



PIKE LAKE SPORTSMAN'S CLUB NEWSLETTER MAY 2025

Dedicated to working with the DNR to protect and enhance the water quality of Pike Lake and it's fishing inventory. The Club also encourages the promotion of all water sports and recreational activities.

MEETING: MAY 5, 2025
PLACE: Hartford Town Hall
START: 5:30/help w/set up – 6:00 Meeting

President: John
Vice-Pres: Chris
Secretary: Jerry
Treasurer: Jason



The minutes of the Pike Lake Sportsman's Club meeting that was held on Monday, April 7th at Hartford Town Hall. There were 17 members present.

TREASURER'S REPORT

CHECKING \$7,918.67
SAVINGS \$6,914.16

GUEST

ELIAS WILSON – PARK SUPER.

MEETING:

John started the Meeting “Thanking” the members that helped out at the meat raffle on St. Patrick’s Day at the Down Slope Pub. He said that Chris, Dan, Steven, Jerry and himself were there after the Town of Erin’s St. Patrick’s Day Parade. They had a tent set up with a bar and had a band. John said the sale - of meat from Gehring’s Market and booze donated by Chris Goeman - per Chris [REDACTED], it was expensive stuff! - A barbecue kit with the brisket and rubs, spices etc. and also a couple \$60 gift cards for Dave’s Lanes. - didn’t go over as well as the year before as the crowd was not as wild. Maybe because it was a Monday and they weren’t celebrating as much! John said we made \$1000 so not bad and we really don’t have any big projects coming and money in the bank. (This was covered in the last month’s newsletter but it was part of meeting.)

PARK BOARD WALK PROJECT:

Elias – the Park Super – talked about the boardwalk project that’s starting up. He said the existing boardwalk is over 28 years old and in pretty rough shape. (He said park staff has sent out emails detailing the project with how it is going to be done like building the sections – increased from 4’ x 4’ sections to 8’x 8’ sections. Basically, the old walk

will be removed, the bed redone and the new 8’ x 8’ foot sections installed. Elias said that Samatha “Sami” George will be heading up the project. She will be planning and organizing work days and various parts of the project. People will be able to volunteer in groups or as individuals. He said we should be receiving e-mails detailing the project soon. (They were received in a day or two and were sent to the members. Anyone that didn’t should let me know. Also there have been some “work” days that some members have built sections and helped move into place. John reported that it was heavy work!) (There is another work day before our meeting so will probably be getting an update then.) One goal Elias said was to have a 100 ft section to the kayak launch done by Memorial Day as it is a heavily used area. The rest of boardwalk will be worked on during the rest of the summer.

MEMORIAL BENCH:

John said that he was able to stop by the Park to look into places to install the memorial bench. He had Justin install a white flag in a couple spots near the boat launch – labeled “A” and “B” as options for the benches location. Also, he is working on the plaque. We were planing on Gilbert’s saying of “YOU SHOULD BE FISHING” being on it. Elias passed out an option on what the plaque would say along with “In memory of all the members of the Pike Lake Sportsman’s Club that have impacted Pike Lake”. John said that there was some issues with “higher -ups” on what can be on the plaque as there seems to be a “state standard” on words on the plaque. (Elias had two options but members choose “option B!) More to be done on this subject.

HEATERS:

John said that that he was able to take the old propane tanks – which weighed 100 lbs and trade them for four 25 lb tanks to be used with the portable heaters. He took the new heaters and tanks over to

Bruce's Green House and store them in a garage. They will have to be assembled before the "Hike". John is still working on mats for under the heaters

PROJECTS:

The "boardwalk project looks like it will be going on most of summer so will be plenty of "work days" for the more able bodied members.

The Discovery Days at the Park – that is scheduled for Saturday, June 7th will be another chance for members to get involved. Last month, Justin said that they are planning a bunch of demonstration stations to show different things like kayaking, boating, fishing, camping, bird watching, etc. that are available to do in the Park. He is hoping the Club members would help with the learn to fish area! We can teach casting, knot tying and help kids fish on the fishing pier. (Actually, the Club has been doing that for quite a few years! I know Ed and I have helped untangle or bait hooks for many years!) (The Club usually buys 3 or 4 dozen night crawlers. I think Bruce, John and others have taught the casting and knot tying.)

PICNIC/MEETING WITH FRIENDS:

Bruce [redacted] told the members that at the last "Friends" Board meeting it was discussed with having a combined Sportsman's Club/"Friends" picnic. (We had discussed this before at our meeting!) Bruce said that it could be held on Friday, July 11th. It is a way off. We usually have a "fish fry" at that time. Of course it would take a lot more fish than we usually have – not to mention the firers, etc. It was agreed that it would take a lot more fish than we could provide. A pot luck dinner would be better. A Club fish fry will work better in September. We can talk and plan about this a meeting.

NEXT MEETING:

Steven told the members that he talked to Drew Wallace, who is the DNR Fish Biologist for the area and he said that they have finalized the fishing report for Pike Lake. He said he can make it to our meeting on Monday!!!! You don't want to miss!

CHEFS:

Whitey [redacted] and Jim [redacted] served Polish brats soaked in beer, onions and broth, with fresh rolls and variety of dressings, cranberry pasta salad. Jim's wife made a couple pans of delicious brownies. Jim also brought home smoked salmon w/crackers as an

appetizer. **GREAT JOB WHITEY AND JIM!!! NEVER HAD POLISH BRATS BEFORE!**

(Hey, Jim – My wife wants the brownie recipe!)

UPCOMING CHEFS:

May – Chili Cook Off!!!

CINCO DE MAYO!!!! Chili cook off!!

Doc [redacted], Josh [redacted], Deanne [redacted], Mike [redacted] and Chris [redacted] volunteered to bring a pot of their special chili for a cook off. There will be a prize for the first two places!! (One is a \$60 coupon for Dave's lanes and? Other members asked to bring chips and salsa or dessert or two?

Also, family and friends invited!!! New Member?

We will need a count for the set up!

June: - Dan [redacted] and Brad [redacted]

July - Picnic with the Friends of the Park???

We need Chefs!!! Please consider taking a turn!!!

Also, Please let us know if you plan to attend!!!

(Please let us know by Saturday or before!!!!)

John– [redacted] or [redacted]

Jerry – [redacted] or [redacted]

DATES TO REMEMBER:

May 3rd – Inland Fishing Season Opens!!!!

May 5th–CINCO DE MAYO- CHILI COOK OFF

Also, Monthly Meeting at the Hartford Town Hall (5:30 setup and socializing/6:00 meeting start.)

June 2nd - Monthly Meeting at the Hartford Town Hall (5:30 setup and socializing/6:00 meeting start.)

June 7th – Discovery Day at the Park. Volunteers will be needed to help teach casting and knot tying and catch fish off the fishing pier.

July 11th – Meeting/Picnic with the "Friends of Pike Lake". North Park Pavilion – Time?

50/50 WINNER

JOHN [redacted]

\$39 FOR THE CLUB AND \$38 FOR JOHN

WAY TO GO JOHN!!!

IF ANY ONE IS INTERESTED WE HAVE TWO PULLOVER HOODED SWEAT-SHIRTS – XL – LEFT. LET ME KNOW AND I'LL BRING TO A MEETING.
