

Draft - Harsens Island Transportation Authority Meeting Minutes

Meeting held March 12, 2022 at the Lions Club

Meeting called to order at 10:30AM by Harold Bain

Roll Call – Harold Bain – Present
Gary Beaulac – Present
Paul Cassidy - Present
Dennis Szymanski – Present
Wayne (Skip) Tornow – Present

Approval of Minutes from January 12, 2022 - Motion by Beaulac to approve, seconded by Bain..
Motion passed

Agenda Approval – The following items were added to the agenda. Video highlighting Clay Twp December 2021 Trustee Meeting & Saint Clair County Commissioner’s meeting of June 2013. Bike Path committee. Video Recording of HITA meetings, and video camera to monitor lines at ferry and ice conditions in the North Channel. Motion by Szymanski to approved the agenda with the additional items. Second by Tornow. Motion passed.

Treasurer’s Report – Beaulac presented the latest Treasurer’s report thru February 28, 2022. \$125K of grant money has been deposited into our account resulting in a balance of \$125,505.67. Copy of the Treasurer’s report will be posted to the HITA website.

Liability Insurance – Beaulac has spoken with Nickel & Saph, who are putting together a proposal for HITA.

Detroit International Bridge Company (DIBC) – Esther Jentzen has agreed to arrange a meeting with HITA and island residents to present DIBC’s plans for a bridge and answer questions the board and residents may have. Their project engineer is based in Florida. Tornow stressed the importance of having the engineer in attendance. Esther will coordinate travel plans with him. An announcement will be made once a date is finalized.

New Board Positions – A motion was made by Tornow to appoint Szymanski as Vice Chairman. 2nd by Bain. Motion passed. Current board positions are now as follows:

Chairman – Harold Bain
Vice-Chairman – Dennis Szymanski
Secretary – Skip Tornow
Treasurer – Gary Beaulac
Committee Member – Paul Cassidy

Video Presentation - A compilation Video of April 4, 2013 SCC Commissioners and The Clay Twp Trustee Meeting of December 2021 was viewed. The Power Point Presentation and associated documentation will be posted on the HITA website.

Surveillance Camera – Discussion was had regarding installation of a camera to monitor ice conditions on the North Channel and ferry lines. Questions were raised as to the legality of having a camera monitoring private property. It was agreed to work jointly with HISFCA (Harsens Island – St Clair Flats Association) to determine legal & location options.

Blue Water Transit Authority (BWTA) – Question was raised whether or not HITA had a response in writing from Champion Ferry Co. stating that they did not want to pursue any agreement with BWTA. Jake Bryson agreed to provide a response to a written request from HITA. Bain to work with an attorney to issue a letter to Champion requesting clarification of their position.

Video Recording of HITA Meetings – Tornow stated that he's had several requests for residents to record the meeting and post of u-tube. HITA will pursue further to determine costs before proceeding.

Bike Paths – Bain has been approached by an island resident to pursue funding for bike paths on the island. A committee headed by Chuck Miller is being formed to investigate. Any interested individuals should contact HITA via the e-mail address on the HITA website.

Secretarial Assistance – Sue Marlow has offered to assist Tornow with preparation of the meeting minutes and posting items to the website. Motion made by Bain to appoint her to this volunteer position. Second by Szymanski. Motion passed.

Motion made by Tornow, 2nd by Bain to adjourn the meeting. Meeting adjourned at 12:07PM