

January 18, 2020

The new Board of Directors have been elected: President: Mark Pollard, Vice President: Shirley Daugherty, Secretary: Jim Badour, Treasurer: Sharon Quist, Board Members: Cheryl Leach, Aimee Smith, and Geoff Denstaedt. The board has set regular meetings on the following dates: 08/24/19, 10/19/19, 01/18/20, 04/25/20, and 06/20/20. At all board meetings, there is a time for public comment. If anyone is interested in attending or would like a concern addressed, please contact one of the board members in writing or send your information to esslakeassociation@yahoo.com or our address: PO Box 388, Hillman, MI 49746.

2019 – 2020 Ess Lake Board Goals:

- Complete Bylaws & Restrictions Changes
- Compliance to Bylaws and Restrictions Lot #115
- Canal Project
- Dead Tree Issue on Norway Court
- Tennis Court Refurbish
- Community Activities (4th of July, Garage Sales, etc...)
- Create an Annual Budget
- Address Road Conditions with the Road Commission

Please let the Board know if you would like additional issues addressed.

Bylaws & Restrictions: Final Report of the Ad Hoc Committee to review the By Laws of Ess Lake Association

At the Board of Directors meeting on October 22, 2016, the board took action to establish an Ad Hoc Committee to review the By Laws and Declaration of Restrictions for Ess Lake Numbers 1,2,3,4, & 5. The goal of the committee was to explore and make recommendations for changes to the By Laws and Declaration of Restrictions and present the recommendations to the Board. The Board would then review the recommendations and present the recommendations to the association for a vote of the membership.

In 2017 the committee obtained input from association members and compiled a document containing the current rules and proposed changes. This was presented to the entire association for a first reading at the annual meeting in July 2017. The proposed changes were discussed again at the annual meeting in July 2018. The committee then developed a ballot for a vote by the association. Ballots were sent out in with a self-addressed stamped envelope in hopes of a large return response from the membership in January 2019.

Unfortunately, the committee did not receive enough votes (75% of members positive on each item) on the ballot to effect any changes in the current By Laws and Restrictions. Therefore, the current Bylaws and Restrictions will remain in place until the next time of potential revision which will be 2025. This committee will maintain a notebook of the documents, letters and ballot to give to the next committee.

Finally, I would like to thank the committee members for the time and efforts during the review process. Thanks to Ed Campbell, Ted Campbell, Ed La Framboise, Mark Pollard, Geoff Denstaedt, and Sharon Quist.

Respectfully submitted: Cheryl Leach, Chairperson

Canal Project: The EGLG/DEQ has issued a permit to apply riprap to the mouth of the canal. This will stabilize and shore up the mouth of the canal. The permit also allows for the maintenance dredging of the canal for the next five years. The plan is to complete the work this spring to early summer.

Norway Court Dead Trees & Canal Clean up: The Board is working with Presque Isle Electric to remove dead trees along Norway Court by the powerlines. Once this is completed the Board will assess the situation and possibly gather bids for the removal of the dead trees along the canal and adjacent to Norway Court. There are many dead trees between Norway Court and the canal that need to be removed before they fall into the canal. We will also be looking at cleaning up this portion of the canal.

Security Patrol: The security patrol will continue this year with John Quist. If there are any issues, John will be in contact with you.

Website: The website continues to be updated with information, board meeting minutes and dates, and the newsletters. The website address is: www.esslake.com We will be adding a new section to the website for items that you would like posted for sale, including any lots or houses for sale in the association. Please contact Jim Badour through the association email: esslakeassociation@yahoo.com

Gravel Pit: The board continues to monitor any activity at the gravel pit, along with attending county and township meetings that deal with this activity.

Tennis Court: The board is looking into revitalizing the tennis court. This could include, resurfacing the court, a new tennis net, a new basketball hoop, and benches. The court will also include Pickleball layout.

Pickleball: Are you interested in playing pickleball? Do you know what it is? It's a fun sport that combines many elements of tennis, badminton and ping pong. We have a few Ess Lake Association members who like to play and are looking for more people to join. They plan on playing on Tuesday and Thursday morning at 10:00 starting on June 1 at the tennis court by Long Lake. If you are interested or have more questions, please contact Dorothy Wierzbicki at 989-742-3511.

Association Activities: In the past the Association has facilitated activities like the 4th of July boat parade or Association wide garage sales. The Association has established a committee to gather ideas for similar activities from the membership and to help make them happen. The committee is chaired by Geoff Denstaedt. Geoff would like to add a few members to the committee who would like to see more community activities and have, or have heard, some great ideas. If you are interested in volunteering for the committee please reach out to Geoff by e-mail (geoffreydenstaedt@gmail.com).

Community Garage Sale: There will be a community garage sale this year. It is planned to be the second weekend of June. The dates are: Friday the 12, Saturday the 13th, and Sunday the 14th. This will be advertised in the local papers.

Outlot Usage: Per the Restrictions and Article X – Outlots

Certain outlots shall be dedicated to the Association by the Declarants, for the use of the lot owners. The Association shall maintain, pay taxes on, and regulate the use of these lots. All lot owners shall have swimming and boating privileges on Long Lake at Outlot C. Non Ess Lake front owners shall have swimming privileges on Ess Lake at Outlot B, Park "A", and Park "B". No Boats shall be launched or moored at Outlot B. Canoes, sailfish type sail boats, and light boats which can be carried in from the closest road may be launched by hand from Park "A" and Park "B" by non Ess Lake front lot owners, provided that such craft are not moored on the lake or at said outlots, but are removed after each usage. These outlots shall not be open to the general public, and guests of property owners must be accompanied by the property owners.

Lake Lot Access: Residents using a lot as access to a lake cannot use the lot to store boats or other items on the lot over the winter months, except for a dock.

Building & Tree Removal Committee: All construction of buildings and major changes to lots must be reviewed by the building committee. **A plan must be submitted to Mark Pollard for approval and record retention.** Tree removal according to the Bylaws and restrictions is permitted with permission depending on the size of the tree, however the board is requesting that you contact the committee prior to removal of any trees, in case there are concerns from the board or other association members.

Reminder of Oak Tree Removal & Oak Wilt: The following is from the DNR about Oak Wilt: "The normal time-tested advice is to prevent oak wilt by not pruning or otherwise 'injuring' oaks from **April 15 to July 15**. The spread

of oak wilt occurs during this time of year as beetles move spores from fungal fruiting structures on the trees killed last year by oak wilt to wounds on healthy oaks.” Please do not trim or plan to cut down any oaks during this time period. This will help prevent the spread of this disease in our area. We have heard that there may be Oak Wilt near our area now. If you “Google” Oak Wilt, you can gain more knowledge about the spread of this disease.

Reminder for Unleashed Dogs: We continue to encourage residents to walk their dogs with a leash. To help protect the association, signs are installed on all outlots stating: “Dogs Must be on Leashes”. Your current Board of Directors supports all State, County and Township leash laws. Please abide by these laws while you have your dogs out & about.

E-mail Address: We ask that if you have an e-mail address please let us know. This is the best way to stay in contact with Association Business. If your email address or any other personal information has changed, please contact us at: esslakeassociation@yahoo.com or at PO Box 388, Hillman, MI 49746.

Minutes & Newsletters: Due to the cost of sending meeting minutes out, they are available on our website as they are approved. You can also contact Jim Badour or Sharon Quist at esslakeassociation@yahoo.com so that these can be emailed to you.

Community Cleanup Date: The annual community cleanup is scheduled for the fourth Saturday in May, which is 5/23/20.

Directories: These will only be mailed to new members that did not receive the Original copy that was updated in 2017. Any updates to the directories are included with this newsletter. Directories are available upon request, as stated on our website.

Change of Status: If your address, phone number or e-mail address changes, please let us know at esslakeassociation@yahoo.com

A copy of the proxy for the annual meeting is included below:

PROXY

Annual Ess Lake Owners' Association Meeting
July 4, 2020

I, _____ of lot Number(s) _____ being
a member in good standing of Ess Lake Owners' Association, under the provisions of the Association by laws do
hereby grant my proxy to: (Check one or both)

_____ General Proxy for Quorum

_____ Voting proxy

I grant my voting proxy to (Print Name) _____ a member of Ess
Lake Owners' Association, as my appointed representative at the annual Ess Lake Owners' Association meeting and
is authorized to carry out with full rights of a proxy holder to cast a vote on my behalf as he or she sees fit.

Signature of proxy grantor

Date