

Onekama Invasive Species Committee

Monthly Meeting—DRAFT

June 19, 2023 4:30p

In attendance: Kevin Hughes, Al Taylor, Gene Lagerquist, Alexis DeGabriele, Chair Doug Barry, Brianne Grabill, Lake Manager (via telephone). Not present: Phil Sedelmaier. Also present: Kelsey Froelich, Ron Reimink (via video call).

Meeting called to order at 4:35p.

Taylor and DeGabriele requested additions to the agenda. Motion to approve the amended agenda by Lagerquist, seconded by Hughes. AIF, motion carried.

Froelich and Reimink made a short presentation regarding their analysis of the 2019 shoreline drone survey data. They have generated a report and an interactive map showing 385 properties comprising the entirety of the Portage Lake shoreline. There was discussion about how best to use this information to both judge how this lake is doing alone and compared to others, and how to use the data as a public educational tool to improve the condition of the lakeshore as a whole. The possibility of developing a sub-committee to work on this was discussed.

Old Business:

Fish study—Grabill reported that the fish study had begun that morning and would continue throughout the week. Grabill was asked to draft an announcement to post online so the public would know what was happening.

PLM treatment update—Grabill updated the Committee on the survey and treatment work on the lake done so far by PLM, as well as a timeline for further contract work to be done this season. Budgetary considerations were also discussed.

The newsletter is completed and will be going out to the public soon with the tax bills.

New Business:

The Committee decided to change the standing meeting time to the 3rd Monday of the month at 4:30p.

Availability of township ARPA funds was discussed. Motion to recommend to the Board that the Invasive Species Committee suggests using ARPA funds to pay for the fish study by Lagerquist, seconded by Hughes. AIF, motion carried.

Barry received historical information from Herb Lennon, and there was discussion regarding asking the Board to dedicate some electronic storage space on the server for information from this committee, including historical information.

Taylor wants to open up PLM's treatment plan to a public meeting setting. The committee members agreed. Date and format to be determined.

DeGabriele reported that Michelle Ervin, chair of the Parks & Recreation Committee, is interested in drafting a new township policy encouraging the public to plant native species and avoid invasive species in their private gardening, with the hope of getting it into a future township Master Plan. Ervin is asking this committee to

collaborate with Parks & Rec on this project. Motion to support the collaboration by DeGabriele, seconded by Lagerquist. AIF, motion carried.

Motion to recommend that the Board signs the agreement with ISN to treat frogbit this year, pending approval from PLM, by DeGabriel, seconded by Lagerquist. AIF, motion carried.

Public comment: none

Motion to approve the May meeting minutes by Lagerquist, seconded by DeGabriele. AIF, motion carried.

Meeting adjourned at 6:38p.

_____ Chair

_____ Recording Secretary

Submitted by Michelle Swanson, Recording Secretary