

The October 17, 2013 meeting of the Highland Silver Lake Advisory Commission was called to order at 7:00PM.

Members present: Randy Ammann, Brad Kohlbrecher, Bill Ambuehl, Dave Frey, Ron Wagner, Gary Pugh, Fred Bircher, Sally Raeber, Director of Parks & Recreation; Mark Rosen and guest Phil Chapman.

A motion to approve the July 18, 2013 minutes was made by Ron Wagner; seconded by Dave Frey. Sally Raeber requested that formal names be used in future minutes and agendas.

Staff reports: Director Rosen updated the commission members on research being done to install aerators in Old City Lake. This lake has seen a huge increase in the amount of lake vegetation and the costs to treat it with environmentally approved herbicides is becoming costly. Therefore an aeration system would be beneficial as well as to perhaps consider costs to drop the lake's water level and scrape sediment out.

Director Rosen also informed the members about the VFW Forest Eagle Scout project and the dedication ceremony slated for November 10th. The time will be verified and sent to members in the event they want to attend.

Director Rosen shared a power-point presentation on lake dredging he attended in April, 2013. The power-point outlined the entire process and different methods that are used to dredge. The presentation outlined the many facets it takes to dredge a lake; i.e. creating a best management plan (BMP) to obtaining numerous permits from state and federal agencies to the actual methods used to remove silt.

Discussions after the presentation involved the need to include the Director of Public Works; Joe Gillespie, invite city council members to tour the lake to see first-hand the issues and see what has been done, in addition to methods to fund dredging.

Commission members also discussed the draft of the informational memo Director Rosen created that calls attention to serious concerns involving the lake as described in the HDR report in 2011, which all agreed would show their concern.

Under new business the following dates were approved for 2014 meeting dates: Thursday, January 16, 2014 – Thursday, April 17, 2014 – Thursday, July 17, 2014 and Thursday, October 16, 2014. All meetings will start at 7:00PM in the Korte Recreation Center.

Per Mayor Michaelis' request to have the commission members discuss rules for the lake/pond at Dennis Rinderer Park, the commission recommended to place a moratorium on fishing for a minimum of two (2) years after the first fish-stocking is done. Another definitive rule they recommend is that no boats are to be brought in by anglers.

Additionally they recommended to incorporate the same creel limits already in place at Silver Lake, Old City Lake and Hunsche Harbor; i.e. two (2) 14" channel catfish/day and three (3) 15" bass/day. They also expanded their discussion to recommend a shelf be installed along the shoreline and rip-rapped to prevent erosion and introduce vegetation on the banks above and below the pool level to reduce the erosion of the banks.

Under requests of the commission members, Ron Wagner shared a concern about the new home being built adjacent to the lake on the west side, south of Interstate 70 and east of Prairie Road. He questioned what involvement the city has and ensuring that the septic system was installed properly and monitored. Director Rosen stated he would inquire about this.

Bill Ambuehl made a motion to adjourn @ 8:10PM, Dave Frey seconded.