

Lake Mitchell Property Owners Association
Board Meeting Minutes
February 26, 2025 Approved

Attendance: Jackie Erway, Gary Huyge, Hugh Hufnagel, Greg Wahl (one position vacant)

1. Minutes from 1-27-25 board meeting: Approved as distributed (v3).
2. Financial and membership updates
 - Membership information: Gary reported that LMPOA has had 240 different paid members since 2019. There were 179 active dues-paying members as of 12-31-24. Of the current active members, 87 (or 49%) have a second address and 92 (or 51%) live at the lake full time.
 - 2025 Membership dues: It was noted that we need to announce that 2025 membership dues should be paid now at the new \$25 annual rate. **Action:** Jackie will make sure that this is announced on the LMPOA website, to the Facebook group, and on any future emails sent to our current mailing list.
 - Financial update: There have been no changes since the previous meeting.
3. LMPOA board member vacancy: LMPOA is still looking for a board member to fill a current vacancy. It is important that this new board member be a full-time lake resident. Several people have been contacted during the past several months but have declined. Jackie noted that the open board position is posted on our website and is announced in all of our electronic communication to LMPOA members.
4. LMIB-related issues
 - Invasive species and boat washing signage funding: Gary reported that he talked with a Michigan DNR representative today and was told that Lake Mitchell is already on the list to receive a DNR-furnished sign this year. We will be responsible for getting it posted at the State Park Lake Mitchell boat launch site. We are also trying to get two additional signs for Lake Cadillac that would be posted at Kenwood Park and at the State Park Lake Cadillac boat launch. The board also discussed the idea of reproducing the signage so that it could be posted at other smaller boat-launching sites around the lake (little cove, Hemlock National Forest, etc). It was noted that these other sites are mostly used by local people who are less likely to be bringing in boats contaminated with invasive species from other lakes.
 - Invasive species presentation: The DNR person that Gary spoke with said she would be happy to come and speak to either the LMPOA members or the LMIB board members at an upcoming meeting. **Action:** Gary will pass this offer on to the LMIB board for consideration at their next regular meeting.
 - MSU funding opportunity: Greg learned about an opportunity to receive \$3,000 in funding through the Michigan Lakes & Streams newsletter. This funding could be used for signage or other efforts to educate the public about invasive species. Greg reviewed the application and determined that it would be too difficult to complete by the deadline.
 - Michigan Lakes & Streams Conference: Greg reported that the Michigan Lakes & Streams group will have a conference in Muskegon on April 25-26, 2025. He will get a

meeting agenda and other information about the conference to review. If someone is interested in attending this conference, the board will discuss which costs it is willing to reimburse at its next meeting.

5. LMSA update

- LMSA board meeting news: Jackie reported that the most recent LMSA meeting was attended by some very unhappy customers upset about recent sewer cost increases. These people appear to be unaware of the long history of the problem and our efforts to address it. They also do not understand that the LMSA board membership has changed recently and that the board is doing all that it can do to manage the situation in the best way possible.
- State government funding: Jackie reported that Dave Kuyers and the LMSA board are seeking a state funding appropriation to help cover the costs of the sewer system upgrades that are now in process. It is felt that our state representative (Joseph Fox) and state senator (Michelle Hoitenga) could be doing more to help in this effort.

6. Short-term rental ordinances update: Hugh reported that nothing new has happened on this topic since the last board meeting. Jackie noted that Cherry Grove Township will only be allowing renewals of existing short-term rentals this summer season until the October-November application period for all existing and new STR permits.

7. LMPOA communication efforts

- Website update: Jackie reported that the LMPOA website has been updated.
- Email update: Action: Jackie will be sending out an email to the LMPOA mailing list and the Facebook group to (1) remind people that the 2025 membership dues should be paid now at the reduced \$25 rate, (2) tell people that there is a board opening for a full-time lake resident, (3) alert people that board meeting minutes are posted on the LMPOA website, and (4) announce the date (??) of the 2025 Meet & Greet event.

8. Other topics and updates

- Lake level monitoring: Greg is taking over this task. **Action**: Jackie will get the camera from Dave Stinger and arrange for Dave to talk with Greg about the details of the work, including how and when we advocate for closing the dam when lake levels approach their required minimums and for fixing the dam if it is not working properly.

9. Next meeting: Scheduled for Wednesday, March 26, 2025, at 5 pm (via zoom)