

Minutes of the September 9, 2023
Barlow Lake Association Meeting
Web Site: www.BarlowLakeMI.com

The September 9, 2023 Barlow Lake Association meeting was called to order by President, Rick Gannon with 50 Homeowners (representing 39 families) including all four Officers present. Current Officers, Area Captains, Event Chairpersons, Volunteers and New Residents were recognized.

Meeting Minutes

Minutes from May 20, 2023 Lake Association meeting were provided to those in attendance.

Treasurer's Report

Financial reports were provided to those in attendance. Treasurer Lori Ritter reviewed the P & L and Balance sheet. The new Autobooks/QR Code provided a quick link for dues payments. 31% of dues were paid by Autobooks/QR code link. Average dues paid is \$83.00 and 85% of residents pay dues. 2023 is the most collected dues/other income (merchandise sales, calendars, etc.) for our association to date. \$2,590 was collected from sending past due reminder notices.

Fireworks

Proposed date for 2024 Fireworks is **Saturday, July 6 at 10:15 pm**. The fireworks for 2023 were \$9,500 and the 2024 estimate is coming in at \$10,400 for a similar show. The fireworks industry is seeing extensive rises in material costs and product availability which continues to be reflected in show quotes.

Fish Program

The Fishing Committee recommends a fish plant this year, then break for 1-2 years from planting. Mike Moerman – Committee Chair has filed an application to plant 1,000 5-9" Walleye for \$3,300 (last year 1,000 Walleye and 1,000 Perch were planted). Stay tuned for 2023 Fishing Contest (running from June 1 -August 31, 2023). Winners to be announced. Gift card prizes will be awarded for 18 and under. A certificate for 18+ will be presented. Contact Mike Moerman with your name, fish species, size and date of catch. **REMINDER:** catch Pike and Bass...and eat them (see video link on Facebook).

Barlow Lake Newsletter:

Thank YOU **Karen Hale** for creating another amazing Summer 2023 Newsletter! 245 newsletters were printed. This newsletter along with past issues can be found at www.BarlowLakeMI.com

Water Testing and Milfoil Update/Weed Control

Alan and Cindy Hooker take samples weekly during the summer months for water clarity and yearly for phosphorus. Weed control treatments are providing good results. The overall phosphorus level continues to be rising due to yard fertilizer run-off. In the spring of 2023 levels were 17 (typically 7-9) is desired. These numbers are something to monitor. The Data Report can be reviewed at www.BarlowLakeMI.com under the Resource Tab. IMPORTANT: Professional Lake Management is **recommending the use of 0 Phosphorus/0 Nitrate fertilizer** to help algae, fish and lake health management.

Association Meeting Minutes

Boat Parade

16 Boats participated in the 2023 Parade. Love all the energy and creative ideas! First Place went to the Dressander Family and an Honorable Mention to the Potgeter Boat. 200 gifts were handed out for the kids. A reminder to boats to make a "FULL LAP" around the lake so all families on shore can see your boat decorations. The theme for 2024 is "Cartoons" start your planning now!!

Welcome Committee

The Welcome committee has reached out to new families with Barlow Lake goodies and community information along with hugs and warm welcome greetings! Please let Wendy Loveless or the Welcome Committee know if you have a new neighbor!

Paddle Poker Run and Venetian Light Boat Parade – August 19, 2023

The 2nd Annual Paddle Poker Run was back with 49 Paddlers joining in the fun! Lake residents mingled on the lake and at each stop! Many great local sponsors donated wonderful prizes and money awarded for the top 3 poker hands. \$75 was donated to the Association, \$100 was donated to the YCamp! ***Mark your calendar for August 17, 2024!*** Information will start to roll out in June for early sign ups. Venetian Light Boat Parade had 5 glowing and amazing boats that lighted the night! So much fun on the water AND shore with campfires and glow sticks!!

Lake Buoys

Roger Offringa is awaiting the permit submitted the EGLE permit for registering our 5 buoys with the State of Michigan. Oldest buoy has a leak and will likely need to be replaced in 2024.

Web Site: www.BarlowLakeMI.com

Check the Association web site for everything Barlow. A nice collection of is up and running and ***LOADED*** with helpful information and resource tools. Check it out!

Y-Camp Day – August 5, 2023

Live music, snacks and slushies were a hit with about 200 people in attendance enjoying zip line, archery, climbing wall and more and about 20 boats in the water enjoying the live music and chance to play on the inflatables. ***Proposed date next year is 8/3/24 from 2-5pm.***

Y-Camp Updates:

Camp Director, Luke Gerke shared that about 2,033 campers attended day camp. 2023 saw the return of the sailing program. Luke mentioned they are a 501c3 Non-Profit Organization and welcome community support/volunteers willing to share their time, treasure and talents.

Weed Control/Milfoil Update:

Weed treatment of invasive species will continue, Starry Stonewort seems to be getting larger and is something to be watched. Copper Sulphate – Researching its use and cost effective alternative options.

2024 Lake Calendar:

Send photos to Ryan Asbury. Reminder to take photos throughout the year to submit.

Old Business

Association Dues will increase to \$100 effective 2024. Notice will go out with the Spring 2024 newsletter.

New Business

* 50/50 Raffle Winner was \$70 to Rick Gannon. \$70 was donated to Association General Fund.

* Next Association Meeting will be on **Saturday, May 18 at 9am at the Yankee Springs Township Hall**

* 2 year mark for Board Officer Election. President, Vice President and Secretary requested to stay on. No nominees stepped forward so those positions will remain with current Officers. Treasurer Lori Ritter is stepping away due to time constraints and nominated Greg Clark. Greg was voted in and will serve as the Association Treasurer bringing his extensive CPA experience to the position. Welcome Greg!

Member Comments

* There was discussion about non-residents parking off Shaw Lake and fishing.

* There was discussion about the gravel condition of the Shaw Lake access.

Following the member comments, the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Marilyn Wagner