

**HIAWATHA SPORTSMAN'S CLUB
BOARD OF GOVERNORS MEETING
OCTOBER 17, 2009
ACTIVITY BUILDING**

PRESIDENT WALDRON - Called the Meeting to order at 9:01 a.m. welcomed everyone to the meeting and recited the Pledge of Allegiance with members in attendance.

GOVERNOR SCHANSKI - Called the Roll.

Governor Present - Wileman, Waldron, Schanski, Rutledge, Larson, Middleton, McElroy, MacFarland, Eldridge, Dark, and Brodberg.

Governor Absent - Hopper.

PRESIDENT WALDRON - Agenda change under item 11, officially set Doe harvest.

GOVERNOR RUTLEDGE - I **move** we accept the July 18, 2009 minutes as written.

GOVERNOR ELDRIDGE - **Second**, all in favor, **motion passed**.

CORRESPONDENCE FROM MEMBERS:

Ann Hayes - Wrote a letter regarding children's activities and in the last two years that very limited activities had been scheduled for our Hiawatha children, she would like to suggest an activities committee for the children and she would be happy to serve on this committee with other people willing to volunteer, and would like her letter read at the October Board Meeting.

Manager Livermore - I had received Ms. Hayes letter regarding Children's Programs and totally agree. As I reported to the Board in my April Manager's Report, the children's activities have not been well attended over the past couple years; and hiring an activity director to conduct a program for the few kids was not financially prudent. As Ms. Hayes and I had discussed this spring, I would be happy to have her and some other volunteers put together some events during the peak summer season and my staff and I are more than willing to facilitate her efforts but I needed her to put together a schedule of events she would like to do and we could get them programmed in and get the necessary supplies. I thanked her for offering her time.

GOVERNOR MIDDLETON - It is my understanding that the reason they curtailed those activities and did not hire anybody was lack of participation. Secondly, the Club bought the bicycles, paddle boats and those types of things for kids to do, am I correct?

Manager Livermore - Yes, and I'm a little confused why she wrote the letter, because I told her to give me a schedule and I didn't get any kind of reply from Ms. Hayes this summer.

Ivan Darling - Wrote a letter to the Governors, that in reviewing the HSC By-Laws for the approval of the recent changes, he noted there is a void in the By-Laws with respect to non-permanent structures. When we changed the wording in Article XXVII, building restrictions and regulations, from cottage or dwelling to structures, we really did change the meaning of the By-Laws as reflected in Section 1, 2, and 4. This is especially so with Sections 4's reference to the necessity to be of a permanent nature. There needs to be further explanation to cover these structures without attached foundations. These by definition are non-permanent structures. Example: skid-mounted storage shed, gazebo and etc. When I built my new gazebo in the early 1990's, I went to Manager Allen to see what procedure I needed to follow. Our home is not in the Club, but the gazebo would be on the HSC. He told me that there was no permitting requirement on a building without an attached foundation but that I would still need to maintain the 10-foot stand off distance from my property line or I would need to get it approved, even though it is considered temporary. Today in practice, it is not followed. There are temporary structures all over this club that weren't approved and set on or within two feet of property lines. Those things all need to be considered when clearing up this overlooked issue.

PRESIDENT WALDRON - I am referring Mr. Darling's letter and his concern to Governor Brodberg for review by the Ad-Hoc Committee on By-Laws, and we will get back to Mr. Darling in the future.

PRESIDENT WALDRON - We will retrieve two other letters from Mr. Miller and Mr. Hassenrick and will come back and read them and than ask Governor MacFarland to respond. While we are waiting for copies, I am going to move on to Members Wishing to be Heard.

MEMBERS WISHING TO BE HEARD:

Jim Smith - When our children were young, they would go down to the Activities Building and spend most of the day there. In the current situation it seems to be a Catch-22, the kids don't go because there are no activities and there's no activities because the kids don't come. I think a lot of the children spend a lot of time at the new Rec Center, they enjoy it and it is a wonderful place for them to spend time.

Audrey Erno - The children today have so many different ideas. They have computers and video games and more. I think we are going to find a lack of kids wanting to do activities and it is going to be hard to find a decent program that is going to satisfy them. Children are different now compared to my children when they were young.

Charles Wilson - At the last meeting I spoke to the Board and I brought some items to your attention, and I was surprised that the Members Wishing to be Heard comments were put in full in the minutes. Correspondence was put in full in the minutes, but my comments were not put in full; and the handout which I wanted to get out to the membership was not in the minutes or the Council Fire or in a separate mailing and I was disappointed in the Board and I didn't think the minutes reflected everything that happened in the last meeting.

PRESIDENT WALDRON - Thank you, Charlie.

COMMITTEE REPORTS: (All Committee Reports are printed in the Council Fire from the October Meeting)

A. NATURE AND HISTORICAL SOCIETY REPORT - David Pentecost, President, Jim Beck, read report.

B. ART REPORT - Francie Dittrick, President, read report.

C. CIVIC & GOVERNMENT AFFAIRS REPORT- Linda Bennett, Chairperson, Secretary Schanski read report.

D. ELECTION REPORT - Dick Streufert, Chairman, read report.

GOVERNOR BRODBERG - In response to Mr. Streufert's report and as chairman of the By-Laws committee it concerns me that the Membership was confused by that ballot. The committee put the ballot together and the office mailed it out and if there is an apology in order, I apologize but I don't know what all their concerns were and if some of you are here today, let me know why the ballot was not clear.

E. NOMINATING REPORT - Robert Laraway, Chairman, Secretary Schanski read report. The Nominees for 2010 are Dean Brodberg, Ivan Darling, Kevin Evans, Robert Horton, Theodore Maier, Judith Ann Maier, John MacFarland, James MacMeekin, David Pentecost and Kenneth (Jerry) Peters.

F. TRAP RANGE REPORT - Dennis Goerke, Chairman, read report.

G. TAX, LEGAL & AUDIT REPORT - Governor Middleton, Chairman, read report. **Governor Eldridge** - Just for purposes of By-Laws, I would like to add that the Treasurer, whose job it is under the By-Laws to select the audit firm, have concurred with Governor Middleton in the selection process.

H. AD-HOC COMMITTEE MILLECOQUINS LAKE WATERSHED REPORT - Governor MacFarland read report.

I. PROGRAMS/DINNER DANCE REPORT - Janet Waldron, Chairperson, read report.

J. FUTURE PLANNING REPORT - DeWayne Evans, Chairman, read report.

K. AD-HOC COMMITTEE BY-LAWS REPORT - Governor Brodberg, Chairman, read report.

L. MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE REPORT - Governor Brodberg, Chairman, read report and commented that about 80% of our 1155 members have a Michigan address and the 20% are from 33 other states, including the District of Columbia, one of the Canadian provinces, the country of Germany, and a military address.

M. NATURAL RESOURCES REPORT - Governor Hopper, Chairman. Secretary Schanski, read the report.

N. FISH, GAME & FOWL REPORTS - Governor MacFarland and DeWayne Evans - Co-Chairmen.

FISH REPORT - Governor MacFarland, read report and presented Walter Dark with a trophy as our outstanding volunteer representative of the year at Fish and Game. Mr. Dark, thanked everybody.

PRESIDENT WALDRON - This would be a good time to go back to **CORRESPONDENCE FROM MEMBERS** as was referenced earlier, we have two letters concerning fishing on the club that we wish to read and then Governor MacFarland will read the response which has already gone out.

GOVERNOR SCHANSKI - I would like to apologize to the two gentlemen for the miscommunication on their letters.

Gus Hassenrik - Wrote a letter to Fish & Game Committee concerning Fishing Salmon at the Mouth of the Millecoquin River. In the fish and game committee meeting minutes of October 2, 2008, it stated fishing at the mouth of the Millecoquins River was getting out of hand with people fishing who just do not belong. Their so-called guests are fishing without a member being present. John MacFarland made a motion to change the fishing rule at the mouth of the Millecoquins River so that only Members, Member's spouse, children and grandchildren 16 years of age or younger are able to fish at this location. DeWayne Evans gave support to this motion all were in favor and the Motion was passed. Many members who normally fish in this area were not properly notified of this important change and did not find out until recently, and they come a long distance and will be disappointed with the Hiawatha Club. The club encourages non-members to use the trap range, golf and use the swimming area east of the river. We are also in the process of putting two signs on Highway 2 advertising the Club. This promotes the good will of the club and offer advantages of joining us. Last year and for many years there was a sign at the river stating that Members could bring guests to fish and this practice has gone on for a long time. A problem has been created and needs to be

clarified. My proposals for non-members fishing at the mouth of the river are as follows:

Guest shall be permitted to fish only if sponsored member is present.

Member shall apply at the Club Office with the name and address of a guest requesting to fish.

Member is to sign that they will be responsible for the guest, their conduct, and will be present when they fish.

Upon approval, a fishing badge at the cost of \$10 will be issued. This badge shall be a distinctive color, such as white or yellow, and be properly marked. It shall be visibly worn for identification purpose. The badge shall be good only for the mouth of Millecoquins River and the year that it was issued.

Member shall return the badge to the Club Office when the guest is no longer using it. This is a way that the Club can make extra money.

Steve Miller - Wrote a letter 9-18-09 to the Fish & Game Committee on the two signs erected at the mouth of Millecoquins River. To his knowledge the club as always allowed the Naubinway residents to Fish at the mouth of the river and our guests as well. It appears to me that your committee has usurped more authority than you should be given and the committee is to serve on behalf of the general membership not just a select few. We have had the entire club "For Members Only" when it comes to hunting and fishing but as far back as the club goes, we have always let our town's people and guests use the mouth of the river and the club beach.

I would strongly urge your committee to reconsider the actions you're taking. Is there really a problem, other than when the salmon are running? How will you address the issue, if we start having boats anchored in the middle of the river? How are you going to explain this to our members who have been coming to the club for years for a week or two during the summer and take their guest (friends) to the mouth of the river too fish. It's for the family and kids!

GOVERNOR MacFARLAND - I think it is important to respond in writing because this is something the committee spent a lot of time on and I would like to respond to the letters written by Gus Hassenrik and Steve Miller.

In October of 2008 it was brought to the attention of the Fish, Game and Fowl Committee by Members that were unable to fish for salmon at the mouth of the Millecoquins River because of overcrowding by guests and trespassers. This was an ongoing problem that was stopping dues paying Members from using Club property. Threats of violence had been exchanged. The committee also discovered that the posting on the west side of the mouth was not in agreement with our fishing regulations. This sign was corrected the next day and improved the situation.

We felt this sign, along with our printed rules at the office and on the website, gave our Members proper notice.

On October 1st of this year the Fish, Game, and Fowl Committee met to consider proposals by Gus Hassenrik and Carl Evanoff, Junior, that would allow non-member guests to fish Club property by purchasing a special fishing button. One proposed the button be valid at the mouth during salmon season, and the other was all inclusive.

The committee discussed these proposals in depth and decided not to make changes to our present unanimous vote. Club fishing privileges are open to Members in good standing and their spouses and minor children and grandchildren up to age 16.

Some of the reasoning for this decision by the committee are as follows: One, this is a private club and that is why we joined.

Two, once we open the door, where do we stop?

Three, enforcement would be very difficult, if not impossible.

Four, too much pressure can damage our fishery forever.

We need to draw the line on what's private on the Club, particularly when we advertise parts of the Club open to the public and plan to advertise the Club with billboards.

Six, we devalue our memberships when we give away our privileges.

Seven, if people want to fish the Club, they can buy a membership.

It was also determined by the committee that it is legal for non-members to anchor a boat on the river bottom and fish, but they cannot anchor on the shore or fish from shore. Those fishing from a boat cannot interfere with other fishermen. This is illegal.

The DNR has promised they will ticket those who do.

In closing, I would like to say the Fish, Game and Fowl Committee takes very seriously the authority as has been entrusted by the Club. Any changes we would have recommended to our fishing rules would have gone to the Board for approval.

I would like to speak for the committee and say that the recent decisions we made concerning non-member fishing were made for what we believe to be the best interest of the Club and not for just a few members.

N. GAME & FOWL REPORT - DeWayne Evans, Chairman, read report.

GOVERNOR RUTLEDGE - I would like to make a quick comment in regards to the wolves on the Club. There's huge frustration out there about the number of wolves and the impact it is having on our Club. Don't take matters in your own hands. You are putting an investment in your property and everything at risk when you do that. It's something we can't do. What we want to do is take every opportunity that you can to encourage the control of the wolves in the State Of Michigan, which is currently in the control of a judge in Washington state, back to the DNR. Terry Minzey, the biologist in Newberry, stated when he gets complaints about a wolf, they don't just remove the wolf, they remove the pack. They are not trying to eradicate wolves in the U.P., but they are just trying to bring things to where they should be; and

currently we're out of balance here on the club. We know it but there's nothing we can do about it. It is not worth putting things in jeopardy by doing something illegal.

Ivan Darling - read a report on Spotted Knapweed and commented the report is a compilation of data over the last year. Spotted Knapweed is here to stay. We must learn how to control the damage it can inflict on our environment. It is covering all of our non-shaded trails, assisted in its spread by vehicle traffic and spreading out into our open grasslands. The State of Michigan has ignored the problem so even if we work to control it, our Members will be bring it in on their vehicles, the logging equipment and our own equipment which has been the greatest seeding operation for spotted knapweed and we have started to work on it. Hopefully with an aggressive treatment now, in 8 to 10 years we will be able to reduce our efforts throughout the Club and stay ahead of the problem.

We are acquiring two spraying subcontractor quotations for annual spraying of our property by the mile of roadside and by acreage for open areas. Secondly we have obtained specialized equipment pricing to allow one person to be able to spray the roadsides at will when needed. Labor cost would likely be 400 man hours over a 10 week period for 6 to 10 years, and moderate thereafter.

Controlling knapweed will never stop. The total cost of equipment needed is \$10,000, storage tank for water on wheels for around \$8,000, two ton flat bed truck purchased for \$6,000, for a total of \$24,000 for a one-time purchase. To treat the club areas with 24d chemical, it would cost \$12,135 and labor costs to spray 10 weeks a year is about \$6,000 for labor.

The first year would cost approximately \$42,000, and the next five years about \$18,135, with a sharp decline thereafter, that is what we project. This is only informational at this point. The Fish & Game committee has not taken a position because not all of these numbers were available to us at the time of our last meeting.

O. FINANCE REPORT - Governor Eldridge, Treasurer, read report.

P. GOLF REPORT - Governor McElroy, Chairman, read report.

Q. BUILDING, HOUSE & GROUNDS REPORT - Governor Larson, Chairman, read report.

R. MANAGER'S REPORT - Manager Livermore, read report.

MEMBERS WISHING TO BE HEARD:

Ann Elms - This concerns the spotted knapweed. I suggest the Board Members and Committee Members pull out of the library some of the wildflower books. You will find that 50 percent of our wildflowers in the U.S. are called folialien which is the spot knapweed and which is listed under aliens and when you spray herbicide, you also take out many other wildflowers that might

not be an alien. My concern with spraying is 24D is somewhat toxic to people as are all herbicides, just as Agent Orange was.

PRESIDENT WALDRON - I would like to respond to Charlie Wilson's comments and to clarify what Charlie was indicating and suggesting was not done. Charlie's commentary is completely included in the minutes of the July meeting. Furthermore, my extensive comments are also reflected in the minutes. I just wanted to clarify that for the Members in attendance and the Board as well.

NEW BUSINESS:

GOVERNOR BRODBERG - I **move** that Question 7 of the Membership Application Form be changed to the following:
Do you or your spouse have any record of a citation, arrest, or sentencing from the Department of Natural Resources for a Natural Resources violation, (fish, game, fowl, ORV, ATV, snowmobile etcetera?) If so, please state the date and nature of the violation.

GOVERNOR MIDDLETON - **Second**, all in favor, **motion passed.**

GOVERNOR ELDRIDGE - I **move** that we accept the proposed 2010 operating budget as stated.

GOVERNOR LARSON - **Second**, all in favor, **motion passed.**

GOVERNOR DARK - I **move** that the HSC have no does harvested during the 2009 firearm and black powder seasons on the main body of the Club, with the exception of the Quality Game Management Unit, in which six does can be harvested during the firearm deer season and six does harvested during the black powder season, limited to one doe per member.

GOVERNOR RUTLEDGE - **Second**, all in favor, **motion passed.**

GOVERNOR DARK - I **Move** that we adjourn

GOVERNOR MIDDLETON - **Second**, all in favor, **motion passed**
Meeting adjourned at 12:28 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Teresa Schanski, Secretary