

**HIAWATHA SPORTSMAN'S CLUB
BOARD OF GOVERNORS MEETING
JANUARY 16, 2010
ACTIVITY BUILDING**

PRESIDENT WALDRON - Called the Meeting to order at 9.00a.m.
Recited the pledge of allegiance with the members in attendance.

GOVERNOR SCHANSKI - Called the Roll

Governors in attendance - Waldron, Schanski, Rutledge, Larson, Middleton, McElroy, MacFarland, Hopper, Eldridge, Dark, Brodberg.
Governor Absent - Wileman.

PRESIDENT WALDRON - We have five agenda changes: Under new business, 1. Building Code Modification. 2. Use of HSC area for concert parking. 3. Grandparent/grandchild small game hunting. 4. Coyote Bounty. 5. Printing of By-Law Booklets. These items have been added to the agenda since it has been printed and distributed.

GOVERNOR BRODBERG - I **move** that we accept the minutes of the October 17, 2009 Board of Governors Meeting as presented

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

CORRESPONDENCE FROM MEMBERS:

John Bergacker - Wrote a letter dated October 20, 2009 to the Board of Governors, asking to place his name on the voting membership ballot for 2009-2010 for Club Governor along with his enclosed personal qualifications and stated that if you choose not to let me run, write me as to why before February 1, 2010.

PRESIDENT WALDRON - Responded to the above letter October 30, 2009 to Mr. John Bergacker, thanking him for his letter and his interest in running for the Club Board for 2009 to 2010. The Board of Governors has been polled regarding your request and subject to the HSC By-Laws, the Board finds it necessary that your request be denied and suggest that you contact the chairperson of the Nominating Committee next year and ask to be considered for the 2010 to 2011 ballot.

John Bergacker - Responded to President Waldron's letter November 4, 2009, stating that he is trying to run for the Board for 2010 to 2011. You said that subject to the HSC By-Laws the Board finds it necessary that your request be denied. I can find nothing in the Club By-Laws that prohibits me from running for Club Governor. When was the cut off date for submittals to the Nominating Committee to be considered by them for this year? By whom, how, where and when? It appears to me that you are discriminating against me because I am disabled.

I would suggest you get a legal opinion on this from counsel should you decide to proceed with issues as stated in your letter to me and in the earlier letter dated 10-30-2009.

PRESIDENT WALDRON - Responded to Mr. Bergacker on 11-19/10. Your letters of 11/4/09 and 11/5/09 concerning your present interest in running for a position in the up coming Governor's election for the year 2010, 2011 indicate that perhaps we have not adequately laid out our rationale for not supporting your late decision to take part in the nomination process. This letter will address all your concerns. The club By-Laws in Article V, nominations and elections, lays out the responsibility of the Nomination Committee. This language has been in effect almost since the founding of the club. This committee is a one-task committee which serves only until it has certified the nominees who will run in the next election for governor positions. At the July Meeting of the Board of Governors the Nomination Committee openly invited any Club member who wished to be considered as a candidate to come forth. At the October meeting of the Board of Governors, the Nominating Committee reported that they had been successful in finding 10 candidates to run for election to five spots on the Board. The names of the 10 candidates were reported to the Board and the Secretary, as required by the By-laws. At that instant the Nominating Committee had successfully completed their task and had no more responsibilities to perform. It is unfortunate that you did not timely reveal your interest in being considered as a nominee for governor. You allege the Board is guilty of discrimination against your efforts to be accepted late in the process because you are disabled. We deny that charge. The Board's decision was based upon your insistence that the By-laws and procedures should be altered in your favor and their opposition to that proposition. Governors take a pledge to uphold the By-Laws that you are asking to be changed to accommodate you.

John Bergacker - Wrote his reply to the above letter on 11-20, 2009 and again asked to be added to the slate of nominees running for the 2010-2011 Board of Governors.

PRESIDENT WALDRON - On November 24, 2009 the following reply was written. Your recent letter of November 20 indicates that you are now attempting to join the duly nominated candidates for a position as governor in the 2010-2011 year by way of a write-in campaign. I should indicate that the rationale relied upon by the Board to deny your request which was prior interpreted as an attempt to reopen the nomination process, is still valid in considering and refusing your most recent request and noted that the Board hopes that this letter ends the contention between you and us.

GOVERNOR MIDDLETON - I am going to read a letter from Thomas Derderian, an attorney who we use from time to time on various matters. It's to Mr. David Waldron dated January 14, 2010. Mr. Middleton has forwarded to me for my review several correspondences between you and Mr. John Bergacker relating to a dispute concerning his request to be considered in the 2010 election for Board of Governors. Mr. Middleton has requested that I provide a legal opinion concerning potential validity of any claim Mr. Bergacker may be making regarding the Club's denial of his request to be placed on the ballot for the 2010 election. After going over all material sent to Mr. Derderian, his reply was "In conclusion, I do not feel that the Hiawatha Sportsman's Club has not done anything improper in denying Mr. Bergacker's untimely request to be considered as a nominee for the Board of Governors in 2010. He certainly would have every right to submit a timely application to be considered a nominee in the 2011 election."

MEMBERS WISHING TO BE HEARD:

Ann Elms - I would just like to compliment the Board in their research, their answer and their very careful consideration to the previous letters.

COMMITTEE REPORTS: (All reports are printed in the winter council fire. Note "the Natural Resources Report was omitted from the winter issue of the Council Fire but will be printed in the next Council Fire after the April Meeting")

- A. ART REPORT** - Francie Dittrice, President, Manager Livermore read report.
- B. TRAP RANGE REPORT** - Dennis Goerke, Chairman, President Waldron read report.
- C. TAX, LEGAL AND AUDIT** - Governor Middleton, Chairman, read report.
- D. MILLECOQUIN LAKE WATERSHED** - Governor MacFarland, read report.
- E. AD-HOC COMMITTEE ON BY-LAWS** - Governor Brodberg, Chairman, read report.
- F. NATURAL RESOURCES** - Governor Hopper, Chairman, read report.
- G. MEMBERSHIP REPORT**- Governor Brodberg, Chairman, read report.

H. FISH, GAME & FOWL REPORT - Governor MacFarland and DeWayne Evans, Co-Chairmen. Governor MacFarland, read Fish Report. DeWayne Evans, read Game and Fowl Report.

I. FINANCE REPORT - Governor Eldridge - read report.

J. GRIEVANCE COMMITTEE REPORT - Governor Rutledge, Chairman, we had one grievance filed. It was regarding discharge of a firearm within a safety zone, and the grievance has been settled.

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

MEMBERS WISHING TO BE HEARD:

Betty Ann Glascock - I just wondered, what the criteria for picking the different areas for installing the Dry Hydrants is.

Manager Livermore - We need at least 3 to 4 feet of water, we also need Club access or legal access, and it needs to be installed in an area where the fire truck has plenty of room to turn around and back up to set out their portable tanks, a working area.

Ike Darling - I would like a time set up this winter or a schedule for the Archery at the Recreation Building.

PRESIDENT WALDRON - I am going to ask Manager Livermore to establish a schedule for the Recreation Building Archery.

Dale Terryberry - I do not think a lot of people know what really goes on within the Recreation Building, you could advertise in the Council Fire so people have an idea.

OLD BUSINESS:

GOVERNOR BRODBERG - I **move** that the Board of Governors adopt the revised application for Hiawatha sportsman's Club membership as presented today, including reinstatement of the section for children's names and date of birth. Further, that form, Procedure for Transfer of Lot and Membership, be updated to incorporate the changes as recommended in my report.

GOVERNOR DARK - **Second** All in favor, **motion passed.**

NEW BUSINESS:

GOVERNOR RUTLEDGE - I **move** that the HSC Board of Governors support the position paper on wolves and adopt it as the official position of the Hiawatha Sportsman's Club regarding the status of wolves in the United States.

GOVERNOR DARK - Second
Discussion continued in length
All in favor, **motion passed.**

GOVERNOR ELDRIDGE - I **move** that the Capital Plan for 2010 be adopted.

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

GOVERNOR ELDRIDGE - I do not have any motions to make, more of an update where the Finance Committee is on direction that was given to them some time ago about the number of secondary memberships gradually increasing and the number of primary dues decreasing. Our goal is to have more primary memberships. To accomplish this, the proposal is to create incentives for members to sell or give their secondary memberships to their children. The one we have unanimous agreement on with the finance committee is creating a junior membership. The proposal would read: "A junior membership shall be available for Members who apply and demonstrate their valid identification that they will be between the ages of 21 and 35 on January 1 of each year. The dues and assessment for a junior membership shall be reduced by 50 percent." The negative is the club will lose revenues from the junior membership in the approximate amount of \$6000.00. The benefit to the club is we will have more young people getting involved in the Club. To the Board of Governors, the challenge will be to think about this and we are going to recommend this to you at the April meeting, and it will have to go to the membership if approved.

GOVERNOR DARK - I **move** that the Hiawatha Sportsman's Club adopt Proposal 3 of the Knapweed proposal, to enter into a three-year study with Michigan Tech University with the idea of securing the grant monies for the summer. If for some reason we are not or Michigan Tech is not approved for those grant monies, I would ask the Board to consider adopting Proposal Number 2 for the summer of 2010 as a backup proposal to help treat knapweed.

GOVERNOR ELDRIDGE - second All in favor, **motion passed**

GOVERNOR LARSON - I **move** "the minimum finished living area on a single floor shall not be less than 768 square feet. According to the By-Laws, Article XXVII, Section 2, no structure shall be permitted to be erected that has a ground floor space of less than 768 square feet, excepting rumpus room or guest cottages that may be built as adjuncts to a pre-existing master structure."

GOVERNOR DARK - **Second** All in favor, **motion passed.**

GOVERNOR ELDRIDGE - I **move** that we approve utilization of the proposed ballpark by the marina for parking for the concert on June 18 provided our name is on the policy.

GOVERNOR McELROY - **Second** All in favor, **motion passed.**

GOVERNOR MacFARLAND - I **move** that the HSC allow grandchildren or step-grandchildren of Members in good standing the opportunity to small game hunt on club lands while accompanied one-on-one in the field by their grandparents. Grandchildren or step-grandchildren must be at least 12 years of age and not over 15 years of age. They must present a small game hunting license to the Club office and purchase a Club hunting and fishing button to be worn in the field while hunting. Grandchildren or step-grandchildren will not be allowed to hunt small game on Club lands while firearm deer season is in session, which is November 15th through November 30th. This is on a one-year trial basis.

GOVERNOR DARK - **Second** All in favor, motion passed

GOVERNOR MacFARLAND - I **move** that the HSC sponsor a \$20.00 bounty on coyotes, contingent upon raising \$500 to begin the project. The bounty would be available to all HSC Members who bring the whole coyote carcass to the Club Office. The coyote would become the property of the club. The bounty would be paid any time during the Michigan hunting and trapping season for coyotes. The project ends when there are no longer funds available for the bounty.

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

GOVERNOR BRODBERG - I **move** upon the completion of the proper art work that the Club print 300 By-Law Booklets in five and a half by eight and a half size for the estimated price of \$475 as submitted by Sault Printing Company.

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

MEMBERS WISHING TO BE HEARD:

Jack Glascock - Dean when you do publish the By-Law book, could you put a disclaimer on the inside back cover saying as of this date?

PRESIDENT WALDRON, - Definitely.

GOVERNOR MacFARLAND - I make a **motion** to adjourn

GOVERNOR DARK - **Second** All in favor **motion passed.**

Meeting adjourned at 12:52 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Teresa Schanski, Secretary