

Springfield Lake Shore Improvement Association
Quarterly Board Meeting
May 8th, 2019
TRN Club

President Nester called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm with the Pledge of Allegiance.

1. Roll Call:

Board members present: John Aiello, Jeannie Mingeaud, , Dawn Keiser, Larry Michaud, Mary Pat Cavanagh, Michal King, Dee Kirby, Valerie Nester, Carol Schempp, Mike Monseur, Kathleen Sorensen, Lisa Wentworth, Jim Corrigan, Vicki McGuar, Peter Murphy, Don O'Neal, Adam Pallai .

Board members excused: Becky Hendricks, Teri Holland, Terry Moody, Pat Wheat, Markus Veille. Board members absent: Issac King, Cynthia Lamar, John Moore.

2. Guests:

A. President Nester and Jim Corrigan presented the three scholarship award recipients a \$1000.00 check each from SLSIA. One of these three scholarships was sponsored by Springfield Marina. Thank you Springfield Marina.

The three awards went to the following High School Seniors.

Grace DuRocher from Rochester High School-she plans to major in Biomed at SIU-Carbondale

Kaelee Dyer from Rochester High School – she plans to major in engineering at the U of I in Champaign

David Allen-also from Rochester High School-he plans to major in communications at LLCC for two years and transferring to SIU Edwardsville.

Their essays will be posted on the website.

B. Mike Lopez with Sangamon County 911 discussed the following:

-They are here to respond to everyone's needs

-It was found that the 911 map didn't match the 911 screen so location of callers needing help was difficult to locate them on the lake.

-Better signage is being paid for by the city. These signs are reflective and there are 6 out of the 36 signs yet to be posted around on various landmarks around the lake.

-These signs will better coordinate with detailed notes for the fire, police, CWLP and rescue units.

-Some of the old signs had not been touched since 1969

-In the future, club owners will have numbers on their buildings or be asked to post signs

-There were over 672 calls within the past one year with 7 of those were concerning drownings

-Of those 672 calls there were 251 at all different locations

-If someone makes a cell phone call, it will tell us that you are in an approximate 1560 foot radius and that is a lot of territory to cover trying to find the caller on the lake in a fast timeframe.

-There was a discussion to try to coordinate this effort with the blue signs that homeowners have the opportunity to buy and the prices.

-Mike's office is always willing to do presentations to groups

-Currently this office is trying to coordinate pricing of homeowners' signs for their property.

C. Carol Von Lanken from Woodside Township & Jason LaMar from the City Clerk's Office and Capital Township.

They are from the Assessment Office and they brought handouts that included a pamphlet showing the different types of exemptions available to homeowners, various websites that give more detailed information about property taxes, the median sales price of homes on Lake Springfield from 2003 until current 2019 and another showing the various towns around Springfield median home sales, an informational sheet that defines what property tax, personal property & the tax cycle breakdowns are.

Some of the discussion highlighted centered around previous questions submitted for them to answer:

- **What is the assessment process and how are houses assessed in ways of improvements?** They are assessed by square footage, permanent fixtures such as # of bathrooms, docks, garages, decks, & pools, etc.

Their office is given notice of building permits for improvements. They then follow up by measuring and given standards by the State of Illinois to assess values.

- **Explain the various exemptions.** There are multiple exemptions such as the homestead one is a \$6000 exemption. Other exemptions include those for disabled homeowners, and Veterans. Senior Citizens can be exempted by age (65 years) & yearly exemption concerns income (if less than 65,000/year per household). All of the exemptions and more information can be applied for at the County Building.

-**How is my home value assessed?** Your home is at 1/3 of the value. There is an IL state multiplier and it goes by townships which are different. State multipliers have some effect on why neighboring homes vary in property taxes as well as the home next door square footage of home, front footage, garage, etc. Then the tax rate is applied and divided into 2 installments.

-**How is the land or lease valued assessed?** In 2007 there was a court order based on the location of the home and set dollar amounts of front footage and the square footage of the land. There are formulas and state orders to follow. In 2017 there was a review of land values again -10 years later from the 2007 formulas that had been put in place. It was an attempt to keep all townships with the same formula and values.

-**Why to owners pay tax on city owned property?** Based on IL Statutes all land is assessed. The lease contract is between CWLP and the homeowner and is not controlled by the townships.

-Why do my taxes go up and my neighbors do not? General question is difficult to answer but some may have the exemptions in place, etc. One cannot always compare with a neighbor

-Why do our taxes go up every year but our values go down? Discussion around the handouts that the members and guests received and the values of lake property has remained the same or gone up. Again formulas are based on square footage, seawalls, decks, etc.

-There is a structure formula for everyone no matter where you live. The square footage of your house is assessed differently than the square footage of your garage and things like this is part of the set formula. There is not enough man power and time to go to everyone's property but there are standard market values that are applied with multipliers.

-Different types of seawalls are assessed differently as they are permanent fixtures and just like a brick home vs wood home, there are different formulas and multipliers.

-Homeowners can appeal but have to show why you think they need to be decreased.

-Questions are always welcome and please reach out to the City Clerk's and Township Offices.

-How you vote in referendums, votes on township issues etc. affect your taxes, etc. Recommend that people speak to their legislature & congressmen.

D. Scott Tucker with the Springfield Marina was thanked by John Aiello for his support in the Lake Cleanup and for sponsoring one of the scholarships this year.

-They pulled a 60 foot tree out of the lake and plan to take another 20 foot one out later this month as well as assistance with cleanups. President Nester stated she is looking forward to the Marina's help next year to make the Lake Clean Up Day even a bigger one.

-Scott announced that Rock the Dock would be help July 5th this year. There will be fireworks regardless of the weather. They have contracted with another company and there will be two barges, some singers out of Nashville as well as other surprises.

3. Treasurer's Report: Lisa Wentworth

Lisa reported that all bills, annual donations, and scholarships have been paid and that there is \$9,403.95 left in the checking account. The money market fund was with Williamsville State Bank but was transferred to Carrolton Bank earning a higher interest rate of 2.05%. The federal tax form was filed for state tax exemption and all that is left is the attorney general's form to file yet. There was a motion to approve this report made by Peter Murphy and a second given by Mark Veile with the rest of the Board approving.

4. Secretary's Report: Dee Kirby

Dee had emailed the February 2019 minutes to members of the board prior to the meeting and had some paper copies available at the meeting. The February minutes will be placed on the website. There was a motion to approve these minutes made by Jeannie Mingeaud and a 2nd given by Mike Monseur with the rest of the Board approving. Several members turned in their

disclosures but there are still a few members who have been emailed and continue to need to sign a disclosure.

5. President's Report: Valerie Nester

Valerie thanked Steve Scott for his pro-bono work with the City Ordinance Special Sub-Committee Project. He has volunteered a lot of his time and work and Valerie asked to have SLSIA monies available for him up to a \$1000.00 and asked for a motion to have these monies available for Steve. There was a motion to approve made by Peter Murphy and a 2nd given by Lisa Wentworth with the rest of the Board approving.

Valerie urged board members to participate in committees. The help is very much needed by all members. There are several committees yet to remain un-chaired. Micah is the social chair and had trouble getting volunteers to help him to get the golf outing put together. He reached out in emails asking and the only offers were from non-members. If you are not on a committee then you need to get on one. Our events depend on it.

6. Committee and Chairs:

Audit: John Moore and Terry Moody. Neither member were in attendance and the report will be on hold until next committee meeting

Bylaws- Chairman-Cindy Lamar –on hold until next meeting

CWLP Liaison-Mike Monseur had volunteered as Chair and Kim Curry as a co-chair. Kim stated that she contacted Larry Rockford regarding the signs in homeowners yards and they are going through with posting of these signs. Jeannie Mingeaud stated that Larry's team will move signs if requested by a homeowner. Kim will plan to write an article for the next newsletter and send to Markus Veile. Kim reminded all of us to remove any debris that we can from the lake or report it to CWLP to help keep the lake safe.

Directory: President Nester stated that the directory distribution used to be annually but it is now bi-annual. She asked for a motion for the directory to be mailed out. It is well under \$365.00 to mail it out this year. The directory will only go to members of SLSIA. President Nester asked for volunteers to chair and co-chair this committee. There needs to be a master list kept and the cover changed from time to time. Micah King will chair and John Aiello will co-chair the committee. Jeannie Mingeaud and Peter Murphy volunteered to help mail the directories out to the members. Motion to approve for mailing out the directories this year was made by Jeannie Mingeaud and 2nd given by Peter Murphy with the rest of the Board approving.

Website/Facebook/Marketing: Markus Veile (Jim Corrigan-co-chair) has been busy working on the website and making changes. Jeannie has been working with him on the website as well. Discussion was to include picture of the scholarship recipients and their essays to be posted on the website.

Sherel Nutt Memorial Scholarship: Jim Corrigan reported on the process that was done this year for the communication to schools and the selection of applicants. There were 19 applicants this year from 4 different schools.

Membership: Chairman Becky Hendricks excused and co-chair John Aiello reported that membership was up this year. Membership increased from 333 as of Quarter 1 Feb. 2019 to currently 357 as of Quarter 2, May 2019. There were emails that were sent and Becky is working

on sending out a letter that will go out to non-members only yet this year. John recommended that everyone ask their neighbor if they are members and give them an application.

Lake Events Schedule: Kent Keiser has agreed to take this over and Larry Michaud did it for this year.

Social Events: Micah King Chair:

John Aiello reported that the **lake cleanup day** went well and there was work done on 15 lanes and in 5 parks. John tried to get UIS involved but was not successful. There was discussion about sorting the trash and recycling but the time and effort it would take would have to be further investigated.

Micah King reported that there were only 4 –foursomes signed up for the **Golf Outing**. Lincoln Greens has been very accommodating and said that if it was cancelled, they would just open it up to the public. SLSIA is under no obligation at this time for catering. There were few volunteers that offered to help. Some comments were made to advertise more. Micah said it would be worth the effort to go to other events by other entities and see how they do their golf outings and other fundraisers. This is a fund raiser to help the Association fund things such as scholarships, fishing without boundaries, etc. Comments were also made that perhaps we should mail out a hard copy the invite in the future. Motion made to cancel the golf outing this year made by Peter Murphy and a 2nd given by Lisa Wentworth with the rest of the Board approving.

Dinner on the waterfront-President Nester asked for volunteers to join this Committee to help work on this event. The following Board and other SLSIA Members offered to join this Event Committee: Jeannie Mingeaud, Dee Kirby, Micah King, Brenda Tintori per Micah King, Dawn Keiser, Valerie Nester, Mary Pat Cavanagh, Mark Miller, and Kathleen Sorensen. Micah King and Dawn Keiser volunteered to chair this event. No date has been picked yet. Adam offered the Fire Fighters Club to use for this event

The **Family BBQ Potluck** is scheduled for Thursday, June 20th at the Beach House. CWLP is letting us use the Beach House for free if we use it Monday-Thursday. We need a chair and co-chair for Event this as well as volunteers to serve on this Event Committee. Comments were made that we should market this as well. Please email Valerie or Micah if you can help with this event. This Event is an opportunity to introduce CWLP Programs and people, lake clubs, and organizations such as SUSART, Lincoln Memorial Gardens, H.R. Zoo, U.S. Power Squadron, and a chance for lake homeowners to meet each other, neighbors and have a fun evening.

Newsletter: Markus Veille has done a fabulous job with the newsletter. President Nester encouraged members to send photos or emails to Markus to include in the newsletters. This can include things for sale.

New Ordinance Changes: Leases and lease issues are directly handled by CWLP and the way they are assessed, etc. Back in January, it was found that an ordinance 545, a 59 page document was on the City Council's agenda and it pertained to specifically Ward 1 and Councilman, Chuck Redpath's area concerning the lake. The Mayor had stated that he just wanted the document cleaned up but because no one had known it was on the Council's agenda and hadn't reviewed it, Councilman Redpath had it tabled from the January City Council Meeting until further investigation could be done looking into this document. A committee formed with Kim Curry as chair and there were 15 plus people on this sub-committee later co-chaired by Steve Scott, Larry Michaud and Rich Berning who read and recommended changes to the ordinance. In summary, the sub-committee found the ordinance to cover such things as bringing the lease time from 99 years down to 50 years, also included a clause that would

automatically generate lake lease wide assessments for all property re: money generated for the city in 2029. In addition, there were other major and minor issues regarding safety, boating license fee increases, tree trimming etc. The co-chairs made recommendations that pertained to some of the major things such as the leases brought down from 99 to 50 years, getting rid of the 2029 assessments and another thing thrown in by the subcommittee included as a “bargaining chip” was our 1% annual increase to lake leases that was made in 2007. Garrett Deacon was behind the scenes in previous years on some of the things regarding lake lease fees a few years ago that went sky high and it took 6-7 years to get a resolution with the City. In that resolution, the city allowed us, the lake owners, to go back to 2005 for the assessed value and put the multipliers on that value. The 4 co-chairs met with the Mayor and the City’s legal defense, Mr. Zerkle. Mr Zerkle was to get back to the Steve but no communication has been given back to Steve for the committee. It was January and now it is May. Steve Scott and Chuck Redpath met with Mr. Zerkle again in the past few weeks and he was to get back to Steve but that was 2 weeks ago.

Kim thanked Steve Scott for the number of hours and effort that he has given to this effort pro-bono. President Nester asked for a motion to give Steve Scott a life time membership to SLSIA for his efforts. Motion to approve was made by Dee Kirby and 2nd given by Valerie Nester and approved by the rest of the board.

Adam Pallai-Council of Clubs Representative Update:

The back side of the lake calendar is a listing of events. There are multiple events going on at the clubs this summer, fish fries, entertainment, etc.

Rumble around the lake is going on every Thursday night from 6-9 p.m. at various lake clubs. They began with a kick off May 11th and will go until August 1st. There is food, drinks, drawings & entertainment. Tee Shirts are being sold and \$2.00 from each shirt goes to the Springfield Soldiers Care Mailings Project.

CWLP is currently interviewing for Michelle Nicol’s position.

It was reported that **buoys are being bought and put in place by the city**. There is expected to be 40 new ones placed around the lake. Flashing lights have been ordered for some of the buoys and all of the lights on the bridges are lit up and working.

The motor went out on the CWLP barge.

There was a **Lake Safety Committee** made up of lake homeowners and Lake Councils/Clubs developed last year and there are plans to visit several other sites to see how we can do better with safety plans.

Open Forum:

Question came up about needing assistant with **calling Lake Services** to clean up lake ramps/launches. Give them a call to make sure that this is done. Peter Murphy said he would call Larry Rockford at Lake Services to do this.

John Aiello said that June 30th is the last day to order **Lakefront Address Signs**.. The more we place, the less the cost. Signs are hand delivered.

President Nester asked if anyone knows who Go Web One is associated with as he maybe a sponsor? Micah replied that it was Mark Roberts Jr.

President Nester asked the Board if there was any interest in putting a lake wide garage sale together. The answer was generally no but there were a few comments made that perhaps there could be a coordinated weekend set aside for lake garage sales and comments were made that it had been tried in the past and the lake houses participating were far apart and people didn't come to them as you might think they would.

There was a discussion regarding having a representative from SLSIA attend the Lake Council Club meetings. The bylaws do not state we have to have a representative. Adam Pallai stated he could give a summary report for the SLSIA newsletter. It was decided that if Larry Michaud and Kent Keiser could not attend these meetings, then no one else would have to attend them. It is hard enough to get people to volunteer for our own events.

Meeting adjourned at 7:54 p.m. by President Nester with a motion to adjourn the meeting by Lisa Wentworth and 2nd by Jeannie Mingeaud with the rest of the board approving.

Respectively Submitted,
Dee Kirby

2019 Schedule of Board Meetings:

Wed. Aug 14th at 6 p.m. at the TRN Club

Wed. Nov 13th @6 p.m. at the TRN Club