

A Little Slice of Heaven

September 2023

Elbow Lake Chatter

Get Ready for the Hayride on Oct. 14!

Dig out your favorite chili or soup recipe to win a prize in the cook-off

Saturday, October 14th, 3 to 6pm
at the Boat Launch

BYOB and your chili or soup entry if you want, but hot dogs, chips, and drinks will be provided. Tent set-up will be at 10am that morning, so please come and help at that time. The Hayride begins at a new time this year, 3:00pm. There is no rain date.

Chili/Soup Cook off: vote for your favorite to win a prize

Trunk or Treat 🎆 50/50 Drawings 🎆 Music 🎆 Bonfire

Vote for best decorated ATV/ORV to win a prize

Costume contests for all ages:

0-5 🎆 6-12 🎆 13-18 🎆 18+

Please email Sally at sallykaufman2005@yahoo.com or Georgia at m6984@aol.com if you are able to volunteer for any of the following activities:

Pumpkin painting, Lawn games for kids, Food/decoration set up at 1pm.

Joel Maes has already volunteered to pull the hay wagon. Sally Rouse and Georgia Wilson have lots of activities planned ... please help out and volunteer.

It's going to be a great time!

You Need to Know

Sheriff

989-539-7166

Fire Department

989-539-7145

Oxygen

Mary Ann Wood
10385 N. Athey Ave.
989-274-4315

Frank DeVuono
9982 South Shore
586-482-0907

Emergency Walkie-Talkies

Oxygen and AED

Charlie & Deb Smith
9895 Toohy Trail
989-560-5811 or 989-424-8633

Elbow Lake Chatter is the official voice of ELCOA. We invite you to send comments, ideas, or photos to:

elbowlakecoa@gmail.com

ELCOA's Facebook page is:
Elbow Lake community page

ELCOA webpage:
www.elbowlakeinfo.wordpress.com

COMMUNITY NEWS

Congratulations!

Mark and Marie Koski welcomed their first grandchildren this past February. Daughter Angela and son-in-law Trevor blessed them with twins, Cassius and Margot. That's twice as nice!

Be Aware: Thefts on N. Athey & Toohy Trail

We've had reports of firewood being stolen. Another home on the street was broken into and apparently someone slept there. The front door was left ajar when they left but nothing was reported stolen. And on Toohy Trail, the Ouellette home was broken into. Tools and fishing equipment were among the things that were taken. Stay alert!

Our Loons have been named!

Several names were put forth in our quest to name our resident loons: Fred and Ethel, Barney and Betty, and — very cleverly — Humorous and Ulna (for those of you not anatomically aware, those are the names of the two bones that meet at your elbow!). But ultimately, Louie and Lu-Lu got the most votes at the Annual Meeting. Now the trick will be to get them to learn their names and come when you call. (Good luck with that!)

It's an Honor to Know You!

*Thank you to all of our Elbow Lake volunteers who made our community a welcoming, desirable, friendly, fun, safe place to live, relax and enjoy this year.
Just know that you are truly appreciated!*

Dates to Remember:

October 14: 3-6pm, Hayride
October 15: 10am, Board Meeting
at Mary Ann Wood's home
10385 N. Athey Ave.
All are welcome to attend Board Meetings

A new Chairman is needed for the Annual Picnic. You do not need to be on the Board to organize this event. Volunteers have already committed to assist you. Please consider volunteering.

Thank you,
Hunters Paradise!
Your generous donations to ELCOA events in this, and past years, are greatly appreciated.



2024 Board Schedule

April 21, 2024 May 26, 2024
July 7, 2024

Annual Meeting: August 3, 2024 August 4, 2024
September 1, 2024 October 13, 2024

It's not too late to send in your 2023-24 membership dues if you haven't done already. Dues pay for safety items such as oxygen, an AED, emergency use walkie-talkies, swim buoys, lake water testing. Also, fish planting, boat launch lighting, porta-potties, docks, repairs, and donations (upon request) for tree trimming and sand at Boat Launch and Swim Site.

ELCOA sponsors fun social events such as the Memorial Day Golf Cart Parade & Picnic, the Fourth of July Boat Parade and Flare Sales, the Annual Picnic, and the October Hayride . . . and more.

ACTIVITIES

1st Place: Neighbors family, *The Lion King*



4th of July Boat Parade

10 boats got all decked out to show off their favorite "Disney Car-toons" in this year's Boat Parade. All of the entries were loaded with plenty of details and it was so much fun to be there and see them strut their stuff! Congratulations to the winners and to all who entered and entertained us so well. Thank you! The date for next year's parade is July 6th and the theme:

"DECADES"

2nd Place: Tank family, *Moana*



3rd Place: Beck family, *101 Dalmatians*



4th Place: S Miller family, *The Little Mermaid*



J-Smith family, *El Canto*



Peters family, *Peter Pan*



The Lion King



Serra family, *The Lion King*



Rickeard family, *The Little Mermaid*



Krieger family, *Aladdin*



ACTIVITIES

ELCOA Annual Picnic

There was Face Painting, Dunk Tank, Balloon Pop, Raffles and our 2nd annual Cornhole Tournament where 14 adult teams and 3 kids teams competed...and lots of fried chicken and potluck dishes were enjoyed by a large turnout at our annual potluck/ picnic.

The "Early Bird" membership winner was new residents Matt Zuhlke & Jessica Flanagan....congrats! Janiece Newman won an Herb Garden; Jerry Tinskey won a Massage Gun and a Pizza; Meghann Tenorio won a Fire Stick; Jennie Neighbors won a Kindle; Mike Feltrin won an Air Fryer; Ross Converse won a pizza; Georgia Wilson won the 50/50 Raffle. (Georgia and Ross generously donated all or some of their cash winnings back to ELCOA . . . Thank you!) \$48 was donated towards replacing the swim buoys at the swim site.

ELCOA will donate the rest of money to purchase them.

And a special thank you to Blaire Embrey for organizing an amazing picnic and her team of volunteers who made this happen.



2023 Cornhole Champions are Ross Converse & Connor Storms (on the right);
2nd place: Daniel Grager & Joel Maes (on the left).

2023 Jr. Cornhole Champions are Griffin Neighbors & Luke Neighbors (on the right);
2nd place: Declan Neighbors and Caleb Tenorio (on the left).



SUMMARY OF MINUTES FROM ELCOA BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

Sunday July 2, 2023

Location: Marty Neighbors' House

Present: Marty Neighbors, Ed Henri, Mary Ann Wood, Susan Neighbors, Deb Smith, Frank DeVuono, Mark Scott, John Krieger,

Absent: Rick Elenbaas, Mary VanDeKerkhove, and Fred VanDeKerkhove

Guests: Blaire Embrey and Nick VanChina.

The meeting was called to order at 10:03 am by President Marty Neighbors. President Neighbors made an announcement that Tim Swieczkowski was found dead in his home on Athey after a wellness check was called into the sheriff's department by a neighbor that arrived and noticed no activity. Also, President Neighbors said there was a rousing lake yesterday with a well-attended boat parade with 9 entries, and fireworks that had monster mortars.

Minutes: The May 28, 2023 minutes were read by secretary Mary Ann Wood. There were no corrections to the minutes. Minutes approved.

Treasurer's Report: Deb Smith reported on the treasurer's report. The balance is \$2,576.40 after \$1659.90 expenses. Report approved.

Membership Report: Sue Neighbors reported a membership of 45 as of today. She said last year had 3 more members at this time. She suggested that an email address be secured when passing out welcoming packets.

Report of Committees:

Neighborhood Watch: Ken VanRiper has resigned as a board member.

Community News: Deb Smith reported the death of Bill Newman, a long time Elbow lake resident with the memorial being yesterday at Jim Pelky's. Kay Pickett and Carol Ouellette's homes are for sale. Deb reported she is to be a great grandmother. Mary VanDeKerkhove has 2 types of cancer and is hospitalized. Ken VanRiper will be starting 6 weeks of radiation soon. Charlie Smith will be going to

the top of the Mackinac Bridge columns on a ticket won by his friend. Deb also suggested a reminder about dog walking with a secured leash be put on Facebook and the website. President Neighbors suggested the township could add this to the local ordinances.

Facebook: Deb Smith reported the Facebook group has been quiet but there were many new requests this weekend. She said if no address is included on form then no acceptance. Currently there are 225 members.

Webpage/Newsletter: President Neighbors thanked Susan Neighbors for a great job on the newsletter.

Water Testing: President Neighbors reported that Charlie Smith will be conducting water testing to be completed by the annual meeting.

Annual Picnic: Blaire Embrey reported a flyer will be posted on Facebook this week regarding the picnic. Nick VanChina is running the cornhole tournament. There will be a dunk tank and raffle prizes. The chicken has been ordered. Bingo was suggested as an activity as well as duck races and hatchet throwing. Blaire is making a list for volunteers.

Hayride: No chairman at this time.

Township Meetings: President Neighbors said he and Frank DeVuono have been trying to make the meetings. It is difficult and President Neighbors suggested a third person be appointed to help out.

Old Business: Mark Scott presented a request for replacement for the swim buoys in accordance with a DNR permit. He said they need to be 12 inches in diameter and 36 inches above the water. The present ones are water-logged. The cost is \$598 and he feels the entire community benefits from the buoys and that ELCOA should pay for them. Mark made a motion for \$650.00 to purchase said buoys. John Krieger seconded. Discussion included how it

will fit into the budget. It was suggested that getting more new members at the picnic will help and having a donation jar displayed at the picnic will help offset the cost. Mark Scott said if we spend more on the neighborhood, we will get more from neighbors. A fundraiser was also recommended. Someone suggested greasing the buoys prevents people climbing on them, thus damaging them. Motion passed.

Road Brining Dates: No change to advertised dates.

Sign Discussion: Ed Henri reported he has made a notation on his phone to get the price when he gets home. Mark Scott reported that there will be a need to get permission from home owners that signs will be changed. A suggestion was made to contact Ruey Wood to check on current signs and replace them. The association could pay him. It was suggested that since he made them in past, he should have a chance to replace them. Sue Neighbors said the wood on the signs is rotting.

Fishing Derby: No news that one is being organized for this year.

New Business: President Neighbors said that there are 6 people up for reelection or resigning. The board needs an election chair. John Krieger volunteered. The election will be at the annual meeting on August 5, 2023. John Krieger said if position is uncontested then they should be reelected automatically.

Loon Naming Contest: President Neighbors said this would be a fun item to do. There have been several suggestions. Sue Neighbors will put on Facebook and Website. Voting will take place at the annual meeting.

Fourth of July Celebration: President Neighbors reported flare sales were \$935.00. There were no sales on Northwoods Trail. He said he had 8 boxes of 36 each left from last year of 20 minute flares. The flare boat takes 24 flares. He said the flares have gone up in price to \$2.83 each.

SUMMARY OF MINUTES FROM ELCOA BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING — continued

He has 42 left in a box with a total of a gross for next year. Mike DeSloover picked them up for us this year. President Neighbors feels we will need 2 1/2-3 gross more for next year. John Krieger suggested using a military discount.

Boat Parade winners: 4th place—Shirley Miller gang with *The Little*

Mermaid

3rd place—Becks with *101 Dalmatians*

2nd place—Tanks with *Moana*

1st place—Neighbors with *The Lion King*

Discussions: Blaire Embrey reported there is free chair yoga at the Gladwin Moose for members on

Wednesdays this summer at 4:00 pm. It is \$5.00 for non members. President Neighbors announced the next annual meeting is 8-05-2023 at 10:00 am at the boat launch. On 8-6-2023, the new board will meet at his house. Meeting adjourned at 10:57am.

Submitted by Secretary Mary Ann Wood.

SUMMARY OF MINUTES FROM ELCOA ANNUAL MEETING

Saturday, August 5, 2023

Location: Boat Launch under the tents.

Present: Marty Neighbors, Deb Smith, Mary Ann Wood, Sue Neighbors, Rick Elenbaas, Frank DeVuono, John Krieger.

Absent: Ed Henri, Mary VanDeKerkhove, Fred VanDeKerkhove, Mark Scott.

Guests: See sign in sheet. Shirley Miller, Stephanie Wood, Jerry Tinskey, Georgia Wilson, Dave Hoffmeyer, Charlie Smith, Nick VanChina, Fred Stutzman, Erie High.

The meeting was called to order at 10:04 a.m. by President Marty Neighbors. President Marty welcomed everyone to the annual meeting and picnic and explained the purpose of the annual meeting.

Minutes: The minutes from the August 6, 2022 meeting were read by Mary Ann Wood. Minutes approved.

Treasurer's Report: The Treasurer's report was read by Deb Smith. She explained it is not a year end report as that is not until the end of August. She said it is a year to date report. There is an ending balance of \$4096.08 after expenses of \$3352.63. There was a question about the check to Marty Neighbors and Deb explained the board supported a motion to reimburse him at a previous meeting. Report approved.

Membership: Susan Neighbors reported a membership of 67 currently with 64 as of this time last year. She also explained we have 10 new mem-

bers that were not members last year.

Committee Reports:

Neighborhood Watch: Ken VanRipper has resigned from this position and President Neighbors said we need someone to do cursory drive arounds of the properties. Rick Elenbaas volunteered for this position. Frank DeVuono questioned about the fire signs. Discussion held with inclusion of the fire on Claroskee Road this year. Rick stated he is too busy to do that part of the neighborhood watch. Someone suggested getting DNR email alerts regarding burn status. Susan Neighbors said inspection shows the current signs cannot be repaired. Ruey Wood has been contacted and is not interested in making new ones. She talked of different ideas for the signs including 2 sheets of aluminum composite with plastic between. She said she and Ed Henri will report at September meeting on ideas for new signs.

Community News: It was reported that we have lost some neighbors. Yvonne Gebrowsky, Julie Wilton, Bill Newman, Tim Swieczkowski, and Betty Smith have all passed away. There are 3 houses for sale with one in pending status. Also, 3-4 new neighbors have moved in this year. Sue Neighbors also reported that she received an email from Richard & Jean Hidey's daughter revealing that someone is stealing their firewood.

Facebook: Deb Smith reported there are currently 232 registered FB members.

Webpage: Sue Neighbors said nothing to report. President Neighbors thanked her for an excellent job on the newsletters giving lots of information to the community.

Water Testing: Charlie Smith reported that the testing has been done and the highest E.coli reading was 9.2 with swim area registering 5.2. He said it is a little bit up from last year but still clarity and 1 everything is top notch. He said further types of testings are \$100's of dollars each and not necessary. Erie High said he has partnered with MSU in doing additional tests on the lake. He said clarity is to 11 feet which is very good and the deepest part of lake is 27-28 feet between Pelky's and the lighthouse. He is holding some samples in the freezer to test for phosphorous (fertilizer) in the lake. He said normally these tests are \$150 but by partnering with MSU they are only \$25. He said he has spent \$150 of his own money. Deb Smith said in talking with health department, these tests are normally available for \$300. Motion made and approved to reimburse Erie for tests.

Franklin Township Liason: It was announced there is a tire drive on 9-16/17, 2023. Please help get the word out. It is free to township members and will be held at the township hall on M-18. It was also announced there are 2 meetings regarding fire assessments. The city of Harrison has an agreement with our township to supply fire protection. But because of a millage failure, they now want

SUMMARY OF MINUTES FROM ELCOA ANNUAL MEETING — continued

more money from our township. There was a question about contacting Denton Township Fire department. This has been done and Denton is not interested. Erie High said he talked with Denton fire chief, and they said it is because they cannot cross other township lines. He also reported he was at a meeting with Ed Erkskine and Dick Ecklin where they found out if they cannot get the monies then home insurance companies may cancel policies because of no fire suppression. He said it would only increase taxes about \$50/year.

Annual Picnic: President Neighbors announced the community's appreciation to Blaire Embrey for a fantastic picnic. He also thanked Deb Smith for her mentoring of Blaire. Blaire announced she may still be needing assistance today with the games and selling of raffle tickets.

Old Business: President Neighbors reported the board approved the purchase of swim buoys. Mark Scott absent so unable to give details. President Neighbors reported that the swim site has been inspected by the DNR and the old ones are tilted and someone moves them periodically. Discussion about anchoring the buoys. It was announced that Randy Wilson donated anchors for the buoys but they are still at the beach.

Road Brining: The last one will be 8-25-2023. Erie High reported that the road commission has been notified by the EPA that they will restrict calcium chloride. So there will be less road brining next year.

Recognition: President Neighbors talked of trying to recognize individuals who do a lot for the organization. He mentioned Hunter's Paradise having been good to us. Deb Smith reported that they have donated pop, ice, and door prizes for the last 3 years. President Neighbors said the new owners may not be aware of the donations, but we should also thank Lori. He showed the plaque that will be given to them and can then be hung in the store. He

then presented Mary Ann Wood with an engraved, insulated cup for her involvement for numerous years and work on saving the lake from the aquatic invasive species.

The Election of Officers was then handled by John Krieger. John Krieger announced that the following positions are available and if the current officer accepts the position there is no need for a vote: **President:** Deb Smith nominated Mark Scott as President. He asked her to nominate him. Rick Elenbaas nominated Marty Neighbors who did not accept the nomination. Mark Scott voted in as President. **Vice President:** Marty Neighbors nominated Rick Elenbaas for Vice President. Rick Elenbaas voted in as Vice-president. **Treasurer:** Mary Ann Wood nominated Deb Smith as Treasurer. Deb Smith voted in as Treasurer. **Secretary:** Stephanie Wood nominated Mary Ann Wood as Secretary. Mary Ann Wood voted in as Secretary. **Membership Chair:** Sue Neighbors accepted the position. He then indicated that there are three positions for directors. **Directors:** John Krieger, Marty Neighbors, and Shirley Miller are to be directors. It was approved by membership. This concluded the election of officers with President Neighbors announcing the new board will meet Sunday, August 6, 2023 at Neighbors' barn at 10:00 am. President Neighbors thanked John Krieger for running the elections. President Neighbors talked of the fun event for the naming the loon contest. Suggestions for names were: Louie and Louise, Humerus and Ulna (elbow Lake), Fred and Ethel, Barnie and Betty, and Louie and LuLu. The vote was taken and passed for Louie and LuLu. President Neighbors had invited the sheriff to talk on lake safety at the picnic today, but he was unable to make it. Jeff Benjamin was invited to discuss the status of lake spraying but had a family medical emergency. Erie High then reported that several

millions of dollars are available for invasive aquatic species treatment from the federal government in grants of \$5000.00 each. He feels a letter of support from ELCOA would help the township to secure the funds. If we want more information, we need to contact the township board. Charlie Smith made a motion to have ELCOA draft a letter encouraging the township to seek this federal grant for fighting aquatic invasive species. Seconded by John Krieger. Motion passed. President Neighbors will write the letter. **New Business:** Update on garbage pick up and now it is allowed to have one large item per week to be disposed of. Rick Elenbaas asked about recycling glass at the township recycling bins. Erie High said the dock needs to be pulled out and reset as it is off center. He said he pulled 10# of steel from lake bottom. He also said we may have 2 years of life left on the dock. It is rusting and he suggests it be painted after pulling it this year. He also said there are picnic tables that are bad and wondered how to eliminate them. There was also a question about the 2nd dock. He also said the township brought up the lights at boat launch and old bar. Apparently there is one by what used to be the bar. The township pays the bill. Charlie Smith said that light is not on by bar and Deb Smith said we pay the electric bill for boat launch only. Erie High also said there is about 1 foot of sand at bottom of boat launch. He cleared some of it. He said Bob Bates can clear off more of the sand for \$500.00. He said the concrete slab at boat launch is off a little of center, making it difficult to correctly launch a boat. Erie High also brought up dredging the muck out of the right of boat launch. John Krieger said off lake people may want to donate to off set the cost of the dredging. President Neighbors said ELCOA may also want to donate. The question was asked if Erie High can do the dredging of the muck but he said he can only reach 8

SUMMARY OF MINUTES FROM ELCOA ANNUAL MEETING—continued

feet with his equipment, especially now that the lake is so low.

Georgia Wilson mentioned a jet ski with 3 kids was using the lake close to 5 pm deadline. She would like us to revisit the lake hours for usage by motorized boats. Discussion revolved

around allowing time for fishermen to also be using the lake. Charlie Smith made a motion to move cutoff time for boats and jet skis to 6pm on Friday, Saturday, and Sunday with no additional time allowed for holidays. This to be effective immediately. Rick Elenbaas

seconded. Motion carried with 2 negative votes.

Meeting adjourned at 11:30 am.

Submitted by Secretary Mary Ann Wood.

SUMMARY OF MINUTES FROM ELCOA BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

Sunday August 6, 2023

Location: Marty Neighbors' House

Present: Marty Neighbors, Mary Ann Wood, Susan Neighbors, Deb Smith, Frank DeVuono, John Krieger, Shirley Miller

Absent: Mark Scott, Ed Henri, Mary VanDeKerkhove and Fred VanDeKerkhove

Guests: Blaire Embrey and Nick VanChina, Georgia Wilson, and Sally Rouse.

The meeting was called to order at 10:02 am by Past President Marty Neighbors in the absence of President Mark Scott. Past President Neighbors said we had a great turn out for the picnic with over 100 people in attendance. He hopes there will be as great a turn out for the Hayride. He said Sally Rouse and Georgia Wilson have agreed to be co-chairs for the event. Georgia Wilson also said she may volunteer for picnic chair next year. He also thanked the new directors and Rick Elenbaas for accepting their new roles on the board.

Minutes: The July 2, 2023 minutes were read by secretary Mary Ann Wood. There were no corrections to the minutes. Minutes approved.

Treasurer's Report: Deb Smith reported on the treasurer's report. The balance is \$5,007.51 after \$934.89 expenses. Report approved.

Membership Report: Sue Neighbors reported a membership of 74 as of today. She said at the picnic yesterday we acquired 7 new members.

Report of Committees:

Neighborhood Watch: Reported as all good in the neighborhood.

Community News: Deb Smith reported there are some bowls and glassware left from the picnic yesterday. Contact her if they are yours. She said she was impressed with how people stepped up yesterday not only for volunteering but for clean-up. Tents and everything were cleaned up right after the picnic and there was no need to have a second clean-up day.

Facebook: Deb Smith reported there are 235 members. Rick Elenbaas said so many do apply but if there are no addresses they can relate to, then they are not accepted.

Webpage/Newsletter: Susan Neighbors said there is nothing new.

Annual Picnic: Blaire Embrey ordered 200 pieces of chicken from Fruechy's in Beaverton and it was a perfect amount. She thanked Ryan Neighbors for mowing before the event. She also thanked Diane Felkin and Christina VanChina for face painting. She thanked Marty Neighbors and Charlie Smith for picking up the dunk tank and the Neighbors' family for picking up the chicken. For the future, she suggested dividing the picnic into 4 different elements: raffle, games, prizes, and food. Marty Neighbors suggested a final summary be brought to the board. Blaire also thanked Nick VanChina for running the cornhole tournament. Suggestions to make it run smoother next year included using the bean bags provided and not allowing individuals to bring their own and having it advertised that the bean bags supplied must weigh the same. Finally, a sug-

gestion was made to have another tournament at the Hayride, but would have to be aware of the time change and earlier darkness. Georgia Wilson said her son-in-law Ross had 9 back surgeries; he threw his first bean bag yesterday since his surgeries.

Hayride: Co-chairmen are Georgia Wilson and Sally Rouse. The co-chairs will bring ideas to the September board meeting. They also suggested the current to do list for each event needs updating.

Township Meetings: The discussion was around the upcoming two fire suppression meetings at the township hall. Rick Elenbaas encouraged everyone to attend. Comment from Shirley Miller was that taxes for fire suppression should be equal and not based on equalization on properties. It should be the same for on and off lake. It was also suggested to put the dates of the township meetings on FB and the website. Past President Neighbors will write the letter as discussed at Annual Meeting yesterday to advocate for grant proposal for whole township including other lakes. He also asked if Nick could do the regular meetings on the third Thursday of the month, and Nick said he cannot.

Old Business: The request for replacement for the swim buoys in accordance with a DNR permit was not discussed as Mark Scott absent. Marty said they probably will not be installed this year.

Road Brining: Erie High's information from yesterday is that road brining will be reduced next year as the EPA wants to eliminate calcium

SUMMARY OF MINUTES FROM ELCOA BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING—continued

chloride from road brining. No change to the current advertised dates.

Sign Discussion: Susan Neighbors said she is checking on prices and will have information at the next board meeting. She said on inspection the wood is rotting. The signs are over 20 years old. Rick Elenbaas suggested a budget for the signs. Agreement was this will all be tabled until the next meeting.

New Business: Past President Neighbors reminded us of the fire suppression meetings that the township will be holding on August 19, 2023 at 11:00 am and September 14, 2023 at 6:30 pm. He also said the loons are now named Louie and Lulu. It was discussed about non-members or non-property owners running for offices on ELCOA board. It was reported that issues like this should have been brought up at the annual

meeting yesterday and the board would just be opening up a can of worms. There was a question about legal ramifications and the suggestion was that it is a moral issue. It was also brought up that if yesterday's vote is changed, we are discouraging young people from stepping up to the plate and being on the board. Mary Ann Wood made a motion to establish a new committee to review the bylaws. It was seconded by Deb Smith. Motion carried. Mary Ann to chair committee that consists of Marty Neighbors, Georgia Wilson, and Shirley Miller. There was also some discussion about picnic tables. Deb Smith said we have some extra monies if it is needed for new tables or for reframing. John Krieger suggested a chain down at the beach site. Frank DeVuono and Marty Neighbors will check into it.

Lake Safety: It was suggested that some action plans be put in place as there was a jet ski with 3 children on it pulling a tube with another child on it on the lake during the picnic. Shirley Miller said years ago there was safety committee with 3 members that received training. It was up to property owners for guests to know rules of the waters. She also suggested that boaters and skiers stay away from the docks. Her daughter was first jet skier on the lake back in the 90's. Marty Neighbors suggested we get authority to police the lake. Shirley Miller said you can get authority to do so by getting training. It needs to be decided how big the problem is.

Susan Neighbors made motion to adjourn, seconded by Deb Smith. Motion passed. Adjourned at 10:55am. **Submitted by Secretary Mary Ann Wood.**

SUMMARY OF MINUTES FROM ELCOA BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

Sunday September 3, 2023

Location: Boat Launch area

Present: Mark Scott, Mary Ann Wood, Susan Neighbors, Deb Smith, Frank DeVuono, Marty Neighbors, John Krieger, Ed Henri and Shirley Miller.

Absent: Rick Elenbaas, Mary VanDeKerkhove, and Fred VanDeKerkhove

Guests: Sally Rouse and Joe Krieger.

The meeting was called to order at 10:04 am by President Mark Scott. President Scott announced that Ed Henri wants to stay on the board as a director. He mentioned to all if you can't come to meetings, you shouldn't be on the board. He also mentioned that we need an odd number for the board per the bylaws.

Minutes: The August 6, 2023 minutes were read by secretary Mary Ann Wood. The correction to the minutes included that it was Georgia's

son-in-law and not her son that was in corn hole tournament. Minutes approved with corrections.

Treasurer's Report: Deb Smith reported on the treasurer's report. The balance is \$4096.08 as the year-end financial report for 2022-2023 after \$3352.63 expenses. The regular treasurer's report has an ending balance of \$4877.51 after \$220.00 expenses. Report accepted.

Membership Report: Sue Neighbors reported a membership of 78 as of today and last year at this time there was 71 members. We have 13 new members and 14 from last year have not signed up as of now. There was a question if contact had been made with those not re-signing. Sue said she will send an email with a membership form attached.

Report of Committees:

Neighborhood Watch: Rick Elenbaas absent. Sue Neighbors said she received a call from Donna Martin's

daughter-in-law reporting that they found the cottage door unlocked and evidence of someone sleeping in the bed and tissues on the couch.

Community News: Deb Smith reported there are new owners 2 houses from the boat launch. Question about them receiving a welcome packet and Deb said no as she hasn't found them at home yet. Also, Tanks are making depth charts of the lake and will have them for sale shortly. Sue Neighbors said the Koski's daughter had twins in February.

Facebook: Deb Smith reported the Facebook group has 243 members. It was mentioned that if there is no answer or address as to who they are affiliated with then they are turned down. President Scott also mentioned that we as property owners can send an invitation and that person would get automatic approval.

Webpage/Newsletter: Susan Neighbors reported she has gotten 2 differ-

SUMMARY OF MINUTES FROM ELCOA BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING — continued

ent inquiries from potential property buyers as to whether this is a good fishing lake. She sent information.

Sign Discussion: Sue Neighbors reported that a 4x8 sheet of MDO plywood (used for exterior signage) is \$100.00. She suggested if anyone has leftover exterior paint, that could be donated to offset the cost. The 4x4's for the posts should also be replaced. A budget of \$300.00 was suggested. Deb Smith made a motion to allocate \$300.00 for sign replacement. Seconded by John Krieger. Motion carried. Sue had 3 designs with "Elbow Lake - Private" to pass around. 2 featured loons and the favorite had trees and moon reflected in a lake. It was suggested that the old signs be raffled or auctioned off. It could be on our FB page and website. This would allow for online silent bids.

Fish Planting: President Scott asked a question about adding minnows to the lake. He said he would be willing to incur the expense himself. Frank DeVuono said the minnows would provide food over the winter which would keep our fish from eating our planted fish. ELCOA is not planting fish this year. It was suggested ELCOA pay some of the expenses. President Scott will email our fish supplier.

Lake Spraying: Mary Ann Wood reported 5-6 households are getting lily pads sprayed. Frank DeVuono suggested ELCOA pay for spraying the boat launch area. John Krieger made a motion to allocate \$100.00 for spraying lily pads at boat launch. Deb Smith seconded. Motion carried. John Krieger then brought up the boat launch area and hiring someone to clear sand off the concrete ramp. The area that has been cleared has left a "speed bump" on the ramp, making it difficult to use. John will call Bob Bates for a quote for clearing the sand and possibly the muck, too.

Buoys and Docks: President Scott announced the docks will not be coming out until October 31, 2023. He also

announced he is waiting for the off season to get quotes on the buoys hoping the price will drop for the off season. He also said he cannot place the anchors and maybe we could get Erie High to drill them in place underwater. President Scott will talk to him.

Township Meetings: Marty Neighbors reported there was a good contingent from Elbow Lake at the fire suppression meetings at the township hall. He feels the suppression special assessment will pass and it will be on our winter taxes. Harrison fire department offers the best rate even though it is \$10,000 more than last year. The township's current income won't cover this increase. This new tax is \$1 per \$1000 SEV. Most homes will see about \$50 more on their taxes and that is cheap compared to higher fire insurance on our property without fire suppression.

Hayride: The new co-chair, Sally Rouse, reported that there will be a chili and soup cook-off. The time been changed to 3-6pm. She was questioning the number of hotdogs to buy and she plans to precook them at her house and bring down in a roaster. This would eliminate the need for a grill and someone to man it. She said she can get two boxes at Gordon's for \$40.00 each. The bounce house was donated last year and wondered if the same person could this year. Sue Neighbors revealed that is not possible. Stephanie Wood has volunteered to do the 50/50. Sally wants someone to contact the guy that pulls a wagon in the neighborhood with the mules. Discussion suggested that the wagon is too small and the mules are elderly and could not pull the weight. Frank DeVuono said he will contact the guy with the Kubota and also talk with Tammy Csutoras about a bigger trailer. Shirley Miller will get the gate unlocked by the oil wells so the wag-

on can travel back into the woods. Frank said he got the hay from Crystal at Hunter's Paradise last year and will check into it for this year. Discussion around another cornhole tournament and that it could start earlier at 1:00 pm. Marty Neighbors will bring his music set-up and speakers. Deb Smith and Frank DeVuono will work on Hunter's to see what they intend to donate by contacting Lori. Sally said she will call about the electric usage. She also announced that tent set up will be Saturday at 10am. It was suggested to have a coffee mug with \$20 stuffed in for the award for chili/soup cook off. The Hayride is scheduled for October 14, 2023.

Old Business: Marty Neighbors brought up that he had asked the sheriff and DNR officer to speak at the annual picnic this year, but they could not come. They want to be invited next year. He also reported that he saw 4 four-wheelers getting tickets on M-18 yesterday.

New Business: Marty Neighbors said many tent bungee cords were damaged or missing so he bought 50 for \$10.98. Motion to reimburse was approved. President Scott said next year the Memorial 4 wheel/golf cart parade will have hamburgers and hot dogs at the end of the parade to kick off the summer. He also asked how the fire pit is coming by Pillon's. Marty Neighbors said Pillon's were getting prices. President Scott said he will bring a metal ring for now until prices are gathered. Questions came up again about the boat launch abandoned boats. President Scott said there is nothing we can do about it.

Discussions: President Scott announced the next meeting is 10/15/2023 at 10:00 am at Mary Ann Wood's house. Meeting adjourned at 11:17am.

Submitted by Secretary Mary Ann Wood.

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	Annual Picnic		
	Chairperson(s) needed		