**Minutes**

**Lake Committee Meeting**

**June 15, 2017**

Present:

Fran Stifel, chair

Dietta Burgoyne

Lisa Rosenthal

Donna St. John

Norm Schlultz

Jennie McCoun

Doug Agnew, Aquatic Systems

James Roehm, Aquatic Systems

Jesse Ebert, Aquatic Systmes

Margie Sommer, Neighborhood B

The meeting was called to order at 1:00 PM. A quorum was established. Donna made a motion to approve the minutes from the May meeting. Jennie seconded, and all voted in favor.

The major part of the meeting was the discussion of how to address the problems of herbicide spraying in relation to weed control.

Lisa said that, as president of Neighborhood B, the residents’ concerns were her priority. A number had complained about both the looks and the increased erosion after the last spraying. They wanted to protect their$80,000 investment in the lake erosion project and felt PBCA should prevent further damage to NB property. She agreed with Fran that something different should be tried.

TIGR herbicide, manufactured be SePRO, was discussed. Fran said the Committee had been excited about its ability to kill just the weeds and not affect the beneficial plants. Doug brought up problems with “posting requirements.” Signs would have to be posted stating, among other caveats, that fish couldn’t be eaten, and no recreational activities could take place in the lakes. Lisa stated the signs themselves weren’t as much of a concern as that we’d be putting something hazardous in our lakes. Donna agreed. Fran said such signs would alarm residents. She was also concerned that a new product could turn out to have problems later on. She asked if TIGR would prevent alligator weed. James said it would not, and spraying would still be required. The Committee decided to not use TIGR herbicide.

Fran then presented the option of a buffer zone – an area of about a foot between the edge of the shore and the plants where nothing was planted. The lawn company could edge along the lake, thereby preventing any alligator weeds or torpedo grass from growing out into the lake. She said that this would then mean that no herbicide spraying would be necessary. Fran suggested using three square bulrush, which is highly tolerant to salinity.

All agreed this sounded like a good idea.

Then James stated that the buffer zone would have to be sprayed from time to time with herbicide to maintain it.

Lisa expressed concern that, with spraying, we’d be back to the same situation – large sections of dead plants. James assured the Committee that it was a different kind of spraying, closer and more concentrated, and it would only affect a very small area, not the beneficial plants.

The steps involved to creating a buffer zone would be:

1. spray the areas again to make sure all the plants were dead (about which Lisa expressed concern)

2. wait two weeks for herbicide to dissipate

3. plant bulrush 12” from lake edge

4. remove anything growing in buffer zone by hand for 90 days while plants got established

Fran asked ASI to provide two quotes for doing this: one for a test area on the two banks on Venice Way near the culvert, and one for all of Lake Constance. James was also to proceed to create a buffer zone on Lake Constance by the Loop by spraying.

Lisa asked for NB to have assurance that, during this testing, no herbicide spraying would be done in the lake. Dietta said she didn’t want to do that. Lisa then asked ASI if, after the entire lake had a buffer zone, NB could have assurance that no herbicide spraying would be done. Doug said they couldn’t do that, that spraying would still be required. Lisa expressed concern that if this was the case, we weren’t doing things differently.

Norm made a motion to have the alligator weed sprayed immediately and to get the two bids for buffer zones, to be analyzed at the next meeting. All voted in favor.

Dietta asked for everyone to bring to the next meeting ideas about what projects to do in all the lakes during the next year.

Meeting adjourned at 2:15 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Lisa Rosenthal