

MUSKEGON CONSERVATION CLUB

Membership and Board Meeting Minutes

April 2, 2024 - General Board Meeting

PRESIDENT: Lance Sjoerdsma

VICE PRESIDENT: Wally David

TREASURER: Travis Wilson

FINANCIAL SEC: Kathy Wilkerson

RECORDING SEC: Heather David

SERGEANT-AT-ARMS: George Steward

BUILDING AND PROPERTY COMMITTEE CHAIR:
Rick Kasack

MEMBERSHIP: Matt Brewer, Glenn Visscher, Mary Wetherby, muskegonccmembership@gmail.com

SHORE COMMITTEE CHAIR: Darren Meyers

WINTER CONTACT: Dan Wetherby (616)308-4221

Board Members

2025: Bob Harris, Bonnie Pierce, Glenn Visscher(excused), George Steward (excused), Scott Thompson, Darren Meyers

2026: Dave Stitz, Matt DeWeerd (excused), Steve Van Dyke, Steve Joneson, Mark Benjamin

2027: Lenny Pierce, Alicia Sjoerdsma, Mark Ellis, Pam Stitz, Debra Joneso

OPENING COMMENTS/NEW MEMBER: Meeting began 7:00 pm. Wally presented Jolly Roger Sailing Club to offer their program utilizing the club facilities 4 days per week 10:00 am-2:30pm this summer (use of the campground and screen room). Darren offered a possible enclosure on the shed at the beach for their classroom. Instructors would need to be members of the club. Deb Joneson presented Coconut Radio band for Labor Day. Steve requested considering a band for July 4th. George noted deacon at Prince of Peace to do a blessing of the boats with a requested stipend of \$100. Darren requested we determine next steps for Paul Gerbinski fishing tournament. Who will be taking it over. Pam Stitz requested banner for events the club to advertise out front. Travis noted we need to do an audit this year and it should be done annually.

BUILDING & PROPERTY: Rick Kasack reported we continue with clean up and plant new trees to replace the damaged ones. \$2,000 to get started on replacements of trees and bushes. Ask members to buy a tree as an option to support the initiative. Alicia is chairing on the tree/bush initiative. The Arborvita trees are to improve the view from neighbors. Wally will post on website when work bee dates are determined. Darren reported there is room now for 4 more campsites. Darren presented potentially moving cradles to the space behind The Bird House and moving the trailer storage elsewhere.

SHORE COMMITTEE: Darren reported 47 slip fees have not been paid. They have been notified. Looking to implement a membership form that members will have to sign permission to put a lien on the boat if they are unpaid. Dredging is underway. Anticipating buoys going out next week. Paul, Darren and Rick will be working together on budget. Slip inquires must come through the website, including boat beam. Wally will add the dimension to the questionnaire.

GOVERNMENT RELATIONS: Wally spoke to Ted at the DEQ. The Michigan Waterways

Grant (grants must be written by April 1) matches what you give to the project. MCC may not qualify for these. Wally is working with Ted to determine how to make it possible. We need a grant writer to help with this.

MERES: no report

MEMBERSHIP: Darren reported: 290 members; lifetime 8, new members 27, renewals 255

SPORTSMAN FOR YOUTH: Dave Stitz noted that Norman and Sally may not be doing it again this year. Darren reported that it may be time to move away from this program and consider new programs that align with MCC mission.

BOATER SAFETY/HUNTER SAFETY: Coast Guard Auxillary does boater's safety; Jolly Roger may be able to pick up this program. Wally will be discussing this with them.

MUCC: Lance, Ralph, Travis and Alicia went to the meeting. They are running at a deficient and will be out of money in 3 years if money does not come in. This could impact the club. Currently there are 181 affiliate clubs. They are changing to a Platinum membership for up to 300 members with new benefits. The fishing treaty with the Indians is in renegotiation. The governor is not on conservations side. Dawn Levey requesting coming here for one of their district meeting. Optional dates are 4/17, 6/22, 9/26, 1/24. Pam Stitz requested one of the later dates. Alicia noted she received numbers to individuals from MUCC that can come and share what they are working on to increase our knowledge. Wally asked if we could open up the conversations with MUCC to the community.

CAMPGROUND: Mark Ellis reported. Room for 4 more camping spots. Do we want to put dolomite down or leave it natural? Needing volunteers for the day of the chipper renting TBD

ADOPT A HIGHWAY: Lenny reported - April 13 south side and April 20th north side, be here at 8 am and lunch will be provided.

OTHER: Meeting adjourned for break at 8:18 pm.

MCC BOARD MEETING

MINUTES: Meeting started at 8:30 pm. Steve Joneson motioned to accept March Meeting Minutes, Dave Stitz 2nd, all favored, passed.

OLD BUSINESS: Darren Meyers reported we do not need long-shore insurance if we do the work ourselves. Insurance was denied through auto-owners due to alcohol being allowed on the premises. Fence is in the works. Cards will be mailed to members with option to only mail cards to boaters and have all other members call the phone number to open it. Emergency services have their own access. For an additional money there could be a service gate. Darren brought up adding a 200 foot fence to the end of Area 1 that would still allow access and we could build the fence ourselves. Pam Stitz reported on AED. She is going to reach out to get one donated. A new one cost between \$800-1200. Wally motioned to spend up to \$1800, Steve Vandyke 2nd it, all favored, passed. Pam will bring in three options for the board to decide and Travis will order it on the credit card. Need volunteer to take over the Fishing Derby. Wally will put the request out to social media. Wally motioned to pay \$100 stipend to the deacon for the Blessing of the boats, Dave Stitz 2nd. All favored, passed. Wally is working on figuring out if and how we can begin storing our own spoils. Pam motioned to give the

\$2,000 fund for the trees, Darren 2nd, all in favor, passed.

NEW BUSINESS: Pam motioned Coconut radio for Labor Day, Wally 2nd, all favored, passed. September 2nd 7-10 pm \$350 for 3 hours. Jolly Roger Sailing club to use the club without bringing the shipping container to the property. Darren motioned to write a contract for them to use the club, Wally 2nd, all favored, passed. Wally noted the donation button on the website could be for club improvements which can go toward more trees. Travis is getting credit card machine for boat launch pay. Darren Meyers motioned to pay the accounting fee for the tax program Kathy will use to complete 990s, Pam Stitz second, all favored, passed. Wally David noted that the bylaws are available to review and make suggestions or changes to be discussed on the website. All members are to go there and propose changes to discuss in next meeting.

TREASURER'S REPORT: Travis reported. (See sheets)

BILLS: Kathy reported with \$6,436.63 in disbursements. Darren motioned to accept, Bob Harris 2nd, all favored, passed.

MEETING ADJOURNED: Bob Harris motioned to adjourn, Lenny 2nd, all in favor; passed. Meeting adjourned at 9:44 pm.