

Sandstone Flowage Association Minutes
Spring General Membership Meeting
Saturday May 26, 2007 Lynda's Sky Harbor Supper Club

- Introduced guests and members attending their first meeting.
- 50-50 raffle winners: 1st George Shaffer, 2nd Bob Fedorowitz, 3rd Bob Kralovetz 4th Amy Shaffer.
- Drawing from members having returned reservation/membership renewals on time, Pastor Nick Johannes one free dinner or one annual membership
- Additions to the agenda: Fish Virus, meeting dates, new fire permit regulations.
- Minutes of the September 2006 minutes were approved.
- Treasure's report deferred, Ted estimated cash on hand at \$5,000 (later actual \$4783.41)
- No new information on our aquatic plant situation except studying on how to proceed. It was reported that some members along Hideaway Lane will use chemicals in mid summer on Milfoil which has worsened in front of their properties.
- Increased presence of gypsy moths was discussed. Changes preclude our association from conducting spraying as in the past. Only private contractors can now be used. Shaffers intend to hire this done around the acreage of their Supper Club. Our association will assist members, however, a minimum of 20 acres of one or more continuous owner land is required.
- Discussed the recent availability of DSL computer service around the flowage. Most seemed to be happy with DSL.
- An update on the burning down of the Sandstone Lodge: Still don't know what started the fire. It was reported that the owners will not rebuild and have now put up 800 feet of river frontage for sale.
- Update of the expansion/long range plans of the Peshtigo State Forest was discussed. One result could be a 1000 miles of snowmobile trails up to and into the U.P.
- It was reported that plans to build an indoor public swimming pool in Crivitz by the John and June Shaffer trust has been put on an indefinite hold by the family.
- It was reported that the Board of Directors has approved the expenditure of up to \$500 for a Board of Directors liability policy. It is estimated to cost about \$200. The Board has not had this coverage in the past. Earlier membership supported the Board obtaining this type of insurance.
- Discussed any next steps for fish habitat improvement. Rich Achter reported that no specific plans are underway. He reports little interest in building more fish cribs at this time or in the association building half log structures. He added that this does not preclude individual property owners with a DNR permit, from building half log structures in front of their property. He reported that they are seeking more information on the experience of other organizations in building artificial reefs.
- Election of officers and Board members that had expired including the addition of one new position per our new bylaws increasing the Board of Directors from eight to nine members: Slate for 2007-2008 Rick De Groot for Vice President, Bob Bemis for Treasurer, Board members; Al Glish, Steve Mikulusky and Rich Achter. There were no nominations from the floor. Approved slate.

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- **Discussion on flood insurance for owners on this flowage:** The DNR and FEMA have a partnership in regards to this issue. Reportedly banks can be fined by the Federal government if they do not follow FEMA maps showing flood risk when making a home loan and or when refinancing a loan. Actual experience by members in this regard varied from those threatening to get their loan elsewhere, hiring a surveyor to not being asked at all. To date no known member is paying for flood insurance although FEMA maps list properties around this flowage from low to high risk. Ironically some properties on high elevations are rated the same as those on lower elevations. Mary Ann Wadsworth , member and realtor cautioned, if you're planning on selling, its best to get a surveyor since getting this issue settled via appeals can take months.

Dams on the Peshtigo do not seem to be a factor in regard to this matter. Obsolete maps do seem to be a factor. The latter impacted on many homes in the Green Bay area when FEMA recently remapped this area with digital maps putting many in the flood plain that were earlier listed as not being in a flood plain when they built their homes. FEMA is re mapping the entire United States. A number of southern counties in Wisconsin have been re- mapped. Oconto County is scheduled for this year. Marinette County is yet to be scheduled. **For information how FEMA classifies any property in the United States and for insurance premiums see web site floodsmart.gov**

- **Agenda additions:**

Fish Virus: The newly detected fish virus is a serious threat with no known cure. The DNR has put in place emergency regulations involving transporting minnows, fish etc. It is now found in the great lakes. The only inland lake in Wisconsin where this has been found to date is lake Winnebago. We will watch this carefully.

Fire Permit: It was reported that you now need a permit for **any** type of fire. It was further noted that the DNR has a different classification for camp and bon fires. One year free permits can be obtained at the same places that register deer. You must also call an 800 number to see if its OK before starting any fire except a campfire.

Meeting dates for this meeting: Some members inquired if we would have better attendance if our meeting date would be changed to a non- holiday weekend. Ted noted that some years ago a mailed survey of the membership resulted in ½ wanting it on a Saturday of a holiday weekend and ½ on a non holiday weekend. This resulted in having the spring meeting on the Memorial Day weekend and the fall meeting on the last Saturday (non-holiday weekend) in September. Most meetings we have about 50 members for both spring and fall meetings, this meeting is very low attendance. About ½ our members do not live on the flowage. A vote to keep it as is was 29 in favor and 9 to change. Because of the low attendance for this vote and since it is an important issue Ted will survey the membership on this matter and present the results at our fall meeting.

Submitted by Winnie Ver Haagh, acting secretary