



LONG LAKE PENINSULA NEWSLETTER SPRING 2015

As winter thaws and spring emerges with the promise of summer, I am reminded daily of the amazing beauty of the Long Lake Peninsula. It is great to see our neighbors, old and new, emerging from their homes and returning from places south to re-create our community for another summer. Of course, we have lost dear friends including founders Bob and Mary Doerr, but are greeted by new neighbors with fresh ideas and energy for our neighborhood. Even the loons are nesting and getting ready for new families.

Our snowplowing costs were well below last year thanks to a cold, but less snowy winter. The Roads Committee continues its diligent work on keeping those roads clear. Now they are working on fixing the wear and tear to preserve the pavement. We are lucky to be driving on smooth roads!!

The LLPA overwhelmingly voted to raise the dues and we thank all those who voted. As well as careful annual maintenance to prolong the life of the present pavement, the Board has established more equitable usage fees through adjustment of the construction permit fees. The new fees are based on a sliding scale reflecting the scope of the project, are based on State of Michigan Building Permit Guidelines and are more in line with industry standards. Additionally, we will now require a permit for any member using a trash hauler other than our primary hauler (presently American Waste). A fee for this permit will be established this December and adjusted annually. All of the additional fees will be directed to the road funds. There are new construction rules that prohibit the use of jake brakes, speeding, and roadside parking and limit construction hours. We are trying to balance the reality of a short construction season with our members need for a tranquil retreat on our peninsula.

Speaking of voting- it was quite an eye opener to see what is involved in putting out a ballot for the LLPA- it is an expensive and time-consuming as well as paper-wasting endeavor. The Board examined several options for electronic voting and we will begin this summer! Many members have asked for this option and we listened. Money and trees will be saved. Electronic and mail voting will be handled through a third party agent, our accounting firm of Gabridge and Associates. This will keep all votes confidential and you can mail your bill and ballot to the same place! Or you can vote electronically! More information follows and will also be included in the letter with your ballots in July/August.

Gabridge and Associates have also worked hard with us this year on eliminating delinquencies. The delinquency rate is now the lowest it has been in a long time. It is important for members to pay their dues on time. Timely payments show respect for other members and make budgeting and billing easier.

Many members participated in Chipping Day and it seems that as the weather warms up, everyone is out planting and cleaning up. You just can't hide that Peninsula Pride!! Its fun to watch how some TLC can really make some of these places bloom for the summer! Respect your neighbors by getting rid of junk, old construction materials, tires, old boating/dock materials. Remember that no more than one trailer is allowed per lot and no contractor's equipment, trucks or other equipment or non-operational/unlicensed vehicles are to be kept on your property. The Peninsula yard sale is June 27, 2015. Take the opportunity to clean up and clear stuff out.

Our park is looking great!! Kids are enjoying our new playground. We will be planting a memorial tree and installing the disc golf equipment soon. The fence has been repaired, we have a new bench and the dock is in!! Help us keep the park and launch clean- feel free to pitch in by picking up trash, raking, etc. Also, save those books- the Long Lake Peninsula Little Library will be making its summer debut at the park! We have a lot of nice amenities to be grateful for that make living here so much fun! Speaking of fun- the Fun Run is scheduled for the end of July.

Watch the website for announcements, meeting notices, the calendar, information on voting, by-laws, permits, parking, boat launch keys and so much more. It is a great resource to keep up with events and news on the peninsula.

Lastly, I want to thank the board for their dedication and hard work to keep things running smoothly and putting in monumental amounts of time and effort to make this a great place to live. If you see a board member, please thank them!! Also, thank YOU to the membership for contributing to the playground, voting, waving to strangers, planting a flower, paying dues, driving gently, supporting the board, cleaning your property, running for fun, checking on your neighbors all winter, pulling a weed, baking cookies, greeting newcomers.....your sense of community makes this a great place to live!!

Join us for the discussion meeting in the park on Saturday, June 20 at 9 a.m. and the Annual Meeting at the park on Saturday, August 22 at 9 a.m. See you there!

Respectfully,
Therese Waters
LLPA President

From Our Secretary:

Your board is developing ways to make sure your vote counts! In the interest of being good stewards of LLPA funds and resources, we are working on making electronic voting available. Watch the summer mailing for instructions! You will still have the option of using paper ballots but we would like to take advantage of simple on-line tools to reduce the waste and cost that paper ballots involve. To get ready for this change, we need your email address. Please use the link below to complete a simple form providing us with your email address(es). It will only take a few minutes and, of course, we will not share, sell or otherwise distribute the emails to other parties. Your board thanks you for your prompt attention in this matter.

Link to share email address: <http://tinyurl.com/LLPAemail>

AGENDA

Long Lake Peninsula Association Discussion Meeting
Saturday June 20, 2015 9:00 a.m.

- I. 9 a.m. call to order and Welcome
- II. President's Message and Report - Therese Waters
- III. Treasurer's Report- Jim McCall
- IV. Secretary Statement- Juleen Jenkins-Whall
- V. Committee Reports
 - A. Building and Site- Devin Hill
 - B. Parks and Recreation- Jim Bottoms/Dick Grote
Playground update- Jennifer Abel
 - C. Roads and Signs- Kurt Schroeder/Jennifer Abel
 - D. Website- Nancy Zylstra
- VI. Old Business
 - A. Dues Increase
- VII. New Business
 - A. Roads Programs: Trash Hauling/Construction permit fees/Road maintenance
 - B. Electronic Voting Option
 - C. Nominating Committee Report-
candidates: Dick Grote, Jim McCall, Juleen Jenkins-Whall
- VIII. Announcements--Yard Sale, Fun Run, Annual Meeting August 22, 2015 9 a.m. at the Park
- IX. Adjourn