

Onkama Invasive Species Committee

Monthly Meeting—DRAFT

10:00a May 19, 2023

In attendance: Kevin Hughes, Phil Sedelmaier, Gene Lagerquist, Alexis DeGabriele, Chair Doug Barry, Heidi Feliczak—Seasonal Environmental Technician—Little River Band of Ottawa Indians, Brianne Grabill, Lake Manager (via telephone). Not present: Al Taylor.

Meeting called to order at 10:07a.

Agenda approved with the addition of discussing working with the Parks & Recreation Committee under New Business as requested by DeGabriele.

Public comment: none

Motion to approve the minutes of April 28, 2023 by Sedelmaier, seconded by Lagerquist. AIF, motion carried.

Old Business:

Fish Study fish donation—Sedelmaier. Dr. Workman knows the Committee wants to get fish killed in the study to donate to the community. Sedelmaier has a group of volunteers to process the fish.

PLM treatment guidelines—Bre Grabill. PLM has sent out permitting information to all riparian rights owners for the EGLE permit regarding chemicals to be used.

Newsletter—Barry. Barry shared the proposed newsletter with the Committee for review and approval. Motion to approve the newsletter draft as presented by Lagerquist, seconded by Sedelmaier. AIF, motion carried. Grabill to email Clerk Johnson a copy of the newsletter for inclusion with the tax bill mailings.

New Business:

Rapid response program utilized—Taylor reported a possible sighting of frogbit. Barry investigated and it was found to be a type of watercress, but the rapid response guidelines already established were tested and worked. DeGabriele suggested that people making a report of something should include photos for identification if possible.

Boat wash station update—Lagerquist attended the Michigan Lakes and Streams conference at Crystal Mountain, and gathered boat wash information. Barry presented information about Lake Leelanau Lake Association's boat washing station. There was discussion regarding the process to get a boat washing station installed. The group needs to do more research before moving forward with the Township. Barry knows someone who's worked on installing these and is going to invite her to a future meeting. Lagerquist to pursue vendor information. Motion to inform Clerk Johnson that if there are available ARPA funds, the Committee would like to access them to underwrite funding for researching the viability of a boat washing station by Hughes, seconded by Lagerquist. AIF, motion carried.

Parks & Recreation collaboration—DeGabriele. Michelle Ervin of the Township Parks & Rec Committee has asked if this Committee would be open to offering information and recommendations regarding the parks management programs in terms of dealing with plant species within the township's parks. This committee agreed that it's okay for Barry and DeGabriele to offer outreach to Parks & Rec. The Conservation District should get involved, as well.

Meeting scheduling—for meetings going forward the committee meetings will move to Monday evenings at 4:30 starting on June 19th.

Guidelines for PLM treatment—there was discussion regarding how and when PLM should treat for invasive species. Sedelmaier to write a draft of preferred treatment guidelines for the committee to use as a starting point for group discussion to present to the committee at the meeting in June.

Meeting adjourned at 11:25a.

_____ Chair

_____ Recording Secretary

Submitted by Michelle Swanson, Recording Secretary