

VELA Annual Meeting Minutes
Saturday July 7, 2018 – 10 AM
Robert J Parks Library

BOD Attendees: Joe Plunkey, Carole Plunkey, Doug Jager, Celeste Creger, Rick Copland, Frank Rainey, Dave Swenson, Leonard Brockhahn. Absent: Leif Lindblom

Call to Order: 10 AM with pledge of allegiance followed by introductions of board members and guest, Dave Schafer (township superintendent)

Reading of Minutes: Minutes from June/2018 meeting read and approved.

Treasurer's Report: Leonard B reported current balances - checking \$14,968.95 savings \$10,796.66 He also presented the proposed budget for 2018/19 and answered questions regarding listed items. Vote was taken to approve the budget and passed unanimously.

Membership: Shirley Brockhahn reported current membership at 281. Member question regarding how new residents are informed of VELA – Carole P has membership packages to give out if/when she is contacted with info – suggestion made to put signage up on lawns to inform people of VELA and who to contact to become a member. Board to discuss and follow-up.

Weed Committee Report: Doug J reported that treatment areas were completed late June – next treatment date July 10th to address nuisance weeds and algae if present. No IS found at this time.

Water Quality: Dan S reported clarity readings for July at about 7-8 ft. Temperatures running about 70 degrees and no blue-green algae present.

Dam Update: Dam operator Greg Cole explained dam operations in relation to weather conditions. Floating logs have not been a problem, but plans are in place if needed to remove any large debris before it reaches the dam itself.

Watershed Report: Carole P gave an overview of what the watershed group does and current programs. Conservation projects to begin in August to stabilize streambanks to prevent erosion. Ongoing inventory of state land north of the lake for invasive plant species began in June with plans to re-visit this month for any removal and/or treatment. Still looking for assist from anyone who has a small boat to be used to motor up-river to reach site – contact Doug if able to help.

Endowment Fund: Carole P reported \$23,211.19 in the Total Fund - \$4,615.58 Spendable Account. These funds may be used for any upcoming improvements to Ken Ratliff Park as proposed by the township, if they meet the criteria for distribution. Brochures outlining the fund were made available for members.

Picnic Plans: Plans are underway for the annual VELA picnic on Saturday, Aug 4 at 5 PM. Food, exceptional prizes, 50/50 drawing, and face-painting for the kids are all planned and people are being asked to bring a dish to pass. Anyone wanting to help set up/take down, please contact Shirley Brockhahn

PFC Issues: Joe P reported on the new Charcoal Filtration System being built in the Wurtsmith District to help in the clean-up of PFC chemicals released into ground and surface waters on and around the

old AFB. He strongly encouraged all membership to attend community meetings which are held periodically to inform the public of actions being taken to address this problem. The next meeting is scheduled for August 15th. These meetings have been televised in the past but funding is an issue. Suggestion made that VELA consider making a donation toward this effort. Board to decide. Past meetings can be viewed online by googling restoration advisory board youtube. Question was asked if anyone had observed any new foam on the lake? None seen by those in attendance. Greg C stated that plans are underway to provide a DEQ phone contact if/when foam is observed.

Elections: Four positions open for nominations – Carole Plunkey, Joe Plunkey, Celeste Creger, and Leonard Brockhahn -Celeste and Leonard are willing to remain. Two nominations from the floor – Mike Clemons and Russell Williams. Slate of four unanimously voted in. New board to meet at a later date to select officers. Dave S thanked retiring board members Carole and Joe Plunkey for their many years of service to VELA.

Other Issues:

- Website has been offline as directed by advising attorney in regards to current copyright infringement issue related to an unauthorized picture shown on the website. Summary of actions taken so far given by Carole P – she will be working with the webmaster to re-design the website to ensure that all content is compliant with copyright rules. Facebook page still running – members encouraged to “like” page and share with friends along with postings of any family pictures of “fun on the lake”.
- Question regarding lake access area on Lakeview Drive – suggestion given to contact assessors office to determine who owns the property and/or who to contact for access.

Adjourn: The meeting was adjourned at 11:15 am

Respectfully Submitted, Carole Plunkey, Secretary