

## **Lake Louise Town Hall Meeting Minutes July 21, 2018**

John Marshall, Cottagers' Council President, opened the meeting with the call of seagulls. He explained that there are three types of gulls on Lake Louise. The Caspian Tern is a slim, slick bird with a black brow. The Herring gull is a large, bulky bird with pink legs, and the ring-billed gull has yellow legs and a black ring around its' beak. *The Cottager's Minute* was shared by Adam Wright. Adam explained that his wife, Jennifer, has always wanted a cottage on Lake Louise and that her family resided on or near the lake as early as 1868. The Wright family's first night in their cottage, purchased in 2016, was the evening of the boat parade. Especially enjoyable to their children ages 8, 6, and 4 at the time.

### **I. Roll Call of the Plats**

Sunset View was the only plat not represented.

### **II. Approval of Agenda** No additions

### **III. Approval of the Minutes of the July 15, 2017 Town Hall Meeting**

Minutes approved without changes.

❖ *Announcement that today is Kay Melvin's 86<sup>th</sup> birthday. All present sang Happy Birthday.*

### **IV. "State of the Lake" – Jim Willford, Executive Director, LLCC**

Jim began his power point presentation by displaying colorful pictures of Lake Louise as well as a picture of the snow on April 14<sup>th</sup>. Also a color picture of his beautiful granddaughter, Mattie, was included.

#### Power Point information:

- Jim explained that Our Impact is built on our Vision, Mission Statement, and Core Values.
- The number of Retreat Center guests for 2016 was 1227 and for 2017 was 1143. The Summer Camp Participants for 2016=424, for 2017=428, and for 2018=465. The Summer Family Camp Participants for 2016=83, for 2017=94, and for 2018=93.
- Camp Youth Outcomes Battery  
Measured Camp Connectedness, creating a feeling of welcome and support at camp, 87.50% of all campers felt that their camp connectedness increased.  
Measured Spiritual Well-Being, having a purpose and meaning in life, 59.72% of all campers felt their spiritual well-being increased. (directly from the campers at our Christian camp).
- Lake Louise campership 2017 campaign raised \$27,692.50 to sponsor campers, the Lake Louise campership 2018 campaign has raised \$30,745.28. One hundred thirty eight Partner Churches in a Michigan, Ohio, Wisconsin, and Indiana also assist families to send their children to Lake Louise Summer Camp.

- Total money raised for the Tennant Chapel Renovations to date: \$16,865.00 has provided a new roof, lighting, and foundation improvements. Money has been donated for carpet to be installed August 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup>.  
Changes to the speakers at the Gathering services are Rev. Amy Mayo-Moyle will speak on Aug. 12<sup>th</sup> and Rev. Jeremy Peters will speak on Aug. 5<sup>th</sup>
- Dedication of the newly completed Health Center was last Sunday and Jim offered to provide tours to cottagers.
- Redman Village is in the process of renovation with two cabins completed to house summer camp staff. Renovations include: new septic hook-ups, new electrical service, new metal roofs, replace damaged logs, install kitchenette, install bathroom, new drywall, electric baseboard heat, new furniture and appliances. Two more cabins await renovation.
- Geocaching has been added to summer activities. Six handheld GPS units have been donated. Geocaching provides opportunities for hiking, use of a GPS unit, mapping skills, problem solving, as well as fosters a love of nature in God's creation. Camp activities also include kayaking, swimming, riding the "red shark", Frisbee, tree climbing, & Frisbee golf.
- The new Nature Center is open for viewing. The center contains artifacts, as well as a natural history of the area. Jim invited cottagers to stop by the office for a visit to the Nature Center.
- Volunteer work groups:  
Alden Community UMC Work Team – 2600 hours  
Holland UMC Work Team – 4000 hours (they come twice a year)  
Mason First UMC Work Team – 1600 hours  
As we are, high school camp – 190 hours  
Boyne Country Service Project: First United Methodist Church, Saline, 12 participants – Traverse Bay UMC, Traverse City, 8 participants – Pendleton Center UMC, North Tonawanda, NY, 34 participants –total hours 7380. The Boyne Country Service project works in area homes, area churches and has assisted in refurbishing floors at the UMC in Boyne Falls.  
Memorial Garden Worker Bees are paid with a cookie and their contributions are priceless.  
Individual volunteers include: milfoil power rangers, camp store sales team, summer camp counselors and deans, Red shark wranglers, office work force, chapel preachers, liturgists, accompanists, musicians, greeters & chauffeur
- *Christmas in July* LLCC Giving Tree on Amazon items may be purchased and sent to the camp. Requested items include: air conditioners for cabins, portable microscopes for lake studies, educational compass set, portable generators, office & kitchen supplies. Four air conditioners have already been donated.
- Forest Stewardship Plan: Red pine has been harvested on six acres at Camp Kinawind. Pine bark beetles are a threat as the red pine age and deteriorate. One hundred fifty five acres of natural hardwoods will be harvested next with the involvement of a forestry expert. This will provide for the stronger trees to thrive. A power point picture displayed the 2018 areas to be harvested.

- Forest Invasive Tartarian Honeysuckle pictures were displayed on the power point. This invasive chokes out seedlings of desirable trees. This is a fast growing invasive as the seeds are spread by birds eating the berries. Cottagers were asked to assist in removing any bushes that are discovered.
- Jim provided information about an amber flashing light to repel geese. It is a commercial grade device that he recommends. One light covers a 75 foot diameter, it flashes at night and is solar powered. The cost is \$375.00 and can be purchased on at [Lakeandpond.com](http://Lakeandpond.com) (Savin Lake services outlet) or [Awaywithgeese.com](http://Awaywithgeese.com)
- Boyne Valley Pantry and Lake Louise Campership Campaign will join together to provide a Community Dinner on August 25<sup>th</sup> from 5:30-7:00pm. "sit down with a stranger leave with a friend"
- Tax bills were available for pick-up at this meeting. The LLCC Land Tax is due in the Lake Louise Office by August 24<sup>th</sup> and Property Tax is due to Hudson Township by Sept.14<sup>th</sup>. A self-addressed postcard to Hudson township may be sent to receive a receipt of payment. Jim advised cottagers to make sure that their check clears Hudson township as he will not be notified until next March of delinquent taxes.
- Follow Lake Louise on facebook Lake Louise Christian Community, Camp & Retreat Center also on Lake Louise Community Sharing. Instagram and twitter @lakelouisemi
- Jim requested that cottagers provide email addresses in order for him to send out information. He can be reached at 231-549-2728 or email at [jwillford@lakelouisecommunity.org](mailto:jwillford@lakelouisecommunity.org)

**V. Items from the President – *John Marshall***

**A. Cottagers' Pizza Party report**

More than 75 people attended the pizza party this year and donations more than paid for expenses. John thanked the persons that assisted in organizing the party as well as Jim Willford for bringing supplies from the camp.

**B. Remaining Cottager events for this summer**

- **Cottagers' Council Meeting & Ice Cream Social – Wednesday, August 22<sup>nd</sup>, 7:00 p.m. in the Retreat Center Dining Room**
- **LLCC & Boyne Valley Pantry Community Dinner – Saturday, August 25<sup>th</sup>, 5:30-7:00 p.m. in the Retreat Center Dining Room**

**C. Address, Phone or Email updates**

Sign-up sheet on each table in order to provide changes in phone numbers or email addresses. Also information regarding the cancellation of land lines.

**D. Chapel Benevolence Contribution**

Currently 10% of undesignated offerings from the Chapel services is being donated to Manna project. This project provides 1500 backpacks of food to schoolchildren and food to 3,000 families in Charlevoix, Emmet and Antrim counties. At the August 22<sup>nd</sup> Cottagers' Council meeting a vote will be taken to continue to contribute to Manna. Suggestions for other worthy causes may be submitted.

**E. Recognition for Service to the LLCC Community Award**

This award was started in 1992 and is given in recognition of outstanding service to the Lake Louise community. Individuals, groups or organizations are eligible for this award. Nominations may be submitted to Jim Willford at the camp office prior to Saturday, July 28<sup>th</sup>.

**F. What does & does not go in the Dumpsters**

Handout provided at this meeting reminding cottagers of guidelines for the disposal of household waste. Nothing is to be left outside of the dumpsters. The current waste hauler, American Waste, has reported that his truck was damaged due to trash not being properly placed in the dumpster. Construction material that is not to be placed in the dumpsters was extending outside of the dumpster and damaged the waste hauler's equipment. We may lose waste disposal service if this continues.

**G. High Speed Internet- *Al Adan***

The more people that sign-up with <https://www.jointruestream.com> the more likely cottages around Lake Louise will be to acquire high speed internet service. There is no obligation in signing up, it only provides the company with an estimate of what the interest would be for their service.

This is a modern high speed internet service through Great Lakes Energy.

**VI. Treasurer's Report –*Dwight Finley***

Handout provided for the 2018 Lake Louise Cottagers' Council Financial Report. Dwight stated that extra expense this year has been for the sand bags. He also spoke of Savin Lake Services set-up cost, application permit, and treatment performed at cost due to the owner's connections with Lake Louise and friendship with Kirk Halsted.

**VII. Lake Ecology – *Tom Gschwind***

Handout provided with lake level history. Tom reported that in mid-July the lake was 18 inches higher than 4 years ago. He also spoke of reduction in clarity due to algae bloom. He stated that the algae is due to higher temperatures and the high lake levels. The high water is causing contact with shore vegetation and bringing soil and sediment into the water. Tom suggests that the algae be netted or raked from the lakefront properties. David Stong was asked about purple loosestrife and he stated that there is a reduction in plants found from 300 to 30. However, it is a rapidly spreading invasive and without vigilance will quickly reseed. David is planning to continue to remove purple loosestrife this year but then a replacement volunteer(s) will be needed.

**VIII. Milfoil Report – *Kirk Halsted***

Kirk reports that the same amount of area was treated for milfoil this year as last. The milfoil control efforts are progressing well at this time. He also spoke of the algae bloom and cautioned cottagers about the use of phosphorus fertilizers. DEO states that the algae in Lake Louise is non-toxic, however, have sent pictures of the algae out to be identified.

**IX. Election of Cottagers' Council Officers – 2018 – 2021 term – *Kathy Gilbert***

Nominated for office of the Cottagers' Council:

Leslie Helwig – President

Kim Fettig – Vice President

Dwight Finley – Treasurer

Barb Renton – Secretary

A vote was taken and all nominees were elected. Leslie was handed the big gavel by John Marshall and Leslie then spoke of her process of thinking through the commitment before accepting.

Leslie asked for any additional announcements and when there were none she banged the gavel and adjourned the meeting.

Respectfully submitted,  
Pat Mahan, Cottagers Council Secretary