

Minutes of Hicks Lake Milfoil "Combat" Meeting Saturday, May 2, 2009

Call to Order at 9:10 A.M. by **Mike Ritzer**.

Minutes of last meeting presented by **Sandy Altemann**.

Move to accept minutes – Nancy Beckwith; Seconded – Chris Altemann. Motion carried.

OLD BUSINESS

Review of 2008 Weevil Program – **Mike Ritzer**

- Sign placed at the Public Access by **Nancy Beckwith**
- Sign remained until vandalized
- Good message to the boaters coming in through the access. Should continue with signage.
- Weevil planting in July 2008 on cold, inclement day.
- No sign of milfoil at the first or second locations.
- Planted at third location.
- Two bouys marked the area and plotted on GPS.
- **Discussion:**
 - **Nancy and Larry Beckwith and Chris Altemann** commented to the success of the project. Water was "clear [of milfoil] in a circle of weeds."
 - Biologist **Wayne Winslow** – "Be patient and continue."
 - **Nancy Beckwith** – Bouys were vandalized. Were they returned?"
 - **Mike Ritzer** – all back in place. Thinks they were not vandalized, but poorly installed.
 - Concern about skiers and floats jumping over the bouys. **Mike Ritzer** asked them to avoid area which they did.
 - **Wayne Winslow** – Weed patch is smaller, so it is successful. He is convinced Hicks has a "great environment for success. The weevils will gravitate to the perfect habitat."
 - **Chris Altemann** – Will weevils relocate if they are over-populating an area?
 - **___?___** -- Will weevils go to other side during the winter?
 - **Mike Ritzer** – Maybe.

Projection for 2009 Weevil Program – Mike Ritzer

- **Mike Ritzer** – Collected \$2,000 already, plus any contributions today. Need \$4,000 to plant weevils. May send a repeat mailing to generate more funds.
- **Chris Altemann** --- People can check the website for information. **Suggestion:** Only mail to non-respondents.
- **Mike Ritzer** – **Discussion:** What should be the deadline for collection toward the Weevil Fund?
 - **Mike Ritzer** – Down payment due first.
 - **Mike Ritzer** – Suggest all moneys due June 15, 2009, so we can determine how many weevils we need.
 - **Doug Winslow** – We need to get on the company's timetable.
 - **Chris Altemann** – Do we need to contact DNR?
 - **Mike Ritzer** – No

Motion: Set June 15, 2009, for the deadline for contributions to the Weevil Fund. Moved by Nancy Romanek. Seconded by Nancy Beckwith. **Motion carried.**

NEW BUSINESS

Additional Fundraising

- **Wayne Winslow** – Suggestion of spaghetti dinner or pancake supper to raise money for the Hicks Lake fireworks or to pay for the sign at the access.

Motion Amended: PROJECTED DEADLINE OF June 15, 2009, for contributions to the Weevil Fund. ADDITIONAL FUNDS WILL ALWAYS BE ACCEPTED. **Amended Motion carried.**

- **Discussion:**
 - **Doug Winslow** – Call it something else. *Fundraiser* has a bad name.
 - **Nancy Romanek** – **Suggestion:** Free fishing weekend
 - **Wayne Winslow** – Maybe have games, competition, or raffle.
 - **Sandy Altemann** – It would be a good way to get acquainted and socialize.
 - **Nancy Romanek** – Games are a good idea.
 - **Chris Altemann** – Maybe the Barnyard 400 would use our weevil project for its fund recipient. I will ask them.

Motion: Schedule a Summer Block Party after the weevil planting and after the Fourth of July to raise supplemental funds. Moved by Rod Courser. Seconded by Nancy Beckwith. Motion carried.

- **Discussion:**

- **Nancy Beckwith** – Funds will be used for which year’s project? We will need to distribute information.
- **Sandy Altemann** – Set up grills and people can bring hotdogs and burgers to grill.
- **Larry Beckwith** – Form a committee to plan the Block Party.
- **Wayne Winslow** – Good idea.
- **Committee Formed: Wayne Winslow, Doug Winslow, Rod Courser, Nancy Beckwith, Sandy Altemann**

Weevil Placement – Mike Ritzer

- **Where shall we plant the weevils?**
- **Discussion:**
 - **Wayne Winslow** – Near boat launch.
 - **Doug Winslow** – Mark the places with bouys.
 - **Nancy Beckwith** – Near VanScoys.

Motion: Leave placement of weevils up to the professionals. Moved by Nancy Romenek. Seconded by Rod Courser. Motion carried.

Additional Sign for Entrance to Hicks Lake – Mike Ritzer

Motion: Purchase another sign from Weevil Project funds to post in front of Mike Ritzer’s cottage. Moved by Doug Winslow. Seconded by ___? ___. Motion carried.

Miscellaneous Business – Mike Ritzer

- Hicks Lake has a new website, designed by **Mike Ritzer**’s daughter. Check it out! hickslake.org.
- **Nancy Beckwith** has a last year’s Spring Water Quality Report, if anyone wants to see it.
- **Mike Ritzer** will place the spring Water Quality Report on the website.

- **Ralph Bednerz** – Side by Side water quality tests from Michigan Corps of Engineers and Michigan Department of Environmental Quality scheduled for May 14, 2009. **Nancy Beckwith** will assist agencies with tests.
- **Sandy Altemann** – Formal thank you to **Mike Ritzer** for his diligent and valuable work for the improvement of Hicks Lake. **Applause.**
- **Mike Ritzer** – Thank you.
- **Mike Ritzer** – I hope people are informed about the Weevil Project. Attendance at this meeting is lower than last year. I hope people are pleased with last year's results, and that is why they did not attend. Economy could be a factor, too.
- **Mike Ritzer** – I will update the website as needed.

Meeting Adjourned at 9:50 A.M.

Minutes Respectfully Submitted,

Sandra Altemann