

Lake Mitchell H.O.B.O.
Board of Directors Meeting
November 7, 2014
Minutes

The Board meeting was called to order and an invocation was given by HOB0 President Lee Poe. In attendance were Lee Poe, Dan and Judy Murchison, Jim Woodrow, Ralph Mason, Mau and Becki McCallum, Steve Miles, Jim McCormick, William Walters, Marie Butts, Anita Lawson and Patsy Wideman and guests Gerald Arrington and Frank Chitwood.

Minutes from the August 1, 2014 Board Meeting were approved and accepted without objection.

New Business:

Lee Poe introduced our **guest speaker, Gerald Arrington, Chilton County Park Manager**. Gerald expressed his gratitude to HOB0 for applying for the **\$5,000 Cawaco RC&D grant** for improvements at Higgins Ferry. That grant was awarded and will be used in the campgrounds for the following: fire rings with flip-over grates for cooking; three in-ground, part-metal park benches and gravel to create a walking trail from the metal steps to the parking lot and also to tie in at the campgrounds. Gerald reported that he is already receiving positive feedback from the campers at Higgins Ferry. He is presently in the process of getting quotes for these projects and stated that this is a 100% reimbursement grant. Lee Poe brought up the possible need for a committee to oversee the grant. After further discussion, it was decided that no committee was needed, but that **Jake Sims should report to HOB0 on the progress of the agreed projects and that those reports should be included in the minutes.**

Discussions followed related to the following topics concerning Higgins Ferry: (Steve Miles) the need to have CR 28 blacktopped and widened; (Ralph Mason) the need for fans in the pavilion in the summer and the past thefts of park equipment and supplies at Higgins Ferry; (Jim McCormick) the possibility of using motion sensor lights or (Ralph Mason) game cameras to deter thieves at the park; (Ralph Mason) the need for restrooms at Higgins Ferry; (Dan Murchison) the possibility of combining HOB0 and grant funds to place a bench with an awning near the flag pole.

Gerald answered questions regarding the plans for the **new piers at Higgins Ferry**, which will be funded 100% by Alabama Power. Steve Miles requested ongoing information on projects at Higgins Ferry with the possibility that HOB0 may be in a position to facilitate some future projects.

Lee Poe introduced **Frank Chitwood, Coosa Riverkeeper**, as our second **guest speaker**. Frank presented information on a new Coosa River Bacteria Monitoring Network. As our riverkeeper, Frank plans to obtain sampling equipment, develop a network of citizen monitors and conduct extensive *E. coli* testing on Coosa River lakes and streams. This bacteriological monitoring network would engage in projects 1) to test popular recreation sites during summer months to generate swim advisories (Coosa River Swim Guides), 2) to perform intensive sampling focused on specific areas to identify and quantify specific sources of contamination (Bacteriological Blitz) and 3) to take samples at known sources of contamination to access

compliance with water quality standards (Point Source Assessments). Through this program, Frank plans to train monitors to collect samples to be processed and reported to ADEM. Frank will be seeking grant money to purchase the same IDEX equipment presently used by ADEM and to compile data on the entire length of the Coosa River.

Discussions followed relating to (Jim Woodrow) concerns about tracking the data collected; the cost for testing samples (presently \$15 for each heavy metal and \$30 for *E. coli*; \$200 for 30 samples during a bacteriological blitz \$6.50 per sample); and the need for extra monitoring at sites on Yellowleaf and Walnut Creeks. HOB0 would be asked to fund sampling of our sites. **Frank needs to know by Memorial Day in order to do the sampling at Walnut and Yellowleaf Creeks.** Frank also stated that ADEM plans to perform extensive sample testing in 2015. **Further discussion is continued to a future meeting.**

Old Business:

Area 11 (Coosa side below Lay Dam) will be divided into the Chilton side (11A) and the Coosa side (11B). Stan Holt is presently the area rep for Area 11 and will continue to represent Area 11A after an area rep is appointed for Area 11B. Jim Woodrow reported that he recently learned that there are twenty-two additional families on the Chilton side and thirty-eight on the Coosa side. He is expecting to receive detailed information soon for updating the data base regarding these additions.

Annual Meeting Planning:

The list of new officers was discussed. At the annual meeting on November 14, the following people will be nominated to serve on the Board of Directors: **Melissa Nannini**, who works on the HOB0 calendar; Marie Greene, our HOB0 web site editor and also the person who takes charge of the HOB0 newsletter. At the annual meeting, Scott Phillips and Rebecca Beatty will be nominated as officers. If elected, their names will be removed from the list of directors.

Changes in area reps were discussed. **Area 12 has no area rep at this time.** Joel and Betty Elam will replace Dale and Patty Vann in Area 9. The Piccolos in Area 13b will be replaced by Richard and Wendy Cruse. Dave and Nan Spivey will become area reps for Area 16.

Committee Reports:

Treasury - Jim McCormick presented a treasury report and proposed that HOB0 increase the budget for community participation by \$500 in 2015 to cover expenses related to participation by students from both Chilton and Coosa County schools in next year's Water Festival. The Board of Directors unanimously **approved** this proposal.

Calendars Anita Lawson has the 2015 calendars ready for sale at the annual meeting on November 14. The cost per calendar will be \$12.00.

Clean Up The fall clean up was held on November 1, a very cold day. Thirty or so volunteers participated in the clean up and collected two hundred pounds of trash. **Discussion was held regarding an earlier date for the fall clean up in the future due to the cold weather risk.**

Membership Jim Woodrow reported that HOBO had 400 members. That's 50% of the 800 lake residents listed in the HOBO data base for Lake Mitchell.

Miscellaneous Business:

Mau McCallum reported that name tags can be made for Board members at the cost of \$6.50 apiece. **This matter will be called for a vote.**

At the request of Renee Powers, the Board of Directors was informed that newly elected Senator Clyde Chambliss and Representative Mark Tuggle are expected to attend the Annual Meeting on November 14. Renee encouraged attendees to make them feel welcome.

The meeting of the Board of Directors was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,
Patsy Wideman