

Board Meeting
Fish and Royer Lakes Association
Minutes Sept. 17, 2011

Present: Joe Albergo, Pam Deetz, Norine Doig, Marshall Doig, Joy Grose, Helmuth Massat, Carol Massat

1. Minutes of the last Board meeting were corrected so that the meeting date was listed as Sept. 17th, not Sept. 16th. Minutes were approved as amended.
2. Norine Doig made the treasurer's report. As of September our balance was \$2736.93. Expenses \$1219.15 for cookbooks, postage, signs, and hog roast expenses. Approximately \$2,800 balance right now, of which \$2000 is available for the fish stocking program. If people have not paid dues, or would like to donate to fish stocking, please do so now, as we may run short on funds. We currently have 98 paid members. Fish stocking last year was \$2165 in the fall (wall eye), with the one for March (channel catfish) \$1028.45.
3. T-shirts are not a fund raiser. Prices will be minimally above cost. They are intended as a community building program. However, we are all looking forward to having our Fish and Royer Lake Association T-shirts.
4. The cookbook sales are coming closer to meeting expenses. We currently have \$670 in cookbook revenues. The cost was \$1338.55. The cookbooks are beautiful, with a real feel for the lakes and our lake community. They will make lovely gifts for the holidays and will be a treasured memento of time at the lake. Thanks to Pam Deetz for this wonderful contribution to our community, and to all who contributed recipes, photos, and stories.
5. Membership. Joy Grose has volunteered the cost of postage, printing, and envelopes to send out a letter and self-addressed, stamped envelopes to the 2010 members who have not yet renewed. Some board members are willing to pay dues for lake residents who are undergoing financial hardship, on a scholarship basis.
6. The Board discussed the question of whether everyone living on the lakes is automatically a member of the association, but some have been paying dues and some have not. Some lake associations have mandatory memberships and mandatory fees for lake residents.
7. The issue of nonprofit status was discussed. We do not currently have tax exempt status in regards to donations. If we had a volunteer to help us acquire nonprofit status, that would be desirable.
7. Helmuth Massat is now serving on the Board of the Lagrange County Lakes Council.
8. Marshall Doig will meet with Dave Arrington, who has designed our fish stocking program and ask him for a recommendation as to whether we can reduce the number of fish being stocked due to lack of funds. The Board is committed to continuing the fish stocking program, and, if we are able to continue the program, ultimately the State of Indiana will fund the fish stocking. If we fail to continue the program, the state will not pick this up down the road. The fish stocking program has been a long term commitment on the part of the association to improve fishing in the lake and enhance the lake environment.
9. The Board discussed the services that are being provided by the association. They include:
 - provision of information
 - buoy maintenance
 - organizing annual activities such as the garage sale, flotilla, and picnic
 - advocating for the lake community, with NIPSCO, channel dredging, potential developers of undeveloped land, the sewer board, and other situations
 - stocking the lake with fish over many years.
 - Providing one of only 6 websites of the 70 lakes in Lagrange County

- Providing signs
- Fund raising for fish stocking, and other needs of the lake community.
- Developing a lake cookbook
- Arranging for lake T-shirts
- Volunteer writing, printing, and delivery of newsletters. Dave Arrington has been providing the printing for the newsletters. Volunteers deliver them.
- Arranging for the lake directory
- Annual meetings
- Representing our lakes at the Lagrange Country Lakes Council

All of these services and activities and others are provided by volunteers, most of whom hold other jobs, and have child and family responsibilities. We cannot expand our offerings, because it is taking all of our available resources of time and money to sustain the programs that are already being provided.

10. The Board is asking for at least two new Board members, since two Board members have retired in the past year.

11. We plan to post the list of dues paying members on our website. We will put a note in the newsletter that people can check on the website and see if their dues have been paid.

12. We will include special thanks in newsletters to those who have donated.

13. In the future we could acknowledge publicly donations. We could have levels of donations, from minnows to walleyes. From Jan. 2011-July, we received \$675 in donations. The following categories were suggested:

- No dues: Bait (This suggestion was vetoed, when the type of bait: worms, bee moths? Leeches, crickets? Lures? Could not be resolved, due to diverse views on the best baits. Carol M. held out for an old family secret of a combination of crickets and horsetail weed worms for catching bluegills)
- Paid dues: Minnow
- Dues plus donation of \$1-\$25: Bluegill
- Dues plus donation of \$26-\$75: Perch
- Dues plus donation of \$76-\$100: Bass
- Dues plus donation of \$101-\$200: Walleye
- Dues plus donation of \$201 or more: King/Queen of the Lake

14. We need to develop a draft of the newsletter and bring an agenda to the next meeting.

15. Marshall Doig has received a gigantic donation for the next silent auction. We want at least 10 items with a value of over \$100 for the next silent auction.

Future meetings will be held on Oct. 15th at Chicago Joes, Nov. 12th, at Maplewood, and, also at Maplewood, December 17th

Respectfully submitted,

Carol Massat