

2014 Indian Lake Shores Fire District Annual Meeting
August 17, 2014

The meeting was called to order at 3:11 P.M. by president Pat J. Giarrusso. There were 36 people in attendance.

The secretary reviewed the minutes of the 2013 meeting and her report was accepted by motion and vote.

The treasurer gave his report on our revenues and expenditures. A question was raised concerning taxpayers who are in arrears. Our policy was explained and briefly discussed. Art Novsam suggested that a big thank you be given to our hard-working and very competent treasurer, which was done with a big round of applause! Treasurer's report was also accepted on a motion and vote.

Old Business

Council member Stu Westin explained how to obtain a copy of our by-laws booklet, available in the cloud.

The efforts of our volunteer "geese patrol" were successful. Only 8-13 geese were spotted this year, as compared to at least 50 last year. There were reports of 100 geese seen by our neighbors at The Village at Indian Lake. The abatement efforts will continue next spring.

The water in the lake has been tested, and found cleaner than last year, as reported by our own resident testers, George and Jane Taring, through a program at URI. The results of past years can be obtained at uriwatershedwatch.com. This year's results will be posted when ready.

The lawsuit filed against us by a resident who fell at the park was settled by the insurance company. They paid his medical expenses. This decision went against what the council had hoped for, but it was the insurance company's way of dealing with it.

We did receive a check for damages to our totem pole caused by a student renter who ran into the pole, knocked it over and then ran over it. The money was used for repairs and repainting. A fabulous job was done by John Mycroft with the help of a high school art student, and John was thanked.

Homeowners were again reminded to sign up (by providing an email address) for the Indian Lake e-newsletter created by Jan Armour.

New Business

President Giarrusso reported that we are looking into having a berm built on the north beach to prevent further erosion.

Residents raised the issue of the generally poor condition of the north beach, including the sand, dock and raft. The council had decided that the upper portions of the railings were in such poor condition that they needed to be removed for safety reasons. The council has also been looking into prices and methods for repairing the dock. Several residents expressed concern at the lack of railings and would like to see them included in any repairs. After much discussion and several motions, it was agreed that our responsibility as an association requires the repairs and it was further decided to appoint a committee to look into costs and methods to do so. The committee will report back to the council by September 30th. Since there is a potentially substantial cost involved, the residents present voted to hold another general meeting, on October 4th at 9 a.m. (rain date of October 5th), to allow all homeowners to vote on the expenditure.

President Giarrusso and John Mycroft reported that a new state law has been passed, requiring all fire districts to comply with financial auditing and reporting procedures. They have attended several meetings with other local fire districts (ours being the smallest), who all question the necessity and the expense of such reporting to the state, and will keep us posted. In the meantime, our treasurer will take on the added task of filing any required documents.

Hiro (our treasurer), presented some concerns with the tax rate as proposed, which would not give us a balanced budget. With a potentially large expense looming, he asked us all to consider how that would affect our reserve funds. A motion was made to increase the tax rate to a level that would balance our budget. The motion was seconded, voted on and passed.

The slate of officers was presented, voted on and approved. Officers and council members at large will remain the same.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:45 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Pat L. Giarrusso
secretary, Indian Lake Shores Fire District