

Minutes expected to be approved at the October 10, 2023 meeting

SLPIA

SILVER LAKE PARK IMPROVEMENT ASSOCIATION, INC.

MINUTES

09.12.2023

The September 12, 2023, annual meeting was held at 7:30 am at the Lake Park City Hall.

Members present: Del Lassen, Dan Breuker, Scott Mitchell, Herb Stewart, Jeff Nechkash, Jack Bradshaw and Robyn Wilson

Members absent: Ashley Hibma and Gary Taber

Also present: Kim Wermersen, John Wills, and Shirley Gillespie.

Minutes of the August 19, 2023, meeting were approved through a motion by Herb and second by Del.

The finance report was given by Dan. The balance as of September 1 was \$72,317.17. Fifty renewed membership fees have been received. It was discussed to send reminders since 90 renewals had been received last year. Robyn and Shirley will work on reminders either through email and mailings. Report was approved through a motion by Scott and a second by Herb.

Robyn gave an update for the DNR. The Master Conservation group was held at the fen here. In addition to that Robyn arranged pontoon rides so the shoreline improvements could be seen. Chris LaRue shared at that time that DNR isn't planning on doing Phase IV internally anymore; will ask others to do the project.

John Wills shared that he visited with a few homeowners regarding their shorelines; his impression was that they probably wouldn't move forward as the suggestions he made involved more than what the homeowner wanted to do. After the frost sets in, the shoreline along Trappers Bay will be worked on utilizing a \$300,000 grant available for the project. John will continue to do watershed sampling wherever possible.

John also shared that the NRCS and SWCD are working with the Iowa Agricultural Water Alliance (part of Soybean Association). There is a \$32 million grant that includes improvements for the Silver Lake watershed. A couple aspects of this will be having a water agronomist available at local elevators and more monies available for cover crops, strip till, and no till projects.

Herb said there was no update for the zoning committee.

Robyn and John shared about the Lakes Association President meeting. Five local lake improvement associations are working together to fight invasive species; the attitude being to be proactive rather than be reactive. East Okoboji Association is writing a grant for \$50,000 to help fund this fight. The five local associations are agreeing to commit a \$10,000 match each to share monies should the need arise.

Herb made the motion and Scott provided the second that the SLPIA agree to do the \$10,000 match with the Lakes Association Agreement and write the necessary letter of support for battling invasive species. Motion approved. John shared that the WQC will at some point include the \$50,000 in their budget and this commitment will no longer be necessary. Robyn will write the letter of support.

Robyn shared that there are 5 tentative grant applications for the October 1 deadline; 1 application has been returned. It is obvious that the previous grant monies are being utilized and the shoreline improvements are looking good.

There will not be a November meeting. The meeting in December will include paying the recent approved grant applications.

Ashley not here so no communications report.

Scott didn't have any watershed updates.

General discussion was held regarding Phase 3 and 4 of the shoreline improvements. Jack asked that at another meeting the board review the original timeline to see if improvements are on schedule or if the timeline needs to be revised.

The local school bond issue was brought up for discussion but wasn't discussed. Opinion of the board was to check bylaws and think about setting precedence.

Meeting adjourned. Next meeting will be October 10, 2023.

Robyn Wilson, President

Jack Bradshaw, Secretary