

*ANNUAL MEETING, LAKE ORONO IMPROVEMENT ASSOCIATION
March 30, 2000
American Legion*

The meeting was called to order at 7:50 PM by President Donn Granros. Mayor Stephanie Klinzing was introduced. New homeowners on the lake were also introduced.

Betty Zehringer read the minutes to the last meeting. They were approved as read.

Rickie Buttweiler gave the treasurers report. It was approved.

Dave Halgren reported on the membership committee. He asked what the group wants of this committee. It was decided that the Section Representatives would go house-to-house with copy of newsletter and/or letter and point out the work of the association and ask non-members to join, and if they decline, find out why. It was determined that the Section Reps are the membership committee.

Cindy Edwards-Plant gave the Communications Committee report. She discussed a Minnesota SEA grant which sent out samples of exotic species and plants.

New Business: April 29 is Lake Day in Clearwater, from 8AM to 3PM. The cost is \$5 a person. The details are in the last newsletter.

Water Quality Task Force: Next meeting April 4, 6:30, City Hall. Members on the Task Force are: Patrick Plant, Steve Rohlf, Vance Zehringer, Ed Buttweiler, John Weicht, and Jim Tachney. Others were encouraged to join.

The smelt fry was scheduled for Thursday, May 4. It was scheduled earlier this year due to difficulty getting smelt later in the month.

Vance Zehringer addressed the goose problem on the lake. A lively discussion followed. Mayor Klinzing provided us with some history on the Department of Interiors effort to reestablish this area as a flyway. She suggested we contact the Department of the Interior for suggestions on what we do we with the overabundance of geese now that the flyways have been reestablished.

Mayor Klinzing reported that the lake is not the only area with goose problems. Lions Park and the golf course have been inundated and the school district has a problem between Salk Junior High and Vandenburg. She stated that this is not just a lake problem, it is a City problem.

Mayor Klinzing also stated that the City should be a member of the lake association.

Tony Jurmalec asked the Mayor if the city is willing to help us with this problem. Geese are not just a nuisance but are a health problem as well.

Arne Engstrom was introduced and addressed the problem, we have to network with other lake associations and have a united front – “geese unlimited” listing numbers that are acceptable and when those numbers are exceeded some action can be taken.

Stephanie K asked if the State Asso. Of Lakes has a policy.

Tony J. suggested destroying nests to limit their numbers to controllable levels.

Barb K. says the DNR has a brochure that suggests using prickly bushes or get a dog, or fence your yard.

Steve R. suggested a buffer zone to keep geese out. Other suggestions, shoot or trap them and give to food shelves. City can extend hunting season, or can do a controlled hunt. However, expect lots of flack from the public. Geese produce 3 pounds of feces a day.

Vance Z., emphasized the health issue by relating info about a business acquaintance who according to Mayo Clinic, was blinded by microorganisms contained in goose droppings.

Someone suggested we need a task force on this, but it was decided that the Water Quality task force add it to their agenda and those who had a burning desire to do something about the goose problem join that group.

Barb K., we need help from other groups, Lions Club, School Dist, etc. Needs a multifaceted approach.

Don G introduced the new president Jim Ravila and turned the meeting over to him.

Officers and open District Representative slots for 2000 are as follows
Alternative for Dist. 1, Tom Hargrave.

Dist 5 Rep, Sherry Bounds

District 6 Rep, Dee Kratske, alternate Donn Granros.

Vance Zehringer was nominated for Vice President and accepted.

Betty Zehringer accepted the office of Recorder for another year.

Vern Draxler accepted the office of parliamentarian for another year.

President Jim Ravila introduced County Commissioner Arne Engstrom who talked about Operation ER. Engstrom read the Operation ER Mission Statement. Barb Kreuser and Sara Hartman volunteered to participate in the group.

Mayor Klinzing reported that this is the best group she ever talks to, that the Lake Association is so friendly. She talked about the sense of community she feels at our meetings – and that we don't want to lose that - Operation ER is about that concept.

The Progressive Dinner was scheduled for July 13, people can sign up at the smelt fry.

The membership committee scheduled a meeting for April 13 at Dave Halgrens.

The meeting was adjourned.
Recorder, Betty Zehringer