding boat stickers. When people are on the lake, for our own safety and protection, do you want to know who is on those boats or not? Don said on Lake Florence, most boats probably don’t even belong to LTEA anymore, so the boat sticker doesn’t matter. Dr. Bartosh stated that we’re tabling the vote now, but how do you enforce it. Jan said you can. Dr. Bartosh asked how. Gary James stated that he tells people they are calling the police. He said he had 4 people from Watseka load up because he threatened to call the police. He stated the Loren Douglas has done that as well.
 - iii. Don Smoot asked if we’re going to be enforcing boat stickers, why not have stickers on the cars? If you don’t belong to LTEA, with the exception of Lake Florence, how do you get a boat into LTEA? Member stated that if the gate is open. Bob Neff said that people get mad if you ask where their sticker is at. If people actually live out here, they get mad.
 - iv. Don asked why we have trailer stickers? It’s not in the rules.
 - v. Jan asked how we protect ourselves if something goes wrong without a sticker. Don said they are trespassing. The greatest threat is people who live here.
 - vi. George Peterson stated that this topic warrants a lot more discussion, as there are certain boats (canoes, kayaks, etc.) which do not require stickers.
 - vii. Rich Stipp stated he’s on the lake a lot. He doesn’t see many other boats on the water. We have gates that are open for the busses, but when the busses are done, the gates are down.

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- viii. Dr. Bartosh stated that most people who break the rules are people who live out here. It’s not like it was 10 and 20 years ago. People we would be dealing with are angry and ugly today. We are trying to do everything we can to take care of this. Which is why it is tabled – it warrants further discussion. We want to do what is right for everyone. Another option is to increase the size of the boat stickers so they are very visible. We could hire someone to sit on the lake and check all boats.
- ix. Rich said that we have lost almost \$100 on boat stickers. He said that he has 100 stickers that aren’t even on boats, but the year prior, they almost ran out. Rich doesn’t think our residents are even putting the stickers on.
- x. Sherry Cole stated that the biggest complaint was that we were paying to stock the lakes and people who don’t live here would come out and fish.
- xi. George Peterson said that long time residents that you know they live here but don’t have a boat sticker, that’s another issue.
- xii. Don said in his opinion we have rules for 2 reasons: control or revenue. However, Bob has been threatened for asking where a boat sticker is, so Don is not about to ask someone where theirs is. He doesn’t live out here to be a police officer.
- xiii. Sherry Mascari said there were issues about increased traffic on the lakes and they were leaving their garbage everywhere. That’s why we have the boat stickers. Sherry said we also had stickers on the cars at one time.
- xiv. Don stated that according to the rules, kayaks should have stickers. There are only 2 exceptions: Canoes & paddleboats. Rich said that kayaks used to be registered. They’re not titled anymore, so we cannot give them a boat sticker.
- xv. Dr. Bartosh said that you can call him or any other board member with suggestions.
- xvi. John Hines stated that he hears of people buying more cards for friends. He thinks there are more people living out here not purchasing stickers because no one polices it. John thinks it’s a moot point.
- xvii. Dr. Bartosh stated that it’s a good point to bring up at the annual meeting.
- xviii. Don stated that there are other issues that are more important that need to be discussed. This was supposed to be tabled.
- c. Proposed bylaw change for annual meeting date (Don)
 - i. Proposed date was 1st Sunday in May. Don stated that the 1st Sunday in May is often college graduations. Someone at annual meeting suggested 3rd Sunday of April. Don stated that 3rd Sunday in April is often Easter. Don said that the 4th Sunday in April, there is not a conflict of Easter until 2038.

9. Next Meetings

- a. March 11, Board Planning Session @ Pollywogs (6:45pm)
- b. March 25, Board Meeting at Oakwood School District Unit Office (7:00pm)

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10. Executive session – has to be on the agenda but the board does not always go into executive session
11. Adjournment at 8:30pm – motion by Sherry Cole; second by John Hines – all in favor.