

VELA Spring Meeting Minutes
Sat, September 10, 2016
Robert J Parks Library

BOD Attendees: Joe Plunkey, Carole Plunkey, Doug Jager, Celeste Creger, Norm Ritter, Leonard Brockhahn, Devon Tasior - Absentee: Dave Swenson, Janice Wilber

Call to Order: 10 AM with pledge of allegiance

Agenda Additions Joe P added one agenda item regarding PFC's and well contamination update

Reading of Minutes: Carole P read the minutes from the July meeting – approved as read

Treasurer's Report: Leonard B reported account balances of \$10,402 in checking and \$10, 780 in savings. No outstanding bills reported

Membership: Leonard B reported membership at 290

Lake Monitor Report: Dan Stock reported water clarity at 5 ft – reduction probably due to increase in algae. Spring Phosphorus results not yet available, but expectation is that it is similar to results of other testing as water leaves the lake, and that number is 26 ppb. Readings below 20 ppb are more desirable for better water quality.

Weed Committee Report: Doug J prepared a year-end report for member review which stated the total amount spent on weed control for this season was \$39,510. He reminded everyone that the township “upfronts” the monies spent and then property owners are billed for the exact amount on the winter tax bill. SAD will be in effect until 2020. Lake Pro Management Firm contract was only through this year, so new bidding process will be implemented by the township to decide who this will be for 2017. VELA Weed committee can make recommendations to the township board regarding the selection, but ultimately, the township makes the decision.

Endowment Fund: Carole P reported \$18,164.24 in the Total Fund - \$3,075.53 Spendable Account.

Riparian Magazine: Carole P reviewed the magazine article which features VanEtten Lake and stated that VELA had purchased copies for everyone in attendance. Additional copies are available upon request.

PRVEL Report: Carole P gave a review of current projects within the watershed and invited everyone to their next meeting Thurs, Oct 27, at 10 am in Greenbush at the township hall. She gave further information on the crowd hydrology program which anyone with a cell phone can participate in and asked for volunteers to help with the fall macroinvertebrate sampling program. More information is available on all programs on [vanettenlake.org website](http://vanettenlake.org). Doug J gave a brief report on the 80 acre ERA site for monitoring of invasive species which is being monitored by PRVEL volunteers. Anyone interested in helping with this project, contact him

Annual Picnic: Shirley Brockhahn reported less than usual turn-out for the August picnic this year, but participants reported being very pleased with menu, prizes, and entertainment. Overall cost of the picnic was below average at \$700. She noted that the pavilion where picnic is held now has an air-conditioner. Reservation already made for next year.

Pending Issues: Meeting with Township to discuss boat launch fees, septic system ordinance, and use of endowment funds: Joe P reported no new information to report, as no work session yet scheduled – may not take place until after township elections – unsure.

PFC Well Contamination: Joe P read an update from Paul Rekowski, an environmental consultant contracted by the AF, on the issue of potential PFC contamination of a number of wells close to the old AF base. Testing is still underway. Those homes effected are being given options for safe water usage. Discussion followed and members advised to watch announcements for any upcoming meetings regarding this issue to stay informed. The township board has requested that an advisory board be re-established to stay on top of the issue – suggestion was made that VELA be represented on that board. No new fish advisories have been issued regarding VE lake – Eat Safe Fish handouts were available for more details

Additional Topics – Open Comments: Board member Celeste C thanked picnic committee for all their hard work.

Adjourn: The meeting was adjourned at 11:05 am

Respectfully Submitted, Carole Plunkey, Secretary