

**Ann Lake Property Owners' Association  
Board Meeting Minutes**

**September 4, 2020**

**I. Call to Order: 9:30 AM**

**II. Roll Call of Officers and Board:**

President	Sven Anderson	Present
Vice President	Kent Taylor	Present
Treasurer	Kathy Taylor	Present
Secretary	Maggie Sowers	Present
Member at Large	Terry Sowers	Present
Member at Large	Sue Sharp	Present
Member at Large	Dave Maxson	Present
Member at Large	Julee Parker	Absent
Member at Large	Vacant	

**III. Approval of Minutes from last Meeting: Dave motioned, “the minutes from May 22, 2020 be approved”. Terry seconded. Unanimously approved.**

**IV. Report of Officers:**

**President:** No report.

**Vice President:** No report.

**Treasurer:** Kathy reports

- Current operating fund of \$7,179.93.
- Income of \$4,203.23 which includes \$306.23 earned on CD.
- Expenses have been \$3,032.14 which includes transfers to reserves.
- Invasive Species Fund (for 1<sup>st</sup> year) is \$10,905.04.
- Lake Management Reserve (for ongoing costs) is \$700.

Full treasurer's statement below.

**Dave moves, “approval of the Treasurer's report”. Kent seconded. Unanimously approved.**

**Secretary:** No report.

**V. Report of Standing Committees:**

## **Communications:**

### **Nominating and Membership:**

Kathy reports we have 63 paid members  
6 from Pay Pal  
10 were prepaid  
1 lifetime members

TOTAL membership is 80 for the year so far.

Highest number of members was 88 in 2014. We are getting a lot of multi year renewals with 12 already for next year, and 3 or 4 paid for the year after that.

Dave sent a letter to people who paid for the last year or two but not this year as of July. Kathy states that one family renewed for 3 years and made a donation which shows this letter had a big impact. Dave will continue this effort.

Sue will get home addresses for the her new neighbors on both sides.

Later in the meeting **Dave moved, “that Mike Onthank be appointed to the vacant at large position on the board for one year”.** Kathy seconded. All approved with verbal vote.

**Events:** Maggie states there is no report as there were no events this summer due to Covid 19. Sven feels we are an important part of the community and not enough people know what we are doing. He would like to get our name “out there”. He suggests we “adopt” the unofficial boat parade as ours and make it a boat decorating competition with prizes from local businesses. He suggests a “prize patrol” boat that would drive by all the participants and select the best and second best boats. There would be ALPOA signs and signs from the local supporting businesses. He would like to see it occur later in the day.

Discussion followed about making a decorating contest ours but not the boat parade itself. We discussed having the winning photo displayed at the Lake Ann Brewery. Kent believes we should make any changes slowly, starting by having the contest, then change the time, then add other events...etc.

Sven wondered if there is money in the budget for prizes. ALPOA does budget money for the annual meeting but no other activities. Kathy suggests we budget some money for this purpose.

**Newsletter:** Sue reports the due date for articles to be in the ALPOA Winter Newsletter is February 1, 2021 with a mailing date of February 14, 2021.

**Website:** As previously reported we were hacked last year and the website was down. Kathy reports it cost \$95 to “unhack” us. Arnie Noe has been doing our backups manually and uses his personal drop box for this job. He doesn’t have much space and must delete his personal data in order to accommodate the back up. He has requested we budget \$35 annually to enlarge the drop box space and have back ups done automatically. **Kathy moves, “the website gets approved for a \$50 per year for back ups and storage”. Dave seconded the motion. Approved unanimously.**

## **VI. Environmental:**

**Invasive Species:** The full report is printed below. Additionally, Kent says the Benzie County Conservation District proposed a Qualitative Polymerase Chain Reaction (QPCR) Program to help identify invasive species like swimmers itch. The program would be funded by the participating lake associations and cost thousands of dollars for each (\$3,000-\$5,000). Kent suggests we vote on joining this program, although he personally feels the cost outweighs the benefit for ALPOA. **Kent moves that we vote against joining.** In discussion Kathy explained they are trying to establish labs in different counties which would be expensive. They want at least 10 lake associations to help share the cost. Sven attended a conference where it was explained the QPCR Program is mostly to identify and eliminate swimmers itch throughout Michigan. There are other lakes with a much bigger problem. Sven recommends we do not refuse the invitation but rather table it for future consideration due to the cost. **The motion was revised to read, “At this time we are declining the invitation to join this program as the cost is so prohibitive”. Seconded by Sven. Passed unanimously.** We would consider a new invitation where the cost is lower. Swimmers itch is not a problem for us now, but it may become so in the future.

Kathy asked about a survey for Starry Stonewort. Maggie and Terry plan to do this sometime this fall. It will be a casual survey to identify Starry Stonewort only. Sue has contacted the new owners of the Peterson’s property (J.T. and Andrea Collins) about removing Purple Loosestrife. She sent pictures to the owners to help them identify the invasive that is mixed with their garden plants.

**Loons:** Kathy reminded the board that last year we talked about adding a sign at the open space on the shore of the campground. Kayakers launch at this site. She spoke with Scott Hedberg who suggests we take the existing 2 signs (regarding loons) from the boat launch and relocate them at the open space. Then replace them with two new signs that match the other signs at the boat launch. He got a quote of \$250 plus tax for the two new signs. Kathy has learned the DNR will not do this work themselves, but may allow ALPOA to make the signs. She states \$250 is more expensive than she thought it would be. Kathy wants the Board to weigh in on this. Discussion followed. Sue proposes any new signs be as simply worded as possible so people are more likely to read them. **Dave moves that, “we authorize up to \$250 to pay for new signs at the boat launch and move the old signs to the open space location”. Kent seconded it. Approved unanimously.**

Kathy also reports there is now a permanent anchor for the loon nest that was installed a couple of weeks ago.

**Water Quality:** Dave reminds us that Cooperative Lakes Monitoring Program funding was suspended this year. He did take a phosphorus samples this spring and will do another in the fall. He was not able to do chlorophyll, oxygen and temperature measurements this year because we don't have the equipment. He has been doing clarity readings throughout the summer. He feels very comfortable about the status of our water quality which has not changed significantly in the last several years and remains excellent.

**VII. Meeting Adjourned: 10:27 am.**

## Loon Report Sept/2020

- The loon nest was blown off its anchorage this spring. We left it anchored in the new location and moved the buoys. The loons never returned to the nest.
- We modified the existing ANP to allow for better attachment to anchors. We purchased stainless steel hardware which was installed on the wooden part of the nest.
- The Taylors had an old “anchor” that must have been used in the past to anchor a raft. It was several cement blocks hooked together with a chain. This was placed at the loon nesting location at the edge of the drop off. In the spring, we can now attach the loon nest to this anchor but still throw an additional block off the opposite corner for stabilization.
- There had been a desire to put a second “Loon Alert” sign at the campground area where the campers tend to launch their kayaks. The sign is currently at the boat launch (see picture). One proposal is to move the post with the 2 signs (rules and loon warning) to the campground area and replace this with a new post and the same 2 signs but now make them the same size as the aquatic signs on the other post. The original 2 signs were donated by a riparian. To have them remade in the larger size would be \$112.50 each plus tax. The total cost would be \$250 plus tax plus cost of post; labor would be donated.
- Again, thanks to everyone who helped both with the launch, the relocation, and the disassembly of the loon platform.



## Website Report Sept/2020

- Last year we were shut down by hackers for about 8 months. The site went down late in the summer and was finally restored this winter. We spent \$95 to get the site restored.
- We have removed many of the plugins to reduce the probability of another hack and have gone to double authorization for logins.
- We are currently doing back ups manually and using members space which limits our flexibility. We are limited to only 2 backups so when we want to do a new one, we have to delete one of the old ones first. Plus we have to remember to do this regularly. We can purchase 5GB for \$35/year which would hold 5-6 backup copies plus provide a service to do backups automatically. It would automatically delete the oldest as it adds a new one. Since we really only need to do a backup every quarter, this seems the most economically way to go. This was the quote we received in January so it might be slightly higher now.
- We will be paying to renew the web site; due every 3 years.

## **Invasive Committee Report for September 2020**

Our committee has been operating on remote control this year yet has still been effective. A spring survey done by members found no Curley Leaf Pondweed, a species that expresses itself mostly in the spring and is thus not surveyed by the professionals. Speaking of PLM, they conducted their survey and found no suspicious or non-native plants in our lake once again. This was a quick report (a copy of this correspondence is pasted below) ; a formal report normally follows in October. We expect to conduct a fall survey again this year with volunteers looking for Starry Stonewort which has been making in-roads into the Northern tier of Michigan. That is why we are doing this fall survey 2 years in a row instead of our normal every other year.

Committee members rallied last month to attack Purple Loosestrife infestations in the north bay on the “trailer property” and outside the boat launch area. The north bay infestation were spotted by Sven and once notified, other committee members to include Kathy, Maggie, Terry, Susan and Bill Sharp and Sven and his son Zack, responded with some tough, hot work. Later some more were found street-side near the launch and de-flowered were they couldn’t be uprooted. These volunteers should be commended for removing most if not all the flowering Loosestrife but could not up-root them. This will be an every thing at this spot until we can get the muscle and tools in to dig it up.

Our educational outreach is showing signs of success as demonstrated above but also locals reporting suspicious plants to this committee. It seems there was a lot of floating, disengaged Milfoil washing up especially on the eastern shoreline. Samples were provided by Maggie to me and were identified as native. Others also wrote to me with similar observations but by then the AVS survey by PLM had been concluded and I was able to assure these riparians that all was well. We thanked them for their vigilance as that is an important aspect to our invasive avoidance strategy.

Another species is making it up to Northern Michigan; the European Frog-bit. It seems to be largely on the Eastern Michigan shore but has made its way into the Grand Rapids area of late. A picture and description is attached at the end of this report. We have seen none here as yet.

The amount we owe the Township for PLM’s services was paid to the Township Treasurer earlier this summer by the our Treasurer.

Kent Taylor  
Chair, Invasive Species Committee

**From:** Kents email <[kent@prgchicago.com](mailto:kent@prgchicago.com)>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, August 19, 2020 11:12 AM  
**To:** [breg@plmcorp.net](mailto:breg@plmcorp.net)  
**Cc:** 'Kathys mail' <[kathy@prgchicago.com](mailto:kathy@prgchicago.com)>  
**Subject:** Survey results for Ann Lake and other questions

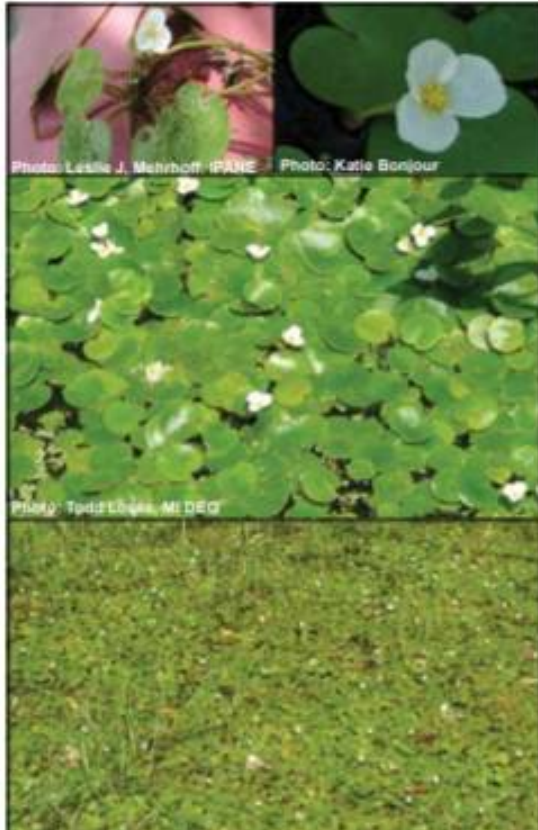
Hello Bre:

I have a board meeting next week and I will be asked a couple of questions that you are best suited to answer.

1. Did you complete your survey this month and what did you find? **Yes, we did complete it! I was not altered to any exotic plants and still have to tally the survey and complete report!**
2. We did an early June survey for Curley Leaf Pondweed and found none. Given the nearby discoveries of Starry Stonewort should we do a fall survey for that this year rather than waiting for next year? **That's great with the CLP. We looked for SSW and did not find any however we have found it on a few new lakes this summer, so any extra eyes is helpful!**
3. Can you provide some advice for this fall survey such as what depths to rake, what date to do it and other helpful hints? **I would rake in the 4-6' area and through September (pending weather) is a great survey month!! SSW grows on the bottom and is normally quite green and would likely be found near access site.**

Thank you for what you are doing for this lake and in advance for any help you provide with these questions.

Kent Taylor



## European Frog-bit

*Hydrocharis morsus-ranae*



**Habit:** Perennial, free-floating aquatic herb that forms large colonies, creating dense mats with tangled roots.

**Leaves:** Usually floating, kidney shaped with long stems, dark purple below, resemble tiny water lily leaves, 1-6 cm (0.5-2.25 in) across.

**Stems:** European frog-bit has strong, cord-like stolons.

**Flowers:** White, cup-shaped, three-petaled with yellow dots at the base; bloom mid-summer.

**Fruits/seeds:** Fruit a spherical berry; fruit/seedset uncommon.

**Habitat:** Occurs in shallow, slow-moving water on the edges of lakes, rivers, streams, swamps, marshes and ditches.

**Reproduction:** Primarily vegetative, through long stolons and turions (winter buds that are produced on the stolons); in fall, turions drop off and remain dormant until spring when they begin to grow; one plant can produce over 100 turions a year.

**Similar species:** Water lilies (*Nymphaea* spp., *Nuphar* spp.) are much larger. Water-shield (*Brasenia schreberi*) leaves are oval, not kidney-shaped and their stems arise in the middle of the leaf.

**Comments:** Native to Europe. This species is listed as a prohibited noxious weed by the Michigan Department of Agriculture; most plants are dioecious and many populations consist of only one sex; in mixed populations, most plants are male and little seed is produced.

**Monitoring & rapid response:** Monitor for new populations. No control measures have been reported for this species. Hand pulling or raking out colonies before fall, when turions drop off, seems advisable.

Permits are usually required for herbicide use in water bodies and wetlands. See MDEQ's Aquatic Nuisance Control website at:

[www.michigan.gov/ideq/inland/4142](http://www.michigan.gov/ideq/inland/4142)



Ann Lake Property Owners Association				
2020 Status as of Sept 4, 2020				
	2018	2019	2020	2020
	Actual	Actual	Actual	Budget
Beginning Balance January 1	3,405.01	3,660.54	5,358.84	5,358.84
<b>INCOME</b>				
membership dues paid	2,640.00	2,430.00	2,070.00	2,400.00
prepaid future membership dues/Riparian	90.00	522.00	316.00	522.00
donations	351.25	484.77	533.00	484.77
invasive donation fund	1,164.00	0.00	306.23	0.00
lake management/preservation fund	0.00	675.00	754.00	675.00
Riparian income	168.00	126.00	224.00	294.00
PPPR Income	761.00	683.00	0.00	0.00
Hat income		0.00	0.00	0.00
Other income				
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>5,174.25</b>	<b>4,920.77</b>	<b>4,203.23</b>	<b>4,375.77</b>
<b>EXPENSES</b>				
Michigan Lakes & Streams Association; annual due	140.00	140.00	140.00	140.00
Subscriptions to Michigan Riparian (for 2016)	312.00	322.00	238.00	322.00
Liability insurance premium (annual)	437.89	437.69	437.71	437.69
State filing fee	50.00	20.00	20.00	20.00
PO box rent and misc postage	47.80	40.00	40.00	40.00
PayPal Fees	12.89	8.54	7.34	8.54
Water level gauge				
Water Quality:	197.00	227.00	25.00	227.00
CLMP Enrollment	197.00	227.00	25.00	227.00
Travel				
Newsletters/Communication	480.81	304.45	288.80	304.45
Winter newsletter	87.50	0.00	0.00	0.00
Summer newsletter	362.44	304.45	288.80	304.45
By-laws communication				
Supplies	30.87			
Brochures				
Website maintenance	0.00	0.00	95.00	360.00
Invasive Species:	625.00	625.00	625.00	625.00
Education material		0.00	0.00	0.00
Plant mapping	625.00	625.00	625.00	625.00
Special Events:				
Annual meeting	101.13	88.77	0.00	100.00
Lake Ann Homecoming	20.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
PPPR expenses (offset by income above)	710.11	642.04	0.00	0.00
Membership:	123.80	160.88	140.35	140.00
Winter postcard	68.00	153.18	70.35	70.00
Spring postcard	41.30	0.00	50.00	50.00
New members packets		0.00	0.00	0.00
Mid-summer membership drive	14.50	7.70	20.00	20.00
Health and Safety				
Unbudgeted expenses	374.29	34.10	26.71	0.00
<b>Allocations to reserves (unbudgeted, from unde</b>				
Website hosting fees	122.00	122.00	122.00	122.00
Invasive Species Reserve	1164.00	0.00	306.23	0.00
Lake Management Reserve	0.00	50.00	650.00	675.00
Legal Reserve	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Loon Reserve	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Sign Maintenance (@ boat landing)	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>4,918.72</b>	<b>3,222.47</b>	<b>3,162.14</b>	<b>3,521.68</b>
<b>Ending Balance Operating Fund</b>	<b>3,660.54</b>	<b>5,358.84</b>	<b>6,399.93</b>	<b>6,212.93</b>
<b>Reserve balances (unbudgeted, from undesignated O</b>				
Website hosting fees	125.72	247.72	369.72	9.72
Invasive Species Reserve	10,598.81	10,598.81	10,905.04	10,598.81
Lake Management Reserve	0.00	50.00	700.00	0.00
Legal Reserve	600.00	600.00	600.00	600.00
Loon Reserve	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Sign Maintenance (@ boat landing)	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
<b>Ending Balance (including reserves)</b>	<b>14,985.07</b>	<b>16,855.37</b>	<b>18,974.69</b>	<b>17,421.46</b>
Yearly Budget Surplus/Shortfall	255.53	1,698.30	1,041.09	854.09

Budget based on 80 paid memberships,

Assume coverage of PP fees  
Interest on CD

had 12 plus 1 late subscription (missing 3)

#1422

#1419 Total 17 (2 paid in 2019) late will get ALPOA

Assume same 2019

#1420

Small winter mailing (increased postage)

#1423, #1424

PayPal

#1425 1/2 PLM plant sampling

#1418

#1426

paid every 3 years

Due this year, est 360

Honor 14677.71 16334.55 18521.92  
 PayPal 307.36 520.82 609.48  
 Outstanding expenses 0000001 156.71

