

Meeting called to order at 7:00 PM

Board Members Present: Pam Reid, Teresa Marciniac, Tom Petts, Cece Stamsak, Pat Betcher, Nancy Siedmiorka and Brian Menard. **Absent:** Derek Morey and Alex Nikora.

Guests: Laurie Petts, Linda Zukonik, Lori Campbell, Karen Uetz, Paul Uetz, Mark Darbe, Kim McClain, Mark Middlewood, Jodi DeVuyst, Jerry and Dawn Gottschalk, Burns Rolland and Karen Codrea

Brian Menard led the gathering in the **Pledge of Allegiance**

There was one addition to the Agenda: Karen Uetz requested via email that the Board discuss revealing the count of the votes for the seats on the board and the acceptance of the by-laws. Discussion among the Board and audience occurred. *Nancy Siedmiorka made a motion to reveal the results of the vote during the Annual Meeting each year, and if requested, a second count conducted by two different individuals. Motion was seconded by Brian Menard. Motion carried.*

Pam Reid then read the results of the voting conducted during the 2025 Annual Meeting.

To wit:

For the three open positions on the Barnes Lake Club Board, the following votes were received: Derek Morey received 34 votes, Alex Nikora received 38 votes, Karen Uetz received 20 votes, and Nancy Siedmiorka received 25 votes.

For the acceptance of the updated By-Laws for the Barnes Lake Club: Accepting the draft as presented at the meeting received 22 “Aye” votes, 17 “Nay” votes, and 3 abstentions.

Minutes of last meeting: *Cece Stramsak made a motion to accept the minutes of the last meeting, presented by Pam Reid, and was seconded by Nancy Siedmiorka. Motion Carried.*

Treasurer’s Report: Cece Stramsak reported that the amount shown on the report for the Golf Scramble donations was only the 50/50 raffle and an additional amount was received from the outing, bringing the total to \$4,242.66. *Brian Menard made a motion to accept the Treasurer’s Report, presented by Cece Stramsak, and it was seconded by Teresa Marciniac. Motion Carried.*

Membership update: We currently have 236 members (up from 2024’s total of 230)

Special Events:

- **World's Best Coffee Hour:** Tom Petts reported that the last coffee hour of the year on September 20th was a success. Tom reported that they have sufficient donations to pay for the event.
- **Annual Members Picnic-Raffle Prize Coordinator needed:** Tom Petts reported that Theresa Herrick would be stepping down as the coordinator after 3 years. The event is still in need of a Donation Coordinator / Picnic Organizer.
- **Halloween Party:** Pam Reid reminded all present of the upcoming party on October 11, 2025, and the event will be run as in prior years. Kim McClain asked about the Trunk or Treat event which was discussed in the prior year and it was admittedly forgotten for 2025 but will be discussed and arranged for 2026.

Welcome Packets: Teresa Marciniec handed out four new packets in September. There was discussion about Teresa informing the treasurer, Cece Stramsak, of the new owners' mailing addresses, but Cece confirmed she gets the new addresses from the Township for the March mailing.

Beach/Pavillion Maintenance Update: The Board received an update from Alex Nikora, via Pam Reid. There are 61 registered boats on the park lot docks, with 17 vacancies remaining. Alex is reassigned the park lot slips as best he can, per the requests he's received. In mid-October, he will begin storing the playground and pavilion equipment and secure the fish stock permit.

Park Lot Maintenance Update: The Board received no update this month, as Alex Nikora was not in attendance.

Barnes Lake Improvement Board Updates:

- **Lake Weed Treatments:** Burns Rolland reported that there were five monthly weed treatments this in 2025, with a total cost of just under \$50,000. This is one less weed treatment than the prior year, but it was generally successful in keeping the lake in good condition. Burns reported that the cost of the weed treatment permit will likely increase from \$825 to \$1,250 in 2026.
- **Lady Liberty Update:** Jerry Gottschalk reported there are three major components of the ongoing Lady Liberty project:
 - 1) Approval of the project by EGLE:** They indicated there will be a permit charge of \$500 (there was not a permit acquired when the statue was first put into place). Jerry indicated that Burns Rolland has been instrumental in dealing with EGLE. Burns added that EGLE noted the unique nature of the permit request, but they were not

opposed to it. He also indicated that they would be polling the residents of the community, as well as other interested parties (for example, the DNR, the Township and perhaps Lapeer County).

2) Design work: Jerry described several options and features of the supporting structure.

3) Fundraising: Dawn Gottschalk indicated that one currently anonymous donor has pledged to match the first \$1,000 of all funds raised. She described several fundraising initiatives underway or planned for the near future.

a) Football Squares for the MSU/UofM game, the Lions Thanksgiving Day game and perhaps the Superbowl.

b) Cornhole competition to be held on October 18, 2025, at/near the Gottschalk residence at 1043 Lakeshore Drive, with three prizes donated by Sue Mizgalski & Daren Collins (a Barnes Lake Cherrywood bench), Dawn Gottschalk (a painting) and Kim McClain (a decorative planter). (Jerry added that there will be a port-a-john on site for contestants and guests).

c) Returnable Bottle Drive to be collected on November 1, 2025. Donations are requested to be placed in bags at the end of your driveways by 11:00 am.

d) Additional fundraising ideas include a Pancake Breakfast, SOS T-Shirts, and a 50/50 raffle.

Jerry went on to suggest that one way to involve the kids around the lake would be to provide them with a do-well-in-school incentive, which would give them the opportunity to be a part of the unveiling of the statue on its new base on the Fourth of July 2026 [which is the country's semiquincentennial (250th) anniversary. Burns Rolland indicated that despite the length of time the EGLE approval process takes, that is still an achievable date for project completion.]

2026 Calendar Review: The Board was provided with a copy of the previously approved calendar to see if any changes were needed prior to presenting it to the community. Jodi DeVuyt suggested that the **Barnes Lake Community-Wide Garage/Yard Sale** be scheduled to coincide with the Michigan M-24 Oxford to Caro Sale (which will be held on July 18, 2026). The Board and attendees discussed the benefits of the change and will take the suggestion under advisement for a vote at the November 5, 2025 meeting.

New Business:

Pam Reid indicated that she asked three companies for a bid to replace the Directors' signs, and to provide Rules signs and Park Lot signs for Park Lot J. One printer did not respond to her request, despite having met with her in person. Blue Water Printing and Village Printing

both presented bids. Pam indicated that of the two, Village Printing was the more professionally presented bid and was also at a lower cost. A discussion was held regarding the necessity of the Directors' signs, and it was decided that they were unnecessary. *Brian Menard motioned that the Board request Village Printing be selected to produce the Rules signs and Park Lot signs for Park Lot J, and it was seconded by Nancy Siedmiorka. Motion carried.*

A discussion took place regarding the procedure for the **Golf Cart Decoration Contest**. The chair would be the Vice President of the Barnes Lake Club. A few recommendations were made regarding conducting the voting and Brian Menard agreed to edit the procedure sheet for presentation at the November 5, 2025 meeting.

New and Outstanding Issues (these remain on the agenda until completed):

- **Survey of Park Lot P (sewer) & Park Lot E (wall)** needed to record encroachments on each. [No Change from prior month's meeting minutes].
- **Beach lawn at retaining wall:** The yard has sunk at the retaining wall, creating a hazard. This area (the entire length of the retaining wall) needs to be built up so the area is level. [No Change from prior month's meeting minutes].
- **Club House Repairs:** Repairs are needed, including the siding, door, roof, etc. A contract for repairs has been approved, not to exceed \$12,000 (approved at July 2, 2025, meeting). **New information:** Pam Reid indicated that she's been informed that the repairs to the Clubhouse will begin in early November.

Next meeting will be held on November 5th, at 07:00 pm

Tom Petts made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:22 PM and the motion was seconded by Teresa Marciniec. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted, Brian Menard