

Silver Lake Commission Minutes, July 18, 2013

Approved:

Members Present: Fred Bircher, Committee Chair Randy Ammann, Dave Frey, Gary Pugh, Ron Wagner, Sally Raeber, Dan Shimer, Natural Resource Manager Ryan Hummert.

Randy Ammann made a motion to approve the minutes from last meeting. Dave Frey seconded the motion.

Ryan Hummert, Natural Resource Manager, informed the commission of the recent new projects and events at Silver Lake. He stated the marina rental program was completely rented for another season and the city is considering purchasing another set of docks for the 2014 season. He also informed the commission about the replacement culvert which was installed draining the water out of Holiday Manor Subdivision and into the Old City Lake. The culvert was necessary to repair the damaged piece which was under the roadway and should prevent blockage of the waterway during heavy rains.

The commission members passed around the property parcel sheet which was identified by Mark Rosen and discussed which properties were a priority in the watershed. The members identified the need to control the sediment from main waterways which drain directly into the lake. Randy Ammann advised the commission that we needed to contact the NRCS as well as local farmers in order to have an incentive for the farmer to cooperate with us on the waterway installation and sediment control. Identifying farmers and landowners, such as Ron and Giz Schruppf and Danny Rinderer as possible representatives in the watershed to spread the information to others which border the lake about cooperating with the city.

Natural Resource Manager Hummert advised the commission he had taken several requests to add additional blind sites to the lake for additional availability. Schruppf's cove on the NW side of interstate 70 was discussed. Several questions were posed such as distance from the interstate as well as safety distance from livestock and farmers fields nearby. This cove provides the only area for fisherman to recreate without interference from waterfowl hunters during the season. It was also brought up that the safety in proximity to I70 would create issues. It was a majority decision within the commission to keep the 27 active blinds in the waterfowl program and no additional blinds would be added at this time.

The commission discussed several ideas in order to apply the best management practices to the needed areas of the lake. Dredging the area identified by HDR remains a top priority among all members along with utilizing geo-tubes for the placement of the spoil material to be utilized as stream bank protection. This would allow for more money allocated to the dredge and not to hauling the material off the lake and into fields for settling purposes.

The commission is all in agreement that the information concerning the lake needs to be advertised and the public needs to be informed of the condition of the northern sections of the waterway. Letters to the residents highlighting the need for action in the watershed was brought up as well. The commission would like the city to make a commitment to implementing a plan for the northern section of the lake which includes installation of the in lake basin as well as a dredge of the area. It is the commission's recommendation that the city move forward and allocate money for the project.

The commission also recommended allowing the council to tour the lake and visit the highly erodible areas so they would be better informed of the urgency of the situation.

Randy Ammann made a motion to adjourn at 8:10pm, Dave Frey seconded the motion.