

Square Lake Association (SLA) Board of Directors

Meeting Minutes

February 4, 2016

1. The board meeting was called to order by Kirk Brannock at 7:25 PM. Present: Brannock, Kolkmeyer, Plomer, and Wachol. Absent: Papazian, Haines, and Spence.
2. Minutes from the last meeting were approved.
3. The Board reviewed the meeting agenda which included: Results of election and officers, parking expansion at the MUC, weed control in the lake, Pontiac School District issues, meeting schedule for rest of 2016, Welcoming Committee, website, e-mail listing phone-a-thon, schedule spring clean up day, and new business.
4. Election and officers – Kathleen Spence is welcomed by the board as a new member. She lives in the Meadowlands and will be a great addition to the board. The group agreed to keep the officer assignments as they were for last year. We will ask Megan Haines to run the election committee. Kirk is going to run for the Bloomfield Township Board of Trustees. If he is successful, we will have to talk about a change in officers at the end of this year.
5. Parking expansion at the MUC – The Township is still waiting to hear whether the court of appeals will take the case against the variances requested by the MUC. Township officials indicate that the matter will not come before the Board of Trustees until the court makes its determination.
6. Weed control in the lake – The board discussed the fact that weed control is a decision for each individual homeowner. It is not a matter for the Square Lake Association Board to discuss.
7. Pontiac School District issues: PSD has put two millages on the ballot. One is for residences and the other is for “non-primary residence exemption” (which means commercial and rental, essentially.) The group discussed shortcomings and issues within the district. We discussed whether to support C.A.R.E. (Communities Acting for Responsible Education), a watchdog organization of residents in the Pontiac School District to insure transparency, be a watchdog, a fact finder and a source for information. A motion was made to give \$100 to CARE. The motion carried unanimously.
8. Meeting schedule for the rest of 2016 – We decided to designate the second Tuesday at the beginning of each quarter for our meeting. If needed, we can change the dates later. Dates for this year are: April 12th, July 12th and October 12th. October will be the annual meeting.
9. Welcoming Committee – no report. Topic tabled for this meeting.
10. Website – United Homeowners has decided to stop hosting neighborhood websites, so <http://sqlk.uhoa.org/> is still working but static and inaccurate. We will have to get our own up and running. Alice is willing to work on it. Kirk mentioned that we have a domain name secured for the next five years if we want it (sqlk.com.) Board members discussed procuring squarelakeassociation.com because it was easier to remember, although longer.

11. E-mail listing update – The board discussed the fact that we now have a good listing of all residents which may be used as the basis for a directory. We agreed that we should divide up the list and each take a number of people in the neighborhood to obtain contact information with email being the main contact point. Alice will draft a note that people can use if they don't have a phone number to try. We communicate with people via email and the website once we get the listing done. The group discussed doing this work as a “phone-a-thon” or just separately and decided to do it separately.
12. Spring clean up day – We have set May 14th at 10 AM as our spring clean up day. We will meet at the Meadowlands entrance. We will need signs and notices to the neighbors. We will have to contact the township to pick up the trash after that event. We will cover all streets in the subdivision, with teams for each area. We will do more planning for this at our April Board meeting.
13. New business –
 - a. Ordinance violations – the board has been noticing a lot of violations which deteriorate the atmosphere of the neighborhood. Examples are: Trash cans left out, garbage dumped and not picked up, junk in people's front yard and trailers/boats left out. The board will inform people of the standards of the township in a spring newsletter and ask them to conform. We will also tell people how to reach Bloomfield's ordinance officer if they wish to report something.
 - b. Newsletter – Kirk is going to draft a neighborhood newsletter. If possible, we will distribute by email and on the web.

Submitted by Alice Wachol
2/5/16