

Ann Lake Property Owners' Association
Meeting Minutes
April 27, 2023

I. Call to Order: 10:25 AM

II. Roll Call of Officers and Board:

President:	Kathy Garmes Taylor	Present
Vice President:	Kent Taylor	Present
Treasurer:	Dave Maxson	Present
Secretary:	Maggie Sowers	Present
Member at Large:	Sven Anderson	Present
Member at Large:	Val Dahlberg	Present
Member at Large:	Jeff Dahlberg	Present
Member at Large:	Terry Sowers	Present
Member at Large:	Vacant	

III. Approval of Minutes from last meeting: Kathy moved the minutes from the last meeting (September 9, 2022) be approved. Maggie seconded. All approved.

IV. Report of Officers:

President: Kathy's personal goal for this year is to work on succession plans for the board members and committee chairs.

Vice President: Kent has no report.

Treasurer: Dave sent a treasurer's report to all board members (see below). Financially we are sound, with plenty of working capital. Committees have not yet requested money for this year. Those will be discussed as a part of committee reports and the budget amended accordingly. **Jeff motioned the treasurers report be approved and Kent seconded. All approved.**

Secretary: It has been proposed we use an external hard drive to back up meeting minutes and other documents. At this time the entire website is backed up in the cloud once a month which keeps a max of 4 months at a time. The external hard drive would be held by the secretary. **Dave moved we purchase an external hard drive for back up for a cost of \$100 or less. Maggie seconded. All approved.** Maggie will make the purchase.

V. Report of Standing Committees:

Communications:

Government:

1. Craig has left the board. There is no replacement. The village has regular monthly meetings as does the township. It is necessary to have someone who lives in the area so attendance is possible.

Nominating and Membership:

1. At this time we have 55 members. This should increase at the Annual Meeting. Jeff has not yet met with his committee. Sven would like to retire from the board his term runs through 2025. He still wishes to help with committee work. Maggie and Terry are up for reelection this year.

2. Sven does not feel the objective of the boat decorating contest has been met since our membership has not increased. He suggests we stop the contest and prizes. Having the photos in the Lake Ann Brewery is enough. Many people participate in the boat parade and some folks decorate their boats which is a lot of fun and is free advertising for ALPOA.

3. Historically membership increases when there is a problem for the Lake. Dave feels that Covid slowed membership somewhat. He will help Jeff with a more aggressive approach by contacting previous members that have not yet paid dues and seeking out new property owners.

Events:

1. Annual Meeting: We have reserved the town hall. This is our 25th anniversary which should be recognized. Several suggestions were made. Maggie will investigate related expense. Val will provide a coffee pot. Kathy has arranged guest speakers from the DNR to discuss wake boats and other legal concerns.

The process of voting during our annual meeting should be formalized. We need to be more diligent about sign in at the annual meeting. We should decide how each voting "member" (one household=one vote) will be decided.

2. Boat Parade: The theme for the boat parade decorating contest "Americana" will continue for the foreseeable future. We have signs announcing the annual meeting that we will distribute like last year. Sowers family will judge the contest and Taylors will lead the parade.

3. Lake Ann Homecoming Days: Val and Jeff wish to organize an ALPOA booth this year. It is an opportunity to talk about ALPOA and our work. They have lots of things to distribute to booth visitors. They figure it will take about 6 hours plus set up and tear down. They will be looking for “helpers” and ideas.

Newsletter:

1. When members wish to express their thoughts or concerns should we provide space for them to do in the Newsletter or on the Website. This is a new issue.

We agreed that there could not be a place in the newsletter based on expense and space. Changes to the website would need to be approved by the board. Instead members will be encouraged to bring up their issues at the annual meeting.

2. The Facebook Page as proposed last September never got started. No one could find a site designated to ALPOA. It requires someone, on the board who can screen the facebook page on a daily basis. The Website Committee does not have time to assume this responsibility. Terry will ask to have it taken down.

3. Val wishes to know if there are any additional changes to the Newsletter. Deadline date is May 2.

Val learned the Interlochen Public Library only allows 30 copies so not feasible. Copy Center was \$312.00, Staples was more than that. Printing costs at Central Methodist Church are still the best way for us. Last year we paid the Church \$75.54 for actual printing costs and then made an additional donation of \$150.00. We will wait to learn what the printing costs for the church will be this year and then decide on a donation. We have \$300.00 budgeted for this years expenses which includes postage. It is possible that mailing hard copies will be cost prohibitive in the future.

Website:

1. Kathy plans to form a website committee. Right now the website is being managed by Kathy and Scott Hedberg.

Environmental:

Invasive Species:

1. See below for Kent’s report.

2. Some people are going to the CLMP invasive species identification seminar which will increase the number of people able to help with our volunteer lake

surveys. He has sent the PLM annual report to our board members and it is posted on the website.

3. An informal survey of the boat launch showed a maximum of 5 trailers in one day. The average was 2.8 trailers factoring in weekends and weekdays. This would suggest having a boat washing station would be expensive and not a good value. However, tools to clean your boat and a sign explaining what to do would be a good idea.

4. Purple loose strife survey was a success. As a committee we have not done some of the things proposed last year. Herendeene Lake continues to be an issue. Lake Dubonnet is also contaminated with EWM. This lake feeds Ann Lake through an underground stream which hopefully filters invasive species. We should add Mud Lake to our surveys.

5. Kent proposes a kayak survey for bright green filament type algae which hangs onto solid surfaces. Its presence can be an indicator of increased phosphorus levels. (See Water Quality Report below).

6. Val would like to add invasive species identification pictures in next years Newsletter. There was some discussion about this.

7. Kent would like \$200 for related expenses this year.

Health and Safety: No committee/no report.

Loons:

1. Kathy will put the nest out later today. Buoys will go out shortly after. Kathy requested \$100 for replacement of nest materials.

Water Quality:

1. Dave sent everyone the year end report from CLMP. Phosphorus is trending slightly upward which he believes is related to goose droppings on lawns that edge the water without any kind of greenbelt. Another possible source is leaching from leaking septic systems. He has considered speaking to home owners who do not have sufficient green belts. Fertilizing close to the lake is another source. Should we take this problem to the township. Phosphorus is tested twice a year- early spring and late summer.

2. Dave is very encouraged that there are two people who are interested in helping with the Water Quality committee

VI. Old Business:

1. Bylaws Committee met three times late last summer. We revised, reorganized and simplified the bylaws. The most important item is having membership opened to non riparians who would be non voting. Notification of the change went on our winter postcard and was also posted in the newsletter and is on the website. Val will lead the discussion at the Annual Meeting.

2. Kathy asked why the Past President position has been eliminated. She thinks it is good for continuity within the board to have the previous years president advise the incoming president. Val explained that in the new Bylaws the power to fill vacancies lies with the board to allow for flexibility, and the problem of continuity should be resolved.

3. Articles of Incorporation: If the proposed Bylaws are passed, we will need to revise the Articles of Incorporation so the two agree. Jeff distributed a written copy of his suggestions for Articles of Incorporation based on the proposed Bylaws. This is a document that typically supersedes the Bylaws. The two should be implemented within a reasonable timeframe of one another.

Jeff researched many other similar organizations. He learned the Articles of Incorporation for them are usually very simple with only four basic requirements. ALPOA's current AOI are quite complex and he suggests that templates from Michigan Law were used to structure them. He suggests our AOI can be simplified. Val spoke with Sarah Thompson who is the attorney who formulated the originals. Sarah told Val that an AOI can be a complicated or as simple as the organization likes. Val is concerned we do not eliminate wording that would protect us. Jeff stated we are protected by the State of Michigan by the laws that protect a corporation.

We will look at Jeff's suggestions and discuss them at the next meeting. Kathy asked Jeff to restate his document in writing for the board members. The proposed AOI is based on the new Bylaws and will be voted on after the annual meeting; assuming Bylaw changes pass.

Registration with the LARA is done either by the President or the Treasurer.

VII. New Business:

1. Dates for summer board meetings.

May 15	10:00 AM	Taylor's
June 5	10:00 AM	Taylor's
TBA	Greenbelt award water tour	
June 17	Annual Meeting	
July 10	10:00 AM	Taylor's
August 8	10:00 AM	Taylor's
TBA	Pot Luck Dinner	Dahlberg's

2. We used to get reports from the Sheriff that listed infractions they identified during their patrols. We rarely see the Sheriff on Ann Lake any more. Do we want to investigate? Terry tried to establish contact with the Sheriff last year to request a guest speaker. He got no response. Kathy asked him to try this year to learn their schedule for patrolling Ann Lake.

Dave asked if there are any issues that would require the Sheriff to be here. Kent responded monitoring fishing licenses, noise, wake boats. We are paying taxes that should pay for patrol services. Have the local financial allocations for the Sheriff Department changed? Is patrolling our lake cost prohibitive? We can have a discussion about all of this once we know what their plan is.

3. Kathy really liked Jeff's self introduction in the Newsletter. She would like to discuss having similar biographical information for other members of the board.

4. From a treasurer's point of view does Dave feel three year memberships are worthwhile. Dave stated there is no difficulties with bookkeeping and if a second tier of membership (Associate) is added it will not be a problem either. We will need to change the membership form if the proposed By Laws are approved.

5. The trifold ALPOA Brochure created several years ago used to be placed in stores. Recently we have put a few at the boat launch. They are informative but may be outdated. These do not promote membership. The tone is very negative. It has been suggested we rewrite these. We should each review these and discuss at the next meeting.

6. Sarah Thompson has asked (through Val) if we have a pledge system for donations to the invasive species funds when and if there is a problem. We do not. It is

generally felt that pledges are only promises of future donations and can easily be ignored. We cannot base our funding on promises.

VIII. Meeting Adjourned: 12:30

Respectfully Submitted
Maggie Sowers, Secretary

2023 Newsletter Report
Val Dahlberg, Newsletter Editor
April 27, 2023
Board Meeting

The 2023 Newsletter draft has been completed. Board Revisions (#1, #2) were sent to all Board members, prior to this meeting. Any corrections need to be given to Val by the end of this Board meeting. Decision was taken by Val+Board to not include any PFAS article nor any articles that come from outside of Board Members. Val would like to discuss those two decisions during the Board meetings throughout the 2023 summer.

Newsletter color printing will take place on May 5, 2023. Printing will be done at Central Methodist Church in downtown Traverse City on their color copier. CMC staff, Dave Maxson and Val Dahlberg will be doing the printing. Estimated number of copies to be printed will be 105-110. Anticipated cost for printing at CMC should be less than \$100. (\$75.54 for 100 copies in 2022). A donation of \$150 was given to CMC last year in addition to printing costs. Val will ask for Board approval of a TBD (to be determined) donation at a later Board meeting. Total cost for Newsletter should be under 2023 budgeted cost of \$300.

Mailing of the Newsletters (hard copy or Email copy) will be on May 15, 2023. Val and Jeff Dahlberg will be doing the printing of the address and return labels, attaching of the labels to the envelopes, attaching postage (0.60cents/envelope) and sending out the hard copy newsletters by US Mail. Jeff Dahlberg will be sending out the Email copies of the Newsletter. All Lake Ann residents (approx. 201 households) in our ALPOA database will receive either a hard copy or an Email copy of the 2023 Newsletter. Val will take and hand deliver 2023 Newsletter to our 2022 Boat Parade gift donors: Lake Ann Brewery, The Bread Lady, Papa J's, The Red Door, Corner Cone.

By-Law Committee Report
Val Dahlberg, Chair
April 27, 2023
Board Meeting

The By-Law Committee consists of Val Dahlberg (Chair), Jeff Dahlberg, Dave Maxson, Maggie Sowers, Kent Taylor. We held committee meetings on August 10, September 10, October 3, 2022. We reviewed and made changes to all Articles of the current June 27, 2015, By-Laws, except Article I. A draft of the revisions was reviewed by electronic communications with the Board in Dec 2022. The final proposed bylaw changes were posted on the Ann Lake website in Jan 2023. A postcard was sent by US Mail, on Jan 11, 2023, to all households contained in the ALPOA database. All recipients of the postcard were asked to look at the annlake.org website to see/review the proposed by-law changes. The 2023 ALPOA Newsletter, to be sent on May 15, 2023, will contain another notification to all households in the ALPOA database to please review the proposed changes on the Ann Lake website. The proposed by-laws changes will be voted upon by ALPOA members at the Annual meeting on June 17, 2023. If the new June 17, 2023, By-Laws are approved, the current Articles of Incorporation (AOI), filed in Feb 2018 will need to be restated to reflect the approved By-Law changes made at the June 17, 2023, Annual meeting. This task will be assigned to someone on the current Board of Directors and approval of the final draft of the restated AOI will need to be approved by the complete Board of Directors **only** and not by the whole ALPOA membership. Val hopes this AOI restatement process will be finished before the September ALPOA Board meeting.

Summary of the changes made to By-Laws of June 27, 2015:

- * Article I: no changes made.
- * Article II: Purpose of ALPOA simplified and aligned with 2018 filed AOI purposes.
- * Article III: Clarified Voting Member definition. Added new tier of non-voting Associate Member.
- * Article IV: Becomes Voting, moved current 2015 Bylaws referring to any voting procedures/definitions to this section.
- * Article V: Becomes Electronic Communications, moved references to “electronic communication” to this new section.
- * Article VI: Becomes Board of Directors and contains definitions of who makes up the Board, how they are elected and for how long.
- * Article VII: Becomes Officers, delineates duties of each officer, terms of each officer, process for replacing Officer and other Director vacancies.
- * Article VIII: Becomes Committees, how they are formed and who can serve on Committees.
- * Article IX: Becomes Meetings, no changes made.
- * Article X: Becomes Order of Business, streamlines, and aligns with current practices.
- * Article XI: Becomes Parliamentary Authority, no changes made.
- * Article XII: Becomes Amendments, Section 1, 2 kept, section 3 moved to Article V and Article VI

2023 Invasive Species Report

by Kent Taylor

Our lake continues to enjoy the enviable status of having no known aquatic invasive plants present. Our last mid-summer [survey](#) done by our professional lake management firm, PLM, confirmed this status once again last year. This year we will be surveyed again as we stay ever vigilant. Members of our committee do two annual surveys in addition to the one by PLM. Members surveyed for Starry Stonewort last fall and Curley Leaf Pondweed earlier last spring. Both surveys were negative.

Other nearby lakes are not as lucky. Our best prevention measure is launching only “clean” boats; ones that have no weeds or plant life on the trailer or the boat. Please be careful every time you launch that there are no plant “hitchhikers” on your boat. Several members of the committee went out again last fall to first identify and then remove all the shoreline’s invasive Purple Loosestrife while keeping an eye out for other shoreline plants like phragmites which can be invasive. Many of our residents did their own removal once they were informed of the presence of Purple Loosestrife, for which we are grateful. Other owners gave us permission to remove these plants which we did. We have been staying on top of this shoreline threat and had another successful year doing so, with the cooperation of our Riparians. Removing the invasive plant is the responsibility of the property owner. We will make every effort to notify the owner of their lakeshore problem. We will be happy to assist when possible.

This year we will be discussing implementing plans discussed last summer for lake biology education and preparation plans if we do find an invasive plant. We will consider the usefulness of participating in Lake Ann Days, as we have in the past. One new task we will consider follows up on Dave’s solid work in water quality. It seems our phosphorous readings are trending up which can be a result of nearby farming practices or leaking septic systems on the lake itself. There is a particular form of algae (bright green, filament-type called Cladophora) that sticks to hard surfaces and is often found near such defective systems. We will consider for the first time, doing a total lake survey by kayak in search of such algae in an effort to identify faulty septic systems, if there are any.

We are actively requesting new members to join as many of us have been serving on this committee for over 10 years. We need new blood and new ideas. We need to ensure that we are doing what the membership and all Riparians want us to do without spreading ourselves too thin. This is a very active committee, getting outside and making a difference. If you are interested, please write to: invasives@annlake.org

WATER QUALITY REPORT Dave Maxson

ALPOA volunteers continued (since 1999) to collect samples and record measurements of clarity, phosphorus, chlorophyll, dissolved oxygen, and water temperature throughout the 2022 summer season. Here is an excerpt of the summary conclusions from the report issued by the Cooperative Lakes Monitoring Program (CLMP).

Long term monitoring shows slight upward slopes on all the parameters and an increase in average TSI score in 2022 compared to historic averages. Together, these results indicate a slow movement toward higher nutrient levels in the lake over time.

While not alarming, it is worth noting that this is the first time that “slight upward slope” and “higher nutrient levels” have ever been mentioned in the annual report for our lake. Those comments are due primarily to recent trends in our measurements of phosphorus and clarity.

Phosphorus is one of several essential nutrients that algae require to grow and reproduce. More phosphorus equals more algae. Humans use and dispose of phosphorus in common items such as fertilizers, foods, and cleaning agents. Lakes receive a portion of this human-generated phosphorus through run-off and septic leachate. Another primary source is the fecal droppings from pets, other animals, and geese that frequent or cross our lawns. Heavy rains then wash the nutrients into the lake; i.e., run-off.

Clarity is just what it sounds like: a measure of the degree of clarity versus cloudiness of the water. If you appreciate being able to see the bottom at 12-15 feet, we’re trending in the wrong direction. Why? It’s not rocket science! More phosphorus equals more algae that clouds the water.

What to do? While phosphorus levels may vary naturally as plants and animals live, die, and decompose in the lake, we humans can reduce the nutrient level by minimizing the run-off from our shoreline into the lake. The most effective way to do that is to allow (yea, promote!) a greenbelt of natural vegetation at the water’s edge. Not only will that keep the nutrients from running into the water, it will keep the geese from coming onto your lawn. Doubtful? Try it!!

For those who are interested in more details, the full CLMP report (19 pages!) as well as others from past years, can be found on the ALPOA website, AnnLake.org.

ANN LAKE PROPERTY OWNERS ASSOCIATION
March 24, 2023

	2022	2023	2023
	Actual	Actual	Budget
Beginning Balance January 1	4,883.13	5,409.84	5,409.84
INCOME			
membership dues paid	2,010.00	1,560.00	1,920.00
prepaid future membership dues	120.00		
donations	416.00	133.00	470.00
CD interest: (invasive donation fund)	15.32	-0.65	38.17
lake management preservation fund	621.00	401.00	894.00
Riparian subscriptions	154.00	202.00	266.00
Total Income	3,336.32	2,295.35	4,166.57
EXPENSES			
Michigan Lakes & Streams Association; dues	140.00	140.00	140.00
Subscriptions to Michigan Riparian	266.00	266.00	266.00
Liability insurance premium	437.71		437.71
State filing fee	20.00		20.00
PO box rent and misc postage	52.00		42.00
PayPal Fees	18.99	10.93	20.00
Water Quality:			
CLMP Enrollment	227.00	222.00	222.00
Newsletters/Communication:			
Summer newsletter	295.19	60.00	300.00
By-laws communication			
Website maintenance	35.00	35.82	70.00
Invasive Species:			
Education material	0.00		0.00
Plant mapping (refer to allocation to reserve)	0.00		0.00
Special Events:			
Annual meeting	316.19		50.00
Lake Ann Homecoming	0.00		0.00
Boat Parade	103.33		150.00
Membership:			
Winter postcard	80.00	103.89	105.00
Spring postcard	0.00		0.00
New members packets	0.00		0.00
Health and Safety			
Unbudgeted expenses	50.00		0.00
Allocations to reserves			
Website hosting fees	131.88		131.88
Invasive Species Reserve	15.32		38.17
Lake Management Reserve	621.00		894.00
Legal Reserve	0.00		0.00
Loon Reserve	0.00		0.00
Total Expenses	2,809.61	838.64	5,091.45
Operating Surplus/(Deficit) for year	526.71	1,456.71	(924.88)
Ending Balance Operating Fund	5,409.84	6,866.55	4,883.13
Reserve balances			
Website hosting fees	263.76	263.76	131.88
Invasive Species Reserve	10,966.97	10,966.97	10,951.65
Lake Management Reserve	1,783.00	1,783.00	1,787.00
Legal Reserve	2,500.00	2,500.00	2,500.00
Total Resources (including reserves)	20,923.57	22,380.30	20,253.66

DEPOSIT BALANCES

PayPal	793.98
Checking	11,218.79
CD	10,367.53

22,380.30

