

BPSA MONTHLY MEMBERSHIP MEETING

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 24, 2024



We had 25 members to start the meeting. With a quorum established at 24 members, **President Carl Jones called the meeting to order** at 7:33 p.m.

Secretary Dennis Morton moved to accept the recorded minutes of our last membership meeting of September 26, 2024; motion 2nded by Bill Slot; motion carried.

Treasurer Jane Thibideau provided the Club members with a statement of our financial affairs. We have a Royal Bank account with a balance of \$25,570.69. Our working capital balance is \$20,796.23, plus there are designated funds for archery of \$531.00; fish stocking funds, \$5.00; Kids' Fishing Day funds of \$679.43, and reserve hatchery capital expense funds of \$3,559.03. The Ways and Means account balance is \$6,853.90. We still own 2 x \$15,000. Guaranteed Investment Certificates. The Oct. income was \$79.00 and expenses were \$958.06 (made up of hatchery expenses of \$443.28; office expenses of \$26.55; club-house expenses of \$143.85, liability insurance of \$59.00; web hosting, \$189.70; membership, \$40.68; and expenses for a Remembrance Day wreath, \$55.00). Jane made a motion to accept her report; 2nded by Al Hunter; carried.

Membership Director Jerry Beaver reported on our membership. He reported that we now have 327 members. We now have a new membership form for 2025. Club dues paid prior to Dec. 15th will qualify as early-bird registrations. 2025 dues will remain the same as last year.

Hatchery manager, Al Sutter, provided a hatchery report. The water inflow from our well is very low due to no rainfall and it was late in the season. We may have sediment in the water as we had a loss of rainbow trout earlier today (Oct 24) and had an authorized emergency stocking of some rainbow into Colpoy's Bay. We still have rainbow trout in the hatchery and we are monitoring them carefully and augmenting the inflow from a tank of bay water on-site. Al hoped to still be able to stock about 5,000 rainbows into Barrow's Bay this year and leave the other rainbows in their hatchery tank over the winter. CHP Manager Matt Burley had met with Al in the hatchery on October 1st, to be updated on our operation and enlist our support for their MNR programs. Al advised that he was hoping to still install steel panels at the tops of the hatchery walls before the end of the year and spray the panels with insulating foam.

Handgun Club president & BPSA director Al Hunter made a report for the Handgun Club. Their membership is 81 members. The handgun club has a bank balance of \$25,349.24. They have had a busy summer with shooting at the range on Monday, Wednesday and Friday afternoons. Monday and Wednesday evening shoots had poor attendance but they expected increased attendance due to the start of the WOHL season. Al advised that we had had a flood from the water leaking from our two toilets on Tuesday, Oct. 8th. We were notified by our cleaning lady, Katie Horst, and Al & Katie worked together to clean up the mess. Al then went to Lake House Bath & Kitchen in Wiarton and ordered two new toilets which were installed on Oct. 11th. We have not yet received their invoice, but this was an emergency fix.

Director Eric Barker, Conservation – no report.

Director Brenda McLean, Archery – absent & no report.

Director Chris Thompson, Property Manager – absent & no report,

OFAH rep Stu Paterson gave a report of his **work with OFAH** to President Carl & Carl read the report to the members. OFAH has gone on record that many of their member clubs are interested in having a net pen approval for raising their hatchery fish. The MNR advise that the first step on having such a program will be the development of a non-native salmonid stocking plan but this step will take years to develop but OFAH will continue to advocate for exploring these possibilities. OFAH voted on Oct 3rd to separate into two organizations – OFAH Membership and OFAH Foundation. The aim was to comply with new legislation affecting non-profit organizations and to streamline and modernize OFAH. Stu invited members to view a new documentary entitled “The Fish Thief”, produced by the Great Lakes Fishery Commission; it shows the importance of their work with lamprey eradication. Stu is preparing an OFAH report that will be given to our members with an article about the safe handling of one’s hunting carcasses and another article on invasive “flathead catfish” that have been identified in the Thames River and in Lake Erie.

In “**Other Business**”, the following items were discussed:

- BPSA had been notified by a member of the Lake Huron Fishing Club that there were “trapped salmon” in Colpoy’s Creek. Ray Marklevitz volunteered to look at the creek site and he reported that the fish were spawning and had run up the creek but they were in shallow water above the small falls. He reported the situation to the local MNR office in Owen Sound, who indicated that there was nothing more to be done – the fish would die anyway post-spawning. We agreed that we would advise LHFC’s rep about our contact on their behalf.
- Sec. Dennis Morton indicated that he would be BPSA’s rep to lay a commemorative wreath at the Warton Legion’s Remembrance Day’s service at the Warton Cenotaph on November 11th. Dennis will be in contact with the Legion’s Poppy Chairman to determine if the Legion would like BPSA to assist in the pre-lay of the business, church, and service club wreaths prior to the public service and Dennis agreed to organize a work party if it is requested.
- Pres. Carl indicated that BPSA was still looking for a member to chair our Ways & Means Committee and another member to work with Marje and Jerry to learn the Membership position.
- President Carl advised the members about our plan to create a disability access ramp and deck improvements at our clubhouse. He mentioned that it has been discussed by the Directors and there is a design in the works. Carl had investigated some costs already to build a concrete walkway and archery stand.
- Director Al Hunter made a motion that we move \$4,000. from our Ways & Means account, to seed the Disability Access Fund; motion 2nded by Margot Doerr; carried.
- We concluded our meeting with the 50/50 Draw and draws for 4 prizes. President Carl Jones won the 50/50 draw and donated the winnings to BPSA’s Disability Access Project”. Thank you to Carl. Member Charles Robertson made a donation of money to the same fund earlier in the meeting & we thank Charles, too

A motion was made to adjourn the meeting by Al Hunter; 2nded by Dan Robertson; carried. The meeting ended at 8:28 pm.