

SUGAR SPRINGS PROPERTY OWNERS ASSOCIATION

(SSPOA)

MEET THE CANDIDATES FOR BOARD OF DIRECTORS ELECTION

MAY 20, 2023

ELECTION TO BE HELD ON JUNE 17, 2023

The following was recorded on the above date (May 20, 2023) at a Meet the Candidates meeting sponsored by the SSPOA Board of Directors. Candidates are running for Board positions. There are three positions open with six candidates running. Election Ballots will be mailed using USPS to members during the last week of May. Ballots are to be returned no later than Friday, June 16 at 4:00 p.m. This can be done by returning by USPS mail, in person, or dropped into the Drop Box adjacent to the steps leading into the SSPOA Office. Election results will be announced at the SSPOA Annual Meeting on June 17, 2023 at 1:00 p.m. at the Activity Center.

Transcribers note: In several instances, audience sounds prevented audio recorder from picking up verbiage. Those moments are indicated as such: (*)sound interference).**

Video recording of meeting did not occur.

Meeting began at 10:00 a.m. with SSPOA Board of Directors (BOD) President, Tom Hug stating that this was a critical meeting for members in order to select Board members. It's a critical decision we must make in providing Board members who will assist in the continuation of Sugar Springs to move forward. The meeting will be turned over to David Harris, General Manager, timing to be handled by Director Jim Issitt. All candidates will be given three minutes to introduce themselves which will then be followed by questions from the audience with answers to be a three minute or less response.

David Harris, General Manager: Good morning. Welcome to the 2023 Meet the Candidates. There are three positions this year and six candidates vying for those three positions. Election ballots will be mailed out on Thursday, May 25, 2023. Our Bylaws suggest a two week window for voting, we chose three weeks to give all members a better time limit. Voting can be done by mail, in person at the POA Office or the drop box at the POA Office. Ballots are due by June 16 at 4:00 p.m. Election results will be announced at the Annual Meeting, June 17 at 1:00 p.m. I

will now introduce the six candidates in alphabetical order: Incumbent, Laura Gentry; John Hawkins, June Jucewicz, Shannon Macon, Joe Pisano, and Incumbent, Jeff Weeman. The rules today are that I will be asking the questions (forms are in two areas in the room) and you are asked to submit them with your name, realm, lot number and who the question is directed at. The candidate will have three minutes to respond. At this time I'd like the candidates to come up to the podium one at a time and give an introduction of themselves. Alphabetical order:

LAURA GENTRY (Incumbent): My husband and I have been in Sugar Springs for about six years. One of the reasons we bought in Sugar Springs was that it was friendly and there were so many activities, everyone was so welcoming that it felt like a family. Once we moved here it was always important to me to be involved in my community. I joined the art group, do Sugarsize, and most important to me was that I decided to be a part of the A&E Committee. That was the first committee that I joined and we meet every Tuesday 1:30 to 4:00 p.m. and there are many weeks we spend much more time than that dealing with violations and assisting property owners with questions and plans. After a couple of years I decided it was important to me to be on the Board of Directors to help the community stay the beautiful community we decided to move to. I have been on the Board for three years and am the Corporate Secretary. I have enjoyed it and I look forward to being on the Board for another three years to assure that it remains the beautiful community that I moved into. Thank you.

JOHN HAWKINS: I also spent three years on the Board of Directors. My term expired last June and many of you know me and many of you don't. For the sake of the people who know me and those that don't I spent a career of a public school band director – I have two degrees from Alma College and a Masters from CMU. We have travelled all over the country with our bands. We took a tour every other year during most of my career. I was honored to receive the Band Director of the Year by the MI School Bands & Orchestras for District 9 twice and more than anything else, it was a learning experience dealing with 100 to 200 kids a day and they teach you a thing or two by the time you're done with them and most of all it gave me a chance to understand that I was working with people whether or not they liked me or not. As a young teacher I learned that I was “not your friend here ... I'm your teacher” and I learned that relationships are important. I carry that with me wherever I go. I've been a businessman in pretty major businesses. I had a chain of health clubs and I am currently Vice President and founder of Green Craft, an indoor Cannabis LLC with a medical license and a recreational license. We sell to dispensaries. I am basically in charge of marketing for that company. That's a family business – my son-in-law and daughter operate it and Dad is just jumping in and helping. That's the business experience I have. You might have heard of the lofting sounds of a trumpet over the lake at night. Probably me standing on my deck. I am interested in balance in the POA. A place where people want to come to and not a reason that they leave. We are not too invasive and are

sensitive to the needs of our members. That's very important. It sets a tone for our organization. Basically I don't have a personal agenda. I don't have a chip on my shoulder.

JUNE JUCEWICZ: I moved here with my husband, Bob, as a full time resident in 2008. Before we moved here back in 1984 brought me here for a weekend. We camped with friends and bought a lot in 1994 knowing that we would eventually retire here. We bought our home in 2004 prior to living in the house in 2008. I have the whole experience of living in Sugar Springs. I've been a camper, I've been a visitor, and I've been an owner. I have wanted to be on the Board for a long time. I have always been involved. We have a wonderful volunteer community and Bob and I weren't here two weeks before we started looking for things we could do. We wanted to be a part of Sugar Springs. I have been the President of a couple of clubs here, I have been in a couple of other clubs. I just started to get involved with the new Neighborhood Watch program. It's a paradise here. I believe that I could be helpful in keeping it that way. I am a strong supporter of the Bylaws and Covenants and I don't want anyone to think otherwise. The more that I am here, the more I see the value in those documents and wisdom with which they were written 50 years ago. There are situations now that they could not have possibly foreseen that many years ago. I like the Bylaws and Covenants. I like to listen to people, I sympathize with some of the issues that have come up. For instance the campers when all of a sudden they had to face the issue of sewers. I paid for sewers for thirty years in my camping lot and never used it, but that's okay because if I didn't have that lot I wouldn't have my home. So you accommodate and do the best you can. I would love to see people become more involved in all the activities, make more friends. As I look around to the people here today I love them. You decide what you can do for Sugar Springs and do the best you can. Thank you.

SHANNON MACON: Good morning everyone. For those of you who don't know me, my name is Shannon Macon. My maiden name was Shannon Lechner – my family has lived in Gladwin and close to this area for my entire life. When I was fifteen years old I got my first job down at the Sugar Shack. That's where you first recognized me from. I grew to love all the members of this community and when I was first able to purchase my own home I decided it would be in Sugar Springs because I think this area is wonderful. I have grown more and more to be a part of it and have a sense of what is going on. I am currently the General Manager of Sugar Springs Marine where you probably have seen me. I do everything – in and out – finances, HR; when you call I probably answer the phone and I also manage our store in Houghton Lake. I don't have my own personal agenda, however, I love this community and I want to do my part to see it continue to be great. If I can help out I'd love to do so. We have a wonderful blend of recreation and relaxation here and I want to see that continue. I'm also a firm believer in the Covenants and Bylaws and I'd like to see that continue. I'm an open book if anyone ever wants to chat with me about work, home, family and I love making new friends while continuing with my old friends. I just want to have a part in making the community flourish.

JOE PISANO: My wife Daureen and I have three sons; two are married and we have four grandchildren. Over twenty-five years ago we were introduced to Sugar Springs and with that we not only came to love the area but the people. And what brought us to Sugar Springs as I'm sure many of you have is the fact that there is so much to offer. The lakes, the restaurant, the camping, the airpark, the golf course and so many other activities that we have – especially the exercise room and indoor pool. We are so blessed. On a more serious note, I did a bit of research on how important it is to be a Board member. I felt that one of the things that are important is making sure the community is maintained by enforcing the Bylaws and Covenants. That's a very important part of being part of the Board. I think another part is being a spokesperson for the property owners and being transparent. I also think that assigning the committees and managing those committees is very important and a vital part of our community. I think that mediating conflicts and to stop what's going on in social media which is not only destroying our country, but destroying our community. I think that people should come to these meetings, express your concerns and be able to find a resolution without having to voice your opinion on social media and make it more of a distraction than separation of all of us. I love this community so much. I also think that another important part is reviewing contracts and negotiating contracts with vendors and outside contractors. One of the things that's important to me is I would bring to the Board is the qualities I have achieved over the last fifty years that I have been in business. I have been a business executive for fifty years and have always decided to learn. I am trustworthy, I am fair and honest and I know how to motivate people. I have been with two separate software companies and have been able to negotiate contracts with companies like WalMart, BJS, Home Depot and Lowes. Not only was I able to do that I was on the executive level that sold to two software companies; one to a company called Oracle and one to a company called Infor, so I know what it's like to negotiate contracts. I know what it's like to be responsible for a P&L Budget. I'm looking forward to being a new voice and fresh look to the Board. Thank you all for coming.

JEFF WEEMAN (INCUMBENT): My name is Jeff Weeman. My wife, Kris, and I have been members of the community since 2017. We golf and use the simulator during the wintertime, we live on Lake Lancer and enjoy our time on the water. We have been involved in many of the activities in Sugar Springs sponsored by the Recreation Committee such as the Ice Cream Social, Rummage Sale, Winterfest, preparing the decorations for Cookies with Santa. Last year Kris and I along with Craig and Sue Taunt took over the coordination of the Arts & Craft Show. I've assisted with many projects with the Buildings and Grounds department over the past couple of years. I've powerwashed beach club buildings, worked on picnic tables, helped paint a few of our buildings including the Pro Shop deck and have helped place the swim buoys in both lakes. I've been the Board Representative for the Lakes Committee for the past three years. I believe that a Board member and a member of the Sugar Springs community should be involved in our community to the best of their abilities. I've used my participation in these activities to listen to

the members and their concerns. Many of these concerns have been brought to our work sessions for discussion within the Board. It is my goal to keep our members informed on issues and help reduce rumors and misinformation. I feel that we must follow our Bylaws and Covenants in facing Sugar Springs issues. The two most memorable projects I've been involved with in the last few years were the cleaning of the logs in the stream along Kings Way Beach where we had thirty-two members out that day cleaning debris. A fantastic experience. The other one was working with the DNR to have the Pike regulations changed on Lake Lancelot to mirror Lake Lancer. In closing I'd like to thank everyone for being here today and I'd like to receive your vote in the coming election and be with you for another three years. Thank you.

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS: Persons asking questions are not identified in this transcript. If the question was directed at a specific candidate, that name is posted. If it was directed to all six, that is indicated.

Q. Directed to all Candidates: Do you believe POA Board members should be visible in the community by attending activities and events and volunteering? How will you be that person?

A. Response from June Jucewicz: Absolutely we should be visible. We need to be out there volunteering, running events, getting more involved in running this fantastic community.

Response from Laura Gentry (Incumbent): I strongly agree. The more Board members are out there in the community, the more we can assist. Currently I am preparing for the members picnic. I have painted some of the buildings but for some reason I wasn't asked to return to that job yet this year (laughter from the crowd). It is very important to attend as many events that I can. On Tuesdays after A&E meetings I stay and try to help in making homeowners understand the rules in Covenants and Bylaws we all live under. I believe that if everybody understood what the rules are, the majority of property owners realize that we are willing to work with them to make sure that everybodys welfare is covered. I like to see that concerns are brought back to the Board or the A&E or the Lakes Committee or whichever avenue is needed to meet those concerns.

Response from John Hawkins: I absolutely think that Board members should be out and about if for no other reason than there is access to them. In the events that happen there are often lots of people and I know that when I was on the Board I often had conversations during events. It could be as simple as going to the Winterfest and enjoying that. I played a little music there a few times just to add to the enjoyment and ambience. Even to walk through the 4th of July Craft Fair and be able to interact with people should be done. I also in that same vein I put out my phone number

and email address so that they could get in touch with me and could interact with me often with conversations – problem solving conversations with people who appreciated the opportunity to talk with a Board member. I think it's a great idea.

Response from Shannon Macon: I absolutely think it's important. I think that if I should be chosen to be a Board member that by definition it means to be an active part of the community. Whether it's to do chores or to help out – all of the above. To be in the community's activities is wonderful and I hope to be more involved. I think it would be rewarding to be out in the community with members working together.

Response from Joe Pisano: As a Board member I really believe it's your responsibility to be involved in the community. I have been involved in the community by attending events and being social and understanding what's happening with the members and what they feel about issues and the property that they own. I also believe that looking at us as a community and giving back to the community. I think that's one of the things about Sugar Springs is all the charity events that go on – even the Stitchers are doing things for Gladwin schools. I think it's important to support the different hobbies. The Hearth is a very important part of our community. It needs to be supported by everyone. My wife and I are golfers and we go to The Hearth several times a week. I belong to the Activity Center so I go to the Fitness Center, the pool and sometimes play Corn Hole in the winter, I use the golf simulator. I give back whenever there's a charity event -- I supply donations for hot dogs and such. It's important as a Board member and it's important for members to give back as well. Thank you.

Response from Jeff Weeman (Incumbent): I think it's wonderful for everybody in the community to be part of the activities with your abilities. There's so many projects – right now I can do a lot of physical things so I volunteer to do them. Someday I won't be able to do them. We've taken over the Arts and Crafts Show and the Recreation Committee has stepped up and taken many responsibilities for people who can no longer do them. That's why Kris and I and Craig and Sue have decided to take that event on. We thank Sue and Scott Jones as former chairs for what they did and appreciate their knowledge. We have a question; they have the answer. That's what Sugar Springs is all about. We are all a team who work together and that's one big part of it.

Q. Directed to Shannon Macon: You sound very busy. Do you have the time necessary to be a Board member?

A. Response from Shannon Macon: I don't notice how busy I am. Absolutely – I've always learned not to say "No" and I love it. I enjoy my busy schedule. Whether it's something at my

daughters school or helping out with the Business Professionals in town; I love supporting my community. Thankfully our busy store slows down in the winter and I never take on what I can't do and I always do my best. I'm a perfect juggler. So I would say 'Yes' I have the time necessary. Thank you.

Q. Directed to all candidates: In the past 24 months, how many Board meetings have you attended?

A. Response from Jeff Weeman (Incumbent): All.

Response from Joe Pisano: I've attended the Annual Meeting.

Response from Shannon Macon: I've never attended a Board meeting.

Response from John Hawkins: I've attended all of them for the three years before last June, then attended none.

Response from Laura Gentry (Incumbent): I attended all of them.

Response from June Jucewicz: One.

Q. Directed to all candidates: What is your position on lake treatment for weeds?

A. Response from June Jucewicz: I am no expert on lake treatments for weeds. I do know that there is a controversy going on that the treatment they are doing seems to be causing weed growth. I think we have to balance between the ecosystem within the lake along with the needs of our boaters. I'm sorry, I don't know enough about the subject to answer it correctly.

Response from Laura Gentry (Incumbent): I don't really understand that much about the ecosystem in the lakes. I am trusting the Lakes Committee and we have very knowledgeable people on that committee who are taking great care in that issue. They have come back to the Board for us to look at possibilities. I do know that weeds are caught in propellers causing distress. Again, I do not know enough about the ecosystem.

Response from John Hawkins: I was really impressed for the three years that I was on the Board with the interactions between the Lakes Committee and the Board. They are so involved with the experts and the work that they do is I think crucial to our lakes. Obviously those lakes

mean a lot to our community and I trust them to treat those lakes in whatever way they decide. They are looking at a lot of things. When you cut those weeds off, they just grow and make more weeds. At least we know they are native to our lakes and we need them there. Invasive species are hard to control so to have that vigilance I think it's very important to have those treatments.

Response from Shannon Macon: I agree with everyone that the Lakes Committee does a wonderful job and I feel that it's absolutely imperative that the Board does their part. I am assuming that maybe current Board members are experts so to speak in that territory and it is vital to the area. We must keep that balance of healthy weeds. It must be a delicate line that needs to be balanced and maybe when the Lakes Committee gets to the point where they are overwhelmed, perhaps we can give them more resources to deal with. It's very important.

Response from Joe Pisano: The lakes are very dear to my heart and a vital part of the area. When we built our home 25 years ago the lakes were all sports lakes and beautiful. I don't know what happened during the last few years and I believe the Lakes Committee was trying to do a good job and we might need a fresh look at what's happening. I believe there should be weeds that we need and I don't understand why there are invasive weeds in parts of the lakes. It's important to us to make sure that they are all sports lakes. I understand that if your propeller cuts weeds, they are all at the top so when you are driving your boat across the lake it probably reseeds. We definitely need a fresh look at how to control the situation and bring the lakes back to what they were three or four years ago.

Response from Jeff Weeman (Incumbent): I am on the Board and I am on the Lakes Committee. We have a company called PLM that we hire. They come here and do an assessment for every lake before they spray and they look for 'hot spots' for certain kinds of weeds and they decide what kind of chemicals they use. They mind the State and keep all the records for State and Federal Government in case there are issues. They record what chemicals are used and tell us what we can use at certain times. They disburse it so that it meets Federal and State guidelines. They know where our invasive species are. One of the things that happens when you kill the invasive species is the native species say "Hey! There is an open piece of property underneath the water and we can move to that spot." They then establish themselves there.

Time out for a word from our General Manager, David Harris: This is a subject that is near and dear to my heart. I see four Lakes Committee members in the audience right now including the Chairman, Mario Laudicina. PLM is a company we use a lot and people have to realize (it was told to me by the DNR) that the lakes are a living organism. Every year will be different.

Three years ago it was the perfect storm of weather and people were saying we were doing a terrible job of controlling the situation. It was an Armageddon. It's always changing, it's always evolving as is your property. So keep that in mind. Mario and his group are with me all of the time, we get with PLM constantly. It's the best way to do it and to make things safe yet usable. We speak with the DNR all the time also with EGLE (Michigan Department of Environment, Great Lakes and Energy). We installed aeration systems to combat the muck. If it works, we keep doing it. Thank you.

Q. Directed to Joe Pisano: In regard to negotiating contracts, how do you see the relationship between you, the BOD and the GM?

A. Response from Joe Pisano: I think with my experience in negotiating contracts with large companies, and working with contractors and vendors, that skill will be important to help the General Manager and the President of the Board be able to negotiate the contracts in the best interest of our community....not the best interest of the contractor or vendor. That is one of the qualities that I could bring along with other responsibilities that I have had in managerial positions.

Q. Directed to June Jucewicz and then to the rest of the Candidates: What would you most want to focus on as a Board member?

A. Response from June Jucewicz: There's a lot! I did not mention work experience in my bio, but I must say I have a lot of experience in restaurants. I worked for a corporate restaurant and I learned a lot of professional things. I opened up a restaurant with a friend. I have a lot of marketing experience and ran it successfully for ten years. I think I could assist with The Hearth although they are doing very well now. I could focus on destroying some of the negativity on the Internet. Pure Sugar Springs Facebook is an example. I do not understand why people post things on that site just to complain about it when all they have to do is call the office. The number is 989-426-4111. Go to the office – get the right answer, express your concerns there. It does nothing for the community to go on line and complain and moan about something and just 'stir the pot'. The other thing I'd like people to know is that Board members are never going to address your concerns on Pure Sugar Springs Facebook and one of the main reasons for this is that Pure Sugar Springs is not listed as exclusive to Sugar Springs residents. We are not going to discuss the business of this community in a forum that goes across the county and into other states. Again, I'd like to see the site gone and I'd like to see people reach out to the Board for any and all concerns.

Response from Jeff Weeman (Incumbent): I'd like to focus on the continuation of upgrading our facilities. The Pro Shop, the POA Office and the Activity Center all need some focus and then continuing on to the beach houses. Aside from painting them during the past year, they need some additional work.

Response from Joe Pisano: I agree with Jeff - our community is over fifty years old so it's important to go through all the facilities and to see how they are maintained. We must make sure that they are up to date. I also wanted to look at some new areas. I noticed that people are interested in new hobbies and that a popular one in the United States is Pickleball. We have a lot of members who enjoy playing Pickleball as well as Tennis. I want to look at: What can we do to satisfy more of our members in getting involved. Not everyone goes on the lake or plays golf; not everyone is a Stitcher; not everyone is in Sugarsize. I think it's important to provide some level of that to everyone in the community.

Response from Shannon Macom: I definitely agree with Jeff – after fifty years I think it's definitely important to do any necessary maintenance and perhaps updating that the area might need. I also think that it might be important through a Board member or to other committees to see where the areas are that could either use more help, volunteers or what the needs are. If there is a specific area that seems the need for improvement, I'd like to do my part as a Board member to help - kind of see 'where the cracks are' and do what needs to be done.

Response from John Hawkins: It's important that with all the facilities we have, it is incumbent – it's unavoidable that there has to be a focus to make sure that things are well maintained and we are servicing our community in the best way we can. That has to be a focus. When I was on the Board, GM David started bringing the questions from the community to our work sessions. I liked that. It made more of the back and forth communication from members to the Board and I know that I would give Dave questions and bring them up in work sessions and he would get them from other places. I'd like to focus on continuing the improvement of communications between members and the Board so that we are a conduit between your thoughts and desires and also from our end try to manage that with the needs of our community so that we can balance those things as best we can. We should be responsive to what you are thinking. That to me is a crucial element and finally I enjoy various activities and I haven't tried Pickleball yet. I keep thinking I'm going to do it and I'm just afraid that everyone is going to beat me up over there! Also I promised Ron I'd do some Corn Hole which again I'm going to lose miserably but any of those activities that happen are really good.

Response from Laura Gentry (Incumbent): I think my focus would be more on in line with what June said to try to reduce the negativity. We can do that by getting information out there in making sure that everyone understands the rules and guidelines that we live under. Although I think physical updates of the buildings are important, our electronic infrastructure needs work too. We started doing that when we did the update on the Website. We got more information out there and the more information we get to the members the more we can help ‘dial down’ the rhetoric. As June said and I reiterate; if anyone comes to me with a question, I respond with “did you take the question to our GM?” David Harris reads his emails and responds to them or he gives them to the Board or brings them to a work session so that we can address them. Keeping that infrastructure up to date and accessible to the members to get that information out.

Q. Directed to John Hawkins: Since you posted about Board transparency being a #1 goal, what do you feel the Board is not transparent about?

A. Response from John Hawkins: I don’t feel that we have the problems we had initially so that’s not my intention anymore. I will say that what I thought was happening and I know it was happening at one point was that decisions were being made without regard to the thoughts and mindsets of the members. It offended my sensibilities. As a matter of fact, I took the opportunity to talk to a couple of the Board members and asked them what was going on with the Board and that when they decide to do something, they should think about what the members are thinking about those things. The answer that I got back from one Board member was “to a person, the Board members do not think that we were elected to do a job and we will do it”. While that was going on, while I was a member at that time, I felt that there were things happening that were not forthcoming to the members and I was offended by that. I think that there cannot be a trustful relationship between members and the Board if we are not transparent. Transparency to me says if you want to know what’s going on with an issue, I am happy to share that information with you. That wasn’t always the case.

Q. Directed to John Hawkins: Yes or No. Did you contribute \$100.00 to the Joseph Machiniak “Go Fund Me” page to raise funds to file an appeal to the Michigan Supreme Court after the State of Appeals Court ruled in his lawsuit against the POA?

A. Response from John Hawkins: Yes, I contributed to Joe. I thought that that action needed to be supported.

Q. Directed to John Hawkins: What are some of your most recent community involvements?

A. Response from John Hawkins: I am assuming you are talking about Sugar Springs. I play in the community band in Gladwin and I help out with area school programs. The last thing I did here was the Member Appreciation Picnic last year. We brought our band here and provided music for that.

Q. Directed to all Candidates: What is your residency? Full time, part time or Snowbird?

A. Response from June Jucewicz: Full time, all time, Winter, too!

Response from Laura Gentry (Incumbent): Full time, year around.

Response from John Hawkins: Full time for the last 25 years.

Response from Shannon Macon: Full time. I'm not going anywhere.

Response from Joe Pisano: We are here full time, although we do take a month in the Winter to go south.

Response from Jeff Weeman: Full time, year around.

Q. Directed to all Candidates: What is happening with fishing? Any fish being planted (Stocked)?

A. Response from Jeff Weeman. We had one in 2022 when the DNR stocked the lakes with 80,000 Walleye fingerlings and I believe they were discussing doing another one this year. Usually it's every other year that they were stocking Lake Lancer.

Response from Joe Pisano: I attended a Lakes Committee meeting so I understand the DNR position on stocking the big lake but I also understand that because Lake Lancelot is private the DNR does not support that lake in fishing. I think that the DNR must be contacted if we wanted to grow fish in the small lake.

Comment from Jeff Weeman: We did ask the DNR about stocking pan fish and learned that the DNR does not stock pan fish in Michigan. There are concerns about not seeing enough pan fish in the lakes but the DNR does not grow nor stock pan fish.

Response from Shannon Macon: I'm not sure what has been done in the past, but I would fully support any fish stocking in the future and I definitely feel that the fishing in both lakes has taken a toll whether it be because of the dams in the other lakes and the fishermen have come here or perhaps because there are more people fishing but I would like to see that area grow a little bit.

Response from John Hawkins: I wasn't really familiar with any fish stocked by the DNR but I would be supportive of if you can't get the DNR to do it in the small lake, we could do it ourselves. There would be an expense there, but the payout might be pretty nice. I also think in regards to the pan fish that I do a lot of fishing and I have noticed that the Bluegills that I used to catch are not there. I think the size restrictions should be taken off the Pike in Lake Lancelot, it is very important. If you want to catch Pike, you can probably catch as many as you want there. I don't have trouble catching them and I think they are eating a lot of the pan fish.

Response from Laura Gentry: To follow up on that, I trust Jeff Weeman and the Lakes Committee. I do think it was very nice to do the Pike Fest – unfortunately it was not done this past winter because of the weather conditions. Doing things like that help to control our fish population. I would support at least getting the information on how much it would cost to at least stock the small lake.

Response from June Jucewicz: I am not a fisherman. I defer to the experts – I am glad we have the Lakes Committee and the DNR to help us, but if anyone would like to bring some skinned Walleye filets to my house I would deeply appreciate it!

Comment from David Harris, GM: We do have the lake stocked with Walleye from the DNR and they are fingerlings. Last year they did it at the Butman Township Public Boat Launch – there is not a lot of cover; there is not a whole lot of weeds – I think we just created a lunch for the Pike and Large Mouth Bass to enjoy. We requested the DNR to dump them on the other side of the lake to at least give the fingerlings a fighting chance to survive. Again I think it's the Pike and Bass that are getting rid of the pan fish. I also have an opinion that our lakes are overfished particularly by a couple of individuals who were caught a couple of years ago. Getting the bigger predatory fish out in smaller numbers would help. If you catch a Pike and do not want to eat it, the Ark (an animal rescue league on F97 in Maple Valley) will take them. The fish caught during our Pikefest went to the Ark to help feed their animals, the right thing to do.

Comment from Tom Hug, President, SSPOABOD: What the DNR did last week and they did it on the big lake – an action that is done about every ten years – was to flag areas and capture some of the fish. Some of the scales were removed and the DNR then chronologically determines how old the species are and determines how healthy that species is. We prefer that the larger fish not flourish by destroying the fingerlings. If you go down Butman Road you can

see a sizable pond where the DNR might place fingerlings which will hopefully grow and migrate into our lakes. There has been a culmination of happenings on our lakes – number one was Zebra Mussels. Currently the water is crystal clear down 8-10 feet – sun comes out, lake weed seeds start to grow. If you have concerns, please do not use Social Media; contact the Office. Another thing is that if you live on the lake or you have a POA dock – if you are boating and you have ‘prop chop’ (weeds in prop) don’t leave chop in the lake – throw it out in the trash upon beaching. We had an enormous problem near the dam with a huge amount of prop chop gathering in the water. Next issue is shore stabilization – obviously we are all aware of what happened to the lakes east and south of us. We are trying our best in doing some shore stabilization directed by EGLE, DNR, local and state regulators. We made an adjustment at the Berkshire Beach area. We needed to install rip-rap on the shoreline. Boaters can now park and please share space. You can get out of your boat in the shallow water and use the sandy pathway made to step out of the lake onto ground. Perhaps you saw the photo I took and posted of the huge mounds of grassy earth that detached from a shoreline due to the ‘ramming’ of boats in order to anchor. That piece of earth was 14 feet long! Everytime we park at an island and push against the shoreline, it causes erosion. Whenever we do that it reduces the stabilization of the ground at the waters edge. We have lost a lot of shoreline during the last 50 years because of ignoring shore stabilization.

Resuming Q and A’s: Q. Directed to all Candidates: What are your feelings on member card only on Beach Club restroom entry?

A. Response from June Jucewicz: I have no idea how much money would be involved, but I would like to see our system updated so that when you are issued your membership card it would be an electronic key card that would allow you to enter the beaches, the restrooms, the fitness center, etc. It would have your entire history in Sugar Springs so that it was user controlled. We have had in the last three years a giant influx of people from the other lakes who unfortunately lost their property. All of a sudden, they want to be on the public lake – that’s fine – it’s a public lake. However, they come on to the private lake – lots of people bought there because it’s a private lake and they wanted it to remain private. It’s been a problem to maintain our facilities with an overflow of people. I wouldn’t mind having an updated key card system at all.

Response from Laura Gentry: I agree with that. I support having a key card for the restrooms at the beach clubs. While we have them at the gates, members must be sure to stop after entering to prevent the car behind you from ‘easing through’ on your card.

Response from John Hawkins: I definitely support the key card for the restrooms. Upon occasion I have been in the restrooms and when they have been vandalized (vandalized might

be a little strong of a word) I really have a hard time believing our members would do that. The other thing that I did notice is that on Kings Way I got the feeling that there were people taking showers and that they were not necessarily members here. I think that having key cards would be very good.

Response from Shannon Macon: Absolutely...100% agree with key cards. I think that any amenity supported financially by Sugar Springs should be protected. I think it's great that other people in the public have taken an interest in our lakes and I support that, however, they are not financially supporting these amenities therefore perhaps should not utilize them. I know there has been some issues with vandalism in the beach clubs; whether it's children of members or adults of members – who knows – but I do think that secure access to those amenities would help in those situations.

Response from Joe Pisano: I agree with electronic key cards and members should have them. The one thing that upsets me is the boats and trailers that go into the lakes that don't get washed thereby bringing things from other lakes into our lakes that we don't want in our lakes. I think it's imperative that members should be able to use our lakes and use them properly. I totally agree that we have to be stronger with key cards and make sure that no other people get into our lakes that do not belong there.

Response from Jeff Weeman: I think the key cards are a great idea, but on Lake Lancer we have to keep Berkshire open because it's a public access since we have the DNR launch site. We have to have one restroom open to the public through a State law. I agree that on Lake Lancelot and the other beach areas on Lake Lancer should have key cards and we are looking into advancing our key card procedure. We have thousands of key cards issued and there will be an audit during the winter months with new issues when dues are paid in 2024. Buildings and Grounds audits each gate every Friday cancelling cards when necessary.

Comment from David Harris, SSPOAGM: I personally do not agree with the State of Michigan law regarding the above subject. Butman Township has a portable restroom available to the public and it is my understanding that the Township is considering erecting permanent restrooms on their property which I am pushing real hard for. I may not wait, to be honest, I am trying to protect our property. I started three years ago with just car stickers – please get those car stickers on your car. It's not that hard and it identifies you as someone that can use any of our amenities. If you don't do it and the new Neighborhood Watch person comes up to you and says “Hey, are you a member?” and you say “What do you care?” you will likely hear “Well, you don't identify as one.” Please also note that these Beach Club gates were installed in 2005

and 2006 season and that's how old they are. As Jeff was saying, the technology or lack of technology is apparent with these items. I am getting bids from the same company to see what we can do to upgrade these and to get all beach houses secured. Just to let you know this is my vision: Jeff said at the end of the year we need to audit those card holders. My thought is at the end of November turn every single gate card off and whenever you are able and you are up to date with membership fees, just come into the office and we will reactivate them. It will be a time consuming issue for us, but I don't see any other way around it. There are too many cards out there and how they got there is an issue.

Resuming Questions and Answers:

Q. Directed to all Candidates: Finish this sentence "Wouldn't it be great if

A. Response from Jeff Weeman (Incumbent): We had a lot more money!

Response from Joe Pisano: Wouldn't it be great if we had a lot more money to do these projects.

Response from Shannon Macon: Wouldn't it be great if all the members could be as involved as much as everyone in this room is.

Response from John Hawkins: Wouldn't it be great if this place remains their happy place forever.

Response from Laura Gentry (Incumbent): Wouldn't it be great if everybody had a positive outlook and followed the rules.

Response from June Jucewicz: Wouldn't it be great if everyone learned to get along and understand the importance of having rules that we follow and how great a community this is because of it.

Q. Directed to John Hawkins: Will you be able to take the Oath of Office supporting the Bylaws and Covenants after supporting and contributing to the STR Lawsuit against the POA?

A. Response from John Hawkins: Absolutely. In contributing to that lawsuit – by the way – not when I was a Board member but long after that, was important to me because I felt that it was a really negative thing that happened to us. There are a lot of people out there who bought houses

And needed that income and we put them into financial turmoil when we said they could no longer rent their homes. And every one of us – this is a divided question and we have to learn a lot from it; but since it was brought up everyone of us lost value in our homes. Whether you planned on selling now or later or if you were going to leave it to your family; when you take the income potential away from it you've lost the value of your property.

(***Sound interference interrupted the balance of the above remarks preventing audio recorder from picking up verbiage)**

Comment from David Harris , SSPOAGM: Everyone has an opinion on this subject. In closing I thank everyone for attending.

End of Transcript

