

Parks and Lake Commission Meeting Minutes
Village of Island Lake
3720 Greenleaf Avenue, Island Lake, IL 60042
Monday, August 5, 2024 6:30pm.



1. **Call to Order:** Chair Trevor Mock called the meeting to order at 6:32pm.
2. **Roll Call:** Present: Chair Trevor Mock, Trustee Stacey Pyne, Alissa Rzepecki, Sarah Serio Wiora, Dave Sobieski Absent: Eric Acevedo
3. **Approval of July 1, 2024 Meeting Minutes:** Alissa motioned to approve as written, Sarah seconded, all approved
4. **Public Comment:** None

Old Business

5. **Lake treatment update:** The lake has been treated on a continuous basis. Improvement in water clarity has been noted. The bays have been unsightly with duckweed but no Harmful Algal Blooms (HABs) have been detected this year. The duckweed has not been this bad in three years, so next year we need to anticipate and budget for it. At this point, manual removal is the only way to manage it.
6. **Lion's Fall Fest and park scavenger hunt activity – Saturday, Oct. 12:** We want to encourage residents to see improvements made at Channel, Veterans, Maple Ridge and Converse Parks. Suggested idea for Fall Fest is a find-the-pumpkins activity. Participants search for a pumpkin at each park and receive a sticker for each one found (one per park). They then present their sticker card at the Parks and Lake Commission table. A Commission member stationed at each park will explain park improvements.
7. **Adopt-a-Park clean-up day for Fox River Day celebration – Saturday, Sept. 15:** The decision was not to participate this year due to timing and staffing. Instead, a November geocaching with a Cache in Trash out event will be planned. Scout participation will be encouraged since this is also a badge opportunity.

New Business

8. **Aeration proposal and fountain purchase:** A fountain was purchased to help with aeration at Veterans Small Island Bay and the other bays. Installation requires electrical work; they will be ready for next year once the aeration plan is finalized.
9. **Water quality testing results:** Integrated Lakes Management (ILM) has completed two of the contracted water quality tests. They both indicate PH levels 700% over EPA standards.
10. **ILM presentation to board:** Lisa Woolford of ILM presented water quality testing findings to the board and presented information on how high levels of PH lead to eutrophic lake conditions.

11. **Duckweed manual removal, ILM and PW machinery:** ILM brought out boat with equipment able to remove duckweed from the lake. Public Works Director Chris Carlson led this trial and will work with his crew to create something similar. The barge was modified with pumps able to remove duckweed and this has been successful. Due to the time-consuming nature of the work, a suggestion was made to allow volunteers to use the barge and WaterGator. Stacey will ask Treasurer Murray to check our liability insurer would allow this.
12. **Native Buffer and Converse DCEO grant updates:** Quarterly reports for both grants have been submitted. The Native Buffer is on schedule to be installed by end September. Funds designated for engineering design at Converse were less than anticipated; a request will be made to transfer the funds to equipment.
13. **Public Comment** included: The Village is not managing the lake; Veteran's pavilion is not being used; duckweed should have been addressed in April or May; we need to treat earlier. The WaterGator was not able to skim the duckweed. Question about Golden Oaks being involved with PH levels was discussed. The watershed runs through several horse farms along Callahan Rd. and is not directly related to any one farm; need to be ahead of the duckweed and ask for budget increase. Parks and Lake Commission needs to be separated. Notes from past were not made available but others feel they were. Beaches have been periodically closed for E. coli but not HABs.
14. **Commissioner Comments:** Alissa is wrapping up public questionnaire about activities in order to develop the park survey. Sarah: Need to refocus on activities at parks and cleaning lake. Stacey explained revenue sources for parks and lake.
15. **Adjournment:** Alissa motioned to adjourn; Sarah seconded; all were in favor. Meeting adjourned at 8pm.

Submitted by Stacey Pyne