

THE DOUGLAS LAKE IMPROVEMENT ASSOCIATION  
EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING

AGENDA AND NOTES

*Present:* Mary Ellen Sheridan (President), Bill Foster (Vice President), Suzanne Witthoff (Treasurer), Barb Huey (Secretary); Directors – Jennifer Bates, Past President – Holly Gedert; Zone Reps – John Perkins, Cheryl Kreibel, Joyce Oldham, Joan Caldwell, Linda Alexander, Betsy Naumer, Beth & Larry Grzegorzewski; Standing Committee Chairs – Bill Hartwig, Joan Hartwig, Stuart Case

<i>Date:</i> Aug. 19, 2021	<i>Time:</i> 3:00 pm – 5:00 pm	<i>Location:</i> Pellston Regional Airport, 2 <sup>nd</sup> Floor Conference Room	
Agenda Item	Discussion	Decisions/Findings	Next Steps
<b>Call the Meeting to Order by the President</b> – Mary Ellen Sheridan (MES)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Mary Ellen called the meeting to order at 3:07 pm.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>One third of Executive Board constitutes a quorum; quorum noted.</li> </ul>	
<b>Minutes of the Previous Meeting/Attendance</b> – MES	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Motion by Bill Foster, seconded by Holly Gedert to approve minutes of 7/16/2021.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Motion passed.</li> </ul>	
<b>Treasurers Report</b> – Suzanne Witthoff (see attached)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Treasurer’s Report through July 21, 2021 was presented, including Proposed 2022 Budget.</li> <li>There are some outstanding payments yet to be made and 28 memberships as yet unpaid.</li> <li>Motion by Linda Alexander, seconded by Joyce Oldham to approve Treasurer’s Report of 7/16/2021.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Treasurer’s Report approved as presented.</li> </ul>	
<b>President’s Report</b> – MES	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Boat Ramp</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Letter has been sent to Keith Ginop, Munro Twp. Supervisor and David Brandt, Chair of Board of Commissioners, Cheboygan Cty. Road Commission updating them on the current disrepair of the DL boat ramp and requesting a meeting. See attached. Also sent were Stuart Case’s report (see attached) and a history of the ramp researched &amp; created by Holly Gedert.</li> <li>MES had heard back from Mr. Brandt, is waiting to hear from Mr. Ginop.</li> </ul>	

<p><b>Unfinished Business</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Annual Meeting</li> <li>Membership Survey</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Some members have concerns about holding Annual Meeting due to Covid 19 outbreaks.</li> <li>We must have a vote for Treasurer per Bylaws and must call for nominations from floor.</li> <li>Motion made by Suzanne Witthoff, seconded by Joyce Oldham to proceed with Annual Meeting as planned with membership option of voting by proxy.</li> <li>Motion passed with 13 agree, 4 opposed votes.</li> <li>MES asked Zone Reps to please get as many proxies for the scheduled votes as possible to assure we have 36-40 membership votes for a quorum.</li> <li>See purpose of survey and discussions from July 16, 2021 EB Meeting also.</li> <li>Proposed timeline: questions to be ready this fall to present to EB, survey done in spring 2022.</li> <li>Some EB Board members stated concerns about member privacy. How will data be shared? How specific to a member will it be? Aggregated by zone? By Lake-wide results? Survey committee needs to discuss and come back to EB with proposal addressing security of data – both in context of who could see individual respondent’s data and how data would be reported.</li> <li>Discussion regarding why up to \$1000 being requested? It would be for costs incurred (maybe printing, mailing) and incentives for filling out survey.</li> <li>Bill Hartwig requested that minutes show that he is opposed to any incentives. General discussion reflected more information required to explain why incentives were necessary and what type of incentives were being proposed.</li> <li>Motion by Suzanne Witthoff, seconded by Jennifer Bates, to support the survey in principle, with no specified budget, and for the Membership Committee</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Motion passed with 9 agree, 4 opposed votes.</li> <li>Motion approved.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Membership Survey Committee will discuss this further &amp; bring back to EB.</li> </ul>
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	to develop survey and bring to EB at a future date, with above concerns addressed.		
<b>Committee Reports</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Budget Committee – Suzanne Witthoff for Scott Davis</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Most Reports will be shared via eNews</li> <li>Proposed budget is basically the same as the 2021 budget. It is noted that sometimes financial issues arise that require the budget to be adjusted.</li> <li>Motion made by Suzanne Witthoff, seconded by Joan Caldwell, to adopt 2022 budget as proposed, with the understanding that there may be financial issues that may arise, specifically with the boat ramp and membership survey, if approved by EB, that would require adjustments to be made in the Budget.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Motion passed. Proposed Budget for 2022 approved.</li> </ul>	
<b>Adjournment</b> - 4:52 pm	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Motion to adjourn made by Suzanne Witthoff, seconded by John Perkins.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Motion passed</li> </ul>	Next meetings: Annual Meeting, Thurs., Aug. 24, 7:00 pm
<b>Minutes Submitted by:</b> Barb Huey			

### DL Boat Ramp Log

Date	Event	Description	Cost	TWP	DLIA
Year 1901	Jan Huntley History	Douglas Lake Rd ran into the lake.			
Year 1940's	Jan Huntley History	Jan said something about Kathy and Don Loony. There was a dock and 3 stall changing area. Postcards sold at DLB.			
Year 1970's	Assume township maintained boat ramp at end of Douglas Lake Rd until we can find documentation stating differently.	Not sure if DLIA helped.			
7/20/1986	DLIA Treasurer's Report 7/20/1986 has a \$250 expenditure for "ramp improvement"	Ramp improvement			250.00
12/1/1986	DLIA Newsletter December 1986 reports that the boat ramp is a concern.	Launching ramps: The ramps are a concern of many members. There were complaints about the one at the Douglas Lake Steak House. The one at Reinhardt's is no longer open to the public. The Association is keeping an eye on developments and will work on improvements for the 1987 season.			
6/1/1987	DLIA Newsletter June 1987 reports that the ramp has been improved.	RAMP: The ramp at Douglas Lake Steak House has been improved this spring.			
7/19/1987	DLIA Annual Meeting 7/19/1987 minutes	The Douglas Lake Steak House public launching site is maintained by the DLIA and the Munro Township Board. Herman Loess reported this site is presently in terrible shape. Charles Antkoviak will check on the possibility of repairs.			

12/1/1987		DLIA December 1987 Newsletter boat ramp report	The launching ramp at the Douglas Lake Steak House was repaired by Munro Township in the spring. It was wrecked early in the season. Thanks to Art Tremble for material to repair it and to John Hartman and his good neighbors on Pells Island Drive for installing the material that again made the ramp usable. Pat Keiser has removed the addition for the winter season. Thanks to all who helped. Note 2021: The addition is mostly likely a dock.			
6/1/1988		DLIA Newsletter June 1988 ramp report	RAMP: The proposed ramp at Bessie Creek has been dropped by the D.N.R. The ramp at the Douglas Lake Bar and Steak House is still not satisfactory. Larger boats are having trouble. The work necessary to make this a good ramp is to take out the cement slabs, dredge out the sand and then replace the cement. This was done at Burt Lake and Carp Lake and it works very well. The D.N.R has to approve the above. Because of this we may not get it done before next summer. Pat Keiser is applying to have the ramp area dredged. It was proposed, seconded and passed by the Board to have the Association pay up to 250.00 for this work.			
June 1991		MDNR makes great improvement at DL Rd boat launch.	DLIA Annual Meeting Aug. 1 1991 - "The MDNR has greatly improved the boat launch ramp by the Douglas Lake Bar and Steakhouse." A number of 12' x 6' planks were installed. 2013 - Per discussion between MDNR and DLIA, the cement planks may have been purchased from Cheboygan Cement.			

6/30/2013		MDNR announces they will no longer maintain the boat launch at the end of Douglas Lake Rd.	MDNR maintained the DL Rd boat ramp for 21 years - 1991-2012. Will no longer maintain because does not fit their standards of design and saftety. They require parking, turning radius for boat and trailer, and vault toilet.			
8/5/2013		DLIA initiated a meeting with Mike Roper (CCRC), Charlie Antkoviak (Twp Super), Paul Nows (twp trustee), Karie Slavik (UMBS), and some DLIA members	DLIA's goal was to gather facts about the ramp ownership and discover who should be maintaining the ramp.			
8/5/2013		From 8/5/2013 meeting notes concerning maintenance (1)	Mike Roper (CCRC) confirmed that ownership of the platted land where the boat ramp is located will remain with the CCRC. While Mike maintains that they are only responsible to the water's edge, they agreed to visit the site later in August (when it fits into the schedule) to perform some maintenance on the ramp, and agreed to maintain the cement slabs in the event of an ice push over the winter. Their equipment is not capable of going far into the water.			
8/5/2013		from the 8/5/2013 meeting notes continued (2)	The August 2013 maintenance could include repositioning the cement slabs that are accessible by their equipment . Other maintenance will include laying afton stone on the south side of the ramp to prevent sand from flowing back into the lake. CCRC will cover labor and equipment, and will look to the township for materials.			
8/5/2013		from the 8/5/2013 meeting notes continued (3)	After the CCRC August visit, we will discuss the condition of the ramp, discuss what maintenance is recommended, and get bids for future improvements. The area needs to be dredged, and if not done this year, it is recommended for Spring 2014. Mike spoke with Jeff Slagey (DEQ, Gaylord), and Jeff will issue the CCRC a 5 year dredging permit as soon as needed.			

8/26/2013		CCRC perform maintenance at DL boat ramp	DLIA agreed to pay for afton stone. Maintenance per 8/5/2013 meeting notes (2).	102.35		102.35
10/15/2013	Permit	CCRC permit construct at Right of Way	Holly (VP of DLIA) applied on behalf of Munro Township. On the permit is noted the the CCRC has the 5 year DEQ permit on file; change of contractor is OK.	10.00		10.00
11/12/2013	Resolution	Correspondence at Munro Township meeting. Cheboygan County Board of Commissioners made a resolution on 10/8/2013 concerning public access of road ends and easements to water bodies.	Correspondence: Cheboygan County Resolution – Encourage the Cheboygan County Road Commission and Townships within Cheboygan County to maintain public access of road ends and easements to water bodies to permit public access and use.			
5/20/2014	Approval	CCRC approved pier for boat ramp	Maple Bay Marine donated a 30' long dock. DLIA crew installs boat dock.			
8/27/2014	Permit	DEQ permit	5 year DEQ permit is on file at CCRC. Change of contractor is ok - was Ginop, now Super M.			
8/27/2014	Invoice	Super M does upgrade. Invoice to Munro Twp.	pick up/fix/put back planks. The estimate was made by E.F. Wilkinson & Sons Construction; Super M did the work.	2,315.00	1,157.50	1,157.50
9/1/2014		Chick Hershberger is new DLIA Boat Ramp Chair.	Evaluating for further enhancements			
5/18/2015	Permit	CCRC fee to do something within Right-of-Way	Chick (boat ramp chair DLIA) applied on behalf of Munro Township. To regrade ramp and return ramp to safe condition.	10.00		10.00
5/20/2015	Invoice	Super M did upgrade - new gradual slope into water, Invoice to Munro Twp.	Residents are very happy with the launch area.	1,950.00	975.00	975.00
8/15/2015		Stuart Case is new DLIA Boat Ramp chair	did fall maint			
5/10/2016		Stuart Case - DLIA boat ramp chair - reports that the DLIA crew cleaned the ramp area of winter debris and necessary erosion control measures should be made.	Email 5/10/16. the ramp weathered the winter with no serious damage and is serviceable. Debris was removed. Erosion control needed to the west bank and fix damge to adjacent property owner's frontage.			

11/1/2016		Stuart Case - chair - maintained ramp several times by committee using shovels and tractor	East winds in fall poured sand onto ramp. Use tractor to remove sand. Residents are very happy with the launch area.			
4/22/2017		DLIA boat ramp committee does maintenance	Committee using shovels to do maint at boat ramp, moving sand.			
5/17/2017		DLIA committee did maintenance				
5/23/2017	Invoice	Super M remove sand (Mario Suarez). Invoice to Munro Twp.	Removed 2 truckloads of sand. Greatly improved the ease of launch and recovery of boats.	500.00	250.00	250.00
5/7/2018		CCRC graded over cement planks				
5/9/2018		Stuart Case talked with Brent Shank (CCRC) about the ramp condition.	Brent Shank of CCRC said he would take care of it.			
5/14/2018		Holly (DLIA President) talked with Dana at CCRC. She will send msg to Shane (foreman).	She explained that there are much higher priorities.			
5/16/2018		Holly talked with Brent Shank. He said they would do it this week.	Brent said the 5/4 storm created much higher priorities.			
5/16/2018		CCRC cleared the cement planks.	DLIA sent Thank You email to Brent, Dana and asked to pass along to Shane. Sent copies to Charlie A. and Mary Bur of 3 emails.			
5/19/2018		DLIA crew cleared sand in the rain				
6/4/2018		DLIA crew will clear the sand	recent rain and winds caused sand to pile			
6/15/2018	Invoice	Mario Super M cleaned boat ramp. Invoice to Munro Twp.	Mario cleared sand from planks in the water.	500.00	250.00	250.00
8/9/2019	Invoice	Mario Super M - invoice to Munro Twp.	Repair bank on Bob's side of ramp. East wind was washing it out. Brought 1 cu. Yard (6 ft) field stone and placed it. Invoice sent to Stuart 9/11/19. 10/21/19 DLIA send \$200 Invoice to Munro Twp and \$100 DLIA donation to Munro Twp.	200.00	100.00	100.00
9/1/2019		DLIA boat ramp crews continued removal of sand from planks	Removed sand from planks many times this summer.			
10/12/2019		DLIA crews took dock out	DLIA team took dock out for the season			



May 2020		DLIA boat ramp crew cleared sand from planks	Cleared sand. DLIA crew installed dock end of May or early June			
6/20/2020		DLIA boat ramp crew fix dock and clear sand	Fix dock, move it out further. Shovel sand. Need Mario to do more work.			
7/11/2020		DLIA boat ramp crew clear sand from boat ramp area				
7/14/2020	Twp Motion	Munro Twp Board Meeting 7/14/2020. Request for permit.	DLIA President Mary Ellen Sheridan addressed the Board regarding the Douglas Lake boat ramp. A permit is needed to do the work. A Motion was passed to apply for EGLE and CCRC permits to ensure the boat ramp general maintenance can continue.			
9/8/2020		Munro Twp Board Meeting 9/8/2020. Permit update.	Mary Bur, Clerk, applied for the EGLE Permit. The status is "pending review". Clerk Bur will keep the Board and the DLIA advised of any changes.			
10/1/2020		sand build-up on the ramp	DLIA crew removed sand several times during the summer			
11/30/2020	Permit	EGLE Notice of Authorization Permit #: WRP026451 v. 1 Site: 16-Douglas Lake boat Ramp-Munro Twp	5 year permit to dredge by mechanical means. Permittee: Munro Township c/o Mary Bur	200.00	200.00	
12/8/2020		Munro Twp Board Meeting 12/8/2020.	The EGLE permit previously applied for, was granted.			
5/1/2021		DLIA boat ramp crew cleared a lot of sand from boat ramp				
5/6/2021	Permit	CCRC - Cheboygan County Road Commission permit to do work was granted.		50.00	50.00	
5/11/2021	Invoice	Super M dredged. Invoice to Munro Twp.	Dredged ramp area; remove sand from ramp	1,000.00	500.00	500.00
5/15/2021		Installation of dock by crew from DLIA				
5/17/2021		DLIA noticed a concrete piece and rebar obstruction at the boat ramp.				

6/3/2021		DLIA notes that the obstruction worsened at the boat ramp.				
6/7/2021		Ramp free of obstruction	Crew from DLIA removed the obstruction			
6/21/2021		DLIA is monitoring ramp area for obstructions	DLIA crew monitors and cuts rebar as needed. Did another time following the 1st event.			
6/22/2021		DLIA boat ramp crew cut more rebar				

DRAFT

Douglas Lake Improvement Association

PO Box 472

Pellston, MI 49769

July 21, 2021

David F. Brandt, Chairman  
Cheboygan County Board of Road Commissioners  
5702 South Straits Highway  
Indian River, MI 49749

Keith Ginop, Supervisor  
Munro Township/Cheboygan County  
11517 Heilman Road  
Levering, MI 49755

Dear Messrs. Brandt and Ginop,

On behalf of the Douglas Lake Improvement Association (DLIA) and its membership of over 360 families, the Douglas Community and the many non-local users of the Douglas Lake public-access Boat Ramp, I write to share with you our increasing concern with the current and on-going maintenance of, as well as long term planning to replace, the aging boat ramp. The Douglas Lake Boat Ramp, located at the intersection of Douglas Lake Road and Bryant Road in front of the Douglas Lake Bar & Steakhouse, is approached via a gravel access road from Douglas Lake Road to the boat ramp. The Boat Ramp consists of rebar-reinforced concrete planks that were laid in place in 1991 by the Michigan Department of Natural Resources. Approximately 25' of the approach ramp is on the access road leading to the water's edge. Approximately 30' of reinforced cement planks are under water allowing trailers to back into the lake from the access road to safely launch/retrieve boats and recreational watercraft.

We have three objectives in writing to you at this time:

1. To share with you a log of activities at the boat ramp which begins well over a century ago and continues to the current day with various local public entities and the DLIA working in partnership to assure safe and convenient public access to Douglas Lake.
2. To share with you a recent report sent to me from the Chair of the all-volunteer DLIA Boat Ramp Committee about the operating condition and future considerations regarding the boat ramp. [In addressing the relationship with

Munro Township, please also bear in mind that responsibility for the access road leading the water's edge rests with the Cheboygan County Road Commission, not Munro Township.]

3. To request a meeting with both of you in person in the near future so that we may discuss how the DLIA can be a helpful and a willing partner in assuring the safe access, maintenance and planning for the future for the Boat Ramp.

DLIA has members who are experienced and knowledgeable about the history and maintenance of the Douglas Lake boat ramp. These include Holly Gedert, DLIA Past President and the principal archivist who compiled the attached boat ramp log and Stuart Case, Chairman of DLIA Boat Ramp Committee. They have both agreed to be resources to Munro Township and the Cheboygan County Commissioners/Cheboygan County Road Commission (CCRC) in the assessment and planning process. It is critically important that a determination is made about how on-going maintenance and repair work beyond the capability of the DLIA volunteer boat ramp committee members should be managed. Further it is obvious after the problems this summer when a fragment of cement pad and several rebar pieces needed to be removed from the boat ramp for safety reasons, that there should be a planning process underway now to replace the boat ramp in the near future. While not an immediate need for this summer, replacement is inevitable.

DLIA exists to preserve, protect and improve the quality of Douglas Lake and its environs and the quality of life of its residential community and the public. DLIA has worked with Munro Township and the Road Commission in recent years to serve the needs of the Douglas Lake community and those Douglas Lake boaters who come to the Lake from neighboring lakes and other regions of the state, some even from out of state. We assure you that our concerns are raised at this time from a view of continuing our current and future partnerships with the Township and the CCRC.

Our contact information – both email and phone, are listed below. We are available to meet in the near future at a time and location of your convenience. Thank you for your attention and assistance.

Mary Ellen Sheridan, President, DLIA

Contact information for:

MES – Tel: (614) 557-3193

email: mesherdan@charter.net

Holly Gedert – Tel: (231) 537-3269

email: hollygedert@hotmail.com

Stuart Case – Tel: (231) 342-8316

email: stuartcarma66@gmail.com

Attachments Cc: Brent Shank, Engineer/Manager, CCRC