

Minutes of the Wildwood Park District

Valley Lake Committee

Monday, December 7, 2015

Rule House, 33325 Sears Blvd, Wildwood IL 60030

Present: Dan Bundalo, Cindy Bundalo, Alicia Corrigan, Anne Nelson and Dave Johnson

The Committee Meeting was called to order at 7:05pm.

Dan introduced himself and the committee to the residents attending and gave guidelines that the committee is meeting to discuss the care and improvements to Valley lake, hoping to research and make recommendations to the Wildwood Park District Board and made clear that the Board will be making the final decisions and his role is to be the Park District representative between the committee and the WPDB.

Open session - Mike Majewski a longtime resident expressed concerns about the depth of the lake, saying it is 2-3 feet less now. He talked about a homeowner who was adjusting the outlet on the north end to have more beach area on his property. He is concerned about how shallow the lake is getting and said currently he can almost walk across the lake in areas where it used to be 12 feet deep.

Richard Wodek talked about the pollution coming in from the drain and how shallow the lake is getting. He was involved in taking water samples and photos of the run-off and pollutants. There were very high phosphorus and salt levels in the samples taken and the Warren Township who installed the drain has not maintained it. He has had discussions and help from resident Jason who works closely with the DNR and has worked with fish-stocking on neighboring Crooked and Deep Lake. He will be working with him to see if he can help us on Valley Lake.

Ben Richards welcomed the VL Committee and residents, he expressed he is looking forward to working with the committee.

A discussion with the residents continued about the state of the lake and concerns about the decreasing level of the water, the high pollutants, the low oxygen indicators, followed up with statistics and data collected by Dean Fritz that confirms this with professional testing results that have been reported in Lake County. Most do point to the elevated pollutants higher in the south end of the lake and increasing yearly. Dean Fritz has submitted his research and given copies of these reports to all the committee

Dan brought up the action plan for the committee to first work on finding a lakes management company, then the research and proposals for a new aeration system, a meeting with the Warren Park Township to talk about the drain installed in the South Valley lake and lastly the fish stocking.

Cindy Bundalo updated the progress on the grants we are working on, one being voted on now, for a Lake Management Plan, including testing and long term plan for the improvement of the lake. Another

grant is coming up we will apply for. Expressed that residents had notified her they spotted snails again in the last few weeks and then checked and did find some snails clinging to underwater items in the lake. We will make sure to let lake management companies interviewed aware of this. She has contacted ILM and Clarke for proposals for 2016 Lake Management. Both Dave Johnson and Anne Nelson will help with this progress and two other companies we will include.

Alicia Corrigan expressed concern that if the elevated chloride and phosphorus levels do continue , the snails will continue to be a problem. She volunteered to continue to research the aeration systems for the lake and will help to interview companies for lake management.

Dave Johnson new committee member and lake resident is a search and rescue scuba diver and has checked the lake bottom, finding several feet of sediment, describing it not as muck but as pillow like. Stated he had not seen as much sediment in other lakes he been diving in. Appreciates the older long time resident information they have shared with the committee.

The committee will try to meet once the proposals come in to discuss and have ready for the February Regular Board Meeting.

The Valley Lake Committee Meeting adjourned at 8:10.