

January 19, 2021

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: 07/25/20, 10/24/20, 01/16/21, 04/24/21, and 06/19/21. 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.

2020 – 2021 Ess Lake Board Goals:

- Complete Canal Project
- Complete requiring bylaw & restrictions compliance on lot #115
- Complete Tennis Court upgrade
- Maintain Tennis Court, Roads, and Association Recreation Committees for 2020/2021
- Setup Budget for fiscal 2020/2021
- Address the issue of dead/dying trees along Norway Court
- Address Road Conditions with the Road Commission
- Monitor Gypsy Moth Situation for Association

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

Website: Our Association Website has been updated with many new features. You can find the Articles of Incorporation, the Bylaws and Building Restrictions, Plat Plans, Calendar of Events, and a New Photo Area. If you would like to share photos, then you need to sign up to be a member under the new member's area. In the member's area, you will see an area there to upload photos (must be approved). You will also be able to see the treasurer reports now, yearly budget, along with having access to an up to date member directory. Coming in the future, we hope that you will be able to pay your dues online with some simple instructions. You will also have access to the necessary forms for variances and building approval form. You can also check the calendar for any community events in the association and area. So please join as soon as you can and visit often for updates. The website address is: www.esslake.com


Canal Project: Mark Pollard continues to pursue this initiative. Due to COVID last year, the project could not push forward due to a lack of stone available. Mark is in the process of upgrading the permit to be able to install 45' of seawall along each side for the canal, then install the riprap. The riprap material is here and John Quist is now looking for the necessary stone to help with the completion of this project. Mark hopes to change the application soon so that work can begin in the spring to complete this much needed project.

Duckweed: Mark Pollard had Aquatic Nuisance Plant Control review the duckweed issue in the canal. This person said that the duckweed can spread to the lake, so it does need to be treated soon. This would be a problem in the lake where there are little to no wave action. This is spread into the lake by boats and kayaks going through the canal. Please see enclosed letter pertaining to this issue.

Norway Court Dead Trees & Canal Clean up: Presque Isle Electric did cut down many trees along Norway Court, but the cleanup still needs to be finished up. John Quist has been cleaning up some of the area that he can safely get at. This project remains on the board's goals to complete.

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

Tennis Court: The tennis court revitalization has been completed. It has been upgraded with the new pickle ball court as well. The board can't thank Aimee Smith enough for leading this project. We also would like to thank the Wilkerson's for the use of their water in assisting with the repairs. Aimee will soon purchase a sign and look for



benches to add some finishing touches to the court. Mark has a pole to repair the fence opening. He has also had a gate installed that could be equipped for the use of a combination lock to secure the area so that it would only be available to association members. The practice board for tennis will be removed sometime in the spring due to it rotting.

Pickle ball: Are you interested in playing pickle ball? 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. If you are interested or have more questions, please contact Dorothy Wierzbicki at 989-742-3511.

4th of July Activities: Geoff Denstaedt is looking for help from community members in the association to help plan some activities during the 4th of July weekend. The activities that have taken place in the past have included a movie at dusk put on by Chuck and Joy Langton, a boat parade which would be judged and prizes awarded, etc... Geoff would like to add a few members to the committee who would like to see more community activities during this time. 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. This will happen on: Friday May 21, Saturday May 22, and Sunday May 23. This will be advertised in the local papers.

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.

Variance Request & Building Plan Approvals: The board has recently put in place forms to be able to request a variance to the restrictions, as well as a form for the approval of building plans. This is in an effort to reduce the number of violations that exist in the association for items that have not been approved, thus violating the current restrictions. These forms are available under the member area of the website. They can also be requested by sending an email to our address: esslakeassociation@yahoo.com or by mailing a request to PO Box 388, Hillman, MI 49746.

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 May 22, 2021. During this weekend we ask that the association help to clean up the outlots, put out the picnic tables, install the dock, along with general clean up on the owners property.

Directories: Sharon Quist has recently updated the association directory. The old directory will be given out to new members of the association, until the supply runs out. The up to date directory for new & current members is available on the association website under the member area. Please sign up as a member so that you have access to the most up to date directory.

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

Annual Meeting: The annual meeting will be held on Saturday July 3rd at the pavilion at 10am.

A copy of the proxy for the annual meeting is included below: (this is also on the website under the member area)

PROXY

Annual Ess Lake Owners' Association Meeting
July 3, 2021

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