

Ess Lake Association Members Annual Meeting Minutes

Call to order: Meeting was called to order at 10:03am

Introductions:

2025/26 Board members introduced themselves:

- Cheryl Leach - President
- Mark Pollard - Vice President
- Ilze Liepa - Secretary
- Sharon Quist - Treasurer
- Jim Badour
- Cheryl Perrigo
- Aimee Smith

All members present introduced themselves.

Additions to agenda: None

Treasurer's Report: Sharon Quist reviewed the handout "Financial Summary Report July 5, 2025-July 4, 2026". Electronic File will be available on the website, in the "Member's" Area. The ending balance of Association Checking and Savings is \$11,953.34. The balances and purpose of the 4 donations funds was reviewed. If making a donation, please reference the fund on the memo line of the check.

- Water Management Fund - \$1159.70
- Legal Fund – \$245.25
- Pickleball / Tennis Court Fund - \$920.28
- Norway Court Enhancement Fund - \$2150.51

Nominations and Election of Board of Directors, 2026-27: Jim Badour has chosen to step back from the Board. Cheryl Leach thanked him for 14 years of service. Cheryl Leach opened the floor for 2026-27 Board Nominations; the following were nominated:

- Cheryl Leach
- Mark Pollard
- Sharon Quist
- Aimee Smith
- Ilze Liepa
- Cheryl Perrigo
- Diana Campbell

Motion was made to elect a slate of Board Members: Jim Badour

2nd: Rick Koger

Approved: All Present

Opposed: None

Abstain: None

All Nominees listed above are therefore elected as the 2026/27 board members.

President's Report: Cheryl Leach gave an overview of the Board's Annual Goals & accomplishments. The file is available on the website. (<https://www.esslake.com/board-of-directors>) Cheryl provided details on the "Review insurance policy" goal. The liability limits were increased to appropriate current standards of coverage. In addition, she reviewed the Associations 2026/27 spending shown on the handout "5-Year Expenditures".

Vision & Mission Statement, Bylaw Committee: Ilze Liepa reviewed the new Vision and Mission statements, that will be used to guide the bylaw committee in recommending changes to our Associations recorded documents.

Vision Statement: Our Vision is to Enhance, Sustain, and Safeguard a Lively, Alluring, Kindhearted and Enchanting neighborhood for all members to enjoy.

Mission Statement: Our mission is to enhance and preserve the quality and beauty of our neighborhood through effective and efficient management of the Association, enforcement of by-laws and restrictions to preserve the natural atmosphere, the lake and waterways, recreational character and property values, and to support initiatives and capital improvements that benefit the greater good of the community.

The Bylaw committee will be a standing committee, as the association now has an opportunity to update by-laws and restrictions every 5 years with 66% of membership approval. The committee will be taking suggestions and making recommendations for changes from now until July 2028, for vote in 2029, and implementation in 2030. For suggestions, please send an email to the association email (esslakeassociation@yahoo.com) or to Ilze (ilzemike@gmail.com).

Website: Jim Badour maintains the website. If you have any suggestions for updates, please let him know (jpbad1@yahoo.com). The Association Directory is under "Member" area of the website. You must sign up and log in to access this area. If you have contact info updates (address / phone / email / etc.) for the directory, please send them to the association email (esslakeassociation@yahoo.com), or Sharon Quist (sjq5051@gmail.com), as she maintains this file.

Outlot Maintenance: Ilze Liepa thanked the many members who volunteer time and the use of their personal equipment for continued outlot maintenance. All regular outlot maintenance is 100% volunteer work, and she urged any users of the outlots to lend a hand in keeping the outlots nicely maintained. If you are interested in joining the group of dedicated maintenance volunteers, please send an email to the association email (esslakeassociation@yahoo.com) or to Ilze (ilzemike@gmail.com) and you will be added to the distribution list.

Water & Canal Committee: Mark Pollard reviewed three main topics: Canal Dredging, Canal Spraying, and USDA Grant Status.

Canal Dredging: An EGLE Permit application for dredging the canal is complete and ready to be submitted. 2026/27 Board will review and vote whether to submit it. The proposed application includes dredging the depth and entire width out of the mouth, the east, and the south sides of the canal. The north and the west sides are proposed for dredging of the sides only, not the depth, as the canal on these legs is already deep enough.

Canal Spraying: The Canal was sprayed for weeds in 2025 3 times, and the herbicide was very effective in reducing not only duck weed but also submerged weeds. The 2025/26 Board

previously agreed to not fund spraying the canal in 2026, due to the proposed dredging application, but with recent requests from members, will reconsider if enough donations are received.

USDA Grant Application: The Board submitted an application for a USDA reforestation grant for association property along Norway Ct. (park A and the Island). The application is pending final committee approval, expected in July. Preliminary information given by the USDA Forester during the site review indicated that some dead trees on the island will likely need to be felled, and new trees will have to be planted along Norway Ct. Final requirements for receiving the grant will be known after approval, and we will have 2 years to fulfill these requirements to receive the funding.

New Business: None

Next Membership Meeting: July 3, 2027, 10am, Long Lake Pavillion

Adjournment: Meeting was adjourned at 10:50am.

Written and Submitted by Ilze Liepa

Signed 