

# THE BIRCH BARK

White Birch Lakes Recreational Association  
4730 Lake Road, Farwell MI 48622  
Office: (989)588-7169 Clubhouse: (989)588-2853  
Web: [www.whitebirch.org](http://www.whitebirch.org)

## October 2024

### 2024-2025 Board of Directors

President	Tim Boos	<a href="mailto:timboos@yahoo.com">timboos@yahoo.com</a>
1 <sup>st</sup> VP	Dawn Holzer	<a href="mailto:muleman2318@gmail.com">muleman2318@gmail.com</a>
2 <sup>nd</sup> VP	Kevin Dombrowski	<a href="mailto:kd460@sbcglobal.net">kd460@sbcglobal.net</a>
Director	Marie Sherry	<a href="mailto:marie4wblra@gmail.com">marie4wblra@gmail.com</a>
Director	Jim Ostrowski	<a href="mailto:valmarco@charter.net">valmarco@charter.net</a>
Director	Jenny Baker	<a href="mailto:jen.e.baker@outlook.com">jen.e.baker@outlook.com</a>
Director	Donnie Stanley	<a href="mailto:Donovan.Stanley1987@gmail.com">Donovan.Stanley1987@gmail.com</a>

### WBL Staff

Manager	Michelle Waters	<a href="mailto:admin@whitebirch.org">admin@whitebirch.org</a>
Secretary/Treasurer	Lisa Trojanowski	<a href="mailto:ecoffice@whitebirch.org">ecoffice@whitebirch.org</a>
Clubhouse	Georgia Romine	Kathy Jerred
Maintenance	Jess Johnson	<a href="mailto:supervisor@whitebirch.org">supervisor@whitebirch.org</a>
Maintenance	Dave Asher	
Maintenance	Joe Worrall	
Safety	Bob Pelfery	Campground Claudia Pelfery

AFTER HOURS MAINTENANCE/SAFETY (989) 588-7066 IF YOU NEED TO CONTACT THE SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT FOR ANY REASON OTHER THAN AN EMERGENCY, THE MAIN TELEPHONE NUMBER IS, 989-539-7166



### COFFEE TALK

Every Friday

In the  
Clubhouse

9am to  
11:00am

Donuts \$1.00



### HOURS OF OPERATION WINTER CLUBHOUSE HOURS

Starting Sept 30,2024

8:00 A.M. to 4:00 P.M. Monday, Tuesday & Thursday  
Closed Wednesday  
8:00 A.M. to 8:00 P.M. Friday & Saturday  
12:00 P.M. to 4:30 P.M. Sunday

### SECRETARY-TREASURER OFFICE HOURS

8:00 A.M. to 4:00 P.M. Monday, Tuesday, Thursday & Friday  
Closed Wednesday  
8:00 A.M. to 9:45 A.M. the 2nd Saturday of the month  
Closed Sunday

### MANAGER HOURS

8:00 A.M. to 4:00 P.M. Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday  
Closed Wednesday, Saturday & Sunday

### SWIMMING POOL HOURS

9:00 AM TO 3:30 PM Monday, Tuesday & Thursday  
Closed Wednesday  
9:00 AM to 7:30 PM Friday & Saturday  
12:00 P.M. to 4:00 PM Sunday

YOU HAVE A MEDICAL OR FIRE  
EMERGENCY, PLEASE CALL 911.

CHECKLIST

### C & R Vote Results

The Vote has been extended until November 11, 2024 to allow for everyone to have the opportunity to have a voice. Please see September minutes for details.

Fall is approaching fast and so is deer season. Please be careful of your surroundings. We will begin seeing more activity because WBLRA is a safe area for them. Remember there is NO hunting of any kind inside of WBLRA.

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Board Meeting	Nov 9 & Dec 14	10:00 am Clubhouse
Bingo	Oct 26	1:00 pm – 3 pm Clubhouse
Thanksgiving Dinner	Nov 16	4 pm - Clubhouse



### Campfire and Seasonal Wood

If you see any downed trees or limbs on the side of the roads they can be taken by the Members for campfires or seasonal firewood. Please do NOT enter other Members lots unless you have permission from the owner.

### Fire Danger

Please use extreme caution and follow the Danger Rating system posted by Smokey at the Entrance/Exit

Per WBLRA policies, Members must be “In Good Standing” (current on assessments) before using any of the amenities. If a Member is NOT in “good standing,” our employees with direction from the Board will turn them away. If a Clubhouse Attendant turns a Member away, it is based upon a list which is updated Every Friday afternoon before 4pm.

### Trespassing

Please be aware that, by leaving WBLRA by any other means other than the Entrance/Exit, you are trespassing on private property. Please be aware that by opening trail, you are encouraging others who do not own property to come in on these unauthorized trails. The only lawful means of ingress & egress into our Association is the Entrance/Exit gates on White Birch Lane at the front of our Association. We encourage all Members to use the gates exclusively, as intended. Please DO NOT enter property that does not belong to



you.



School is in Session!!!  
Please SLOW DOWN!

Drive like these are your children or grandchildren!!

Let's make sure we ALL get where we are going safely!

### Recreation

A current copy of the DNR ORV handbook is available in the office. Let's all have a great time and enjoy ourselves, safely. Slow down at stop signs and watch for others. Remember children 15 and under must have adult supervision. Please refer to [Michigan.gov/DNR](http://Michigan.gov/DNR).



“Slow down you move to fast, you gotta make the moment last.”



**Remember not to blow leaves out to the road. It causes road destruction when Maintenance grades. You can burn them (when conditions are favorable) or take them to the old maintenance yard. Thank you**

### ATTENTION MEMBERS

Please mark your lots with the lot number to help other Members and/or potential Members to locate lots or in case of emergency such as fire or medical. If you need further information, please contact the office.

# Information Station

*"Your Destination for Information"*

This link should be good for all meetings! Also, because video takes too much data and we would like you to hear the meeting, our meetings are audio only.

Please join my meeting from your computer, tablet or smartphone.

<https://meet.goto.com/335630101>

Get the app now and be ready when your first meeting starts:

<https://meet.goto.com/install>

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*With the ever-changing weather, maintenance may be working out on the roads. Remember these machines are large and do not stop immediately. If you don't see them, they don't see you. Let's be respectful, as they have a job to do.*

*Drop your speed to match road conditions. Please give the appropriate space. For those in the back...  
**SLOW DOWN!!***

*A friendly reminder, we all live and work here and we have noticed an increase in litter.  
Let's work together to keep our community clean!*

*The Old Maintenance area is for leaves and brush ONLY. NO stumps, logs, pallets or trash, etc...*



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Just a friendly reminder, all recreational vehicles, campers, trailers or other camping accessories shall be physically removed from any vacant lot as of Oct 31. Things that need to be removed but not limited to are trailers, watercraft, play structures, water tanks, grills, lawn furniture etc. Please refer to WBLRA C&R's. Have a great off season!

Find and circle the fall words from the word list.



Word List

AUTUMN  
COLORFUL  
FARMERS  
FIELDS

GOURDS  
HALLOWEEN  
HARVEST  
HAYRIDE

LEAVES  
NOVEMBER  
OCTOBER  
OUTDOORS

PUMPKINS  
SCARECROW  
THANKSGIVING

## **Friendly Reminders:**

**End of Season** Camping will remain as **October 31, 2024**

Trailers will need to be removed per *C&R's Article V, Section 11, Paragraph 1*, which states that “Camping will be allowed without the necessity of a permit each year from the beginning of memorial Day weekend(May) through **October 31.**”

### **Accessories to Remove: but not limited too**

Boats, Canoes, Paddle Boats, Kayak's, Dune Buggy's  
Grills

Enclosed and Utility trailers

Curtains & Lights

**ALL** Temporary Structures such as Screened Tents

Water Tanks, Baseball hoops

Play Houses

Garden tools and Mowers

Garbage Cans, Totes

*Lincoln Township Ordinance* allows 1 trailer per lot

**NO MORE** than **2 per** 1.5 acre parcel

**White Birch Lakes  
Board of Directors Meeting Minutes  
October 12, 2024**

**Meeting conducted through GoToMeeting.com and at the Clubhouse)**

**I. Call to Order:**

President Boos called the meeting to order at 11:00 am.

Board Members Present: President Boos; Ostrowski, Holzer, Dombrowski, Stanley and Baker also, Secretary/Treasurer Lisa Trojanowski and Manager Michelle Waters

Board Members Attending by Teleconference/GoToMeeting:

Board Members/Others Absent: Director Sherry

**Note: There were approximately 0 Members listening to the meeting through GoToMeeting and approximately 9 Members in Attendance at the Clubhouse.**

The Invocation was given by President Boos.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited by all present and listening.

**II. Additions to the Agenda:**

A. Maintain X

**III. Approval of Minutes:**

(1) *Director Holzer moves to approve the minutes from the September Board Meeting, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Director Dombrowski. All Ayes, motion carried.*

**IV. Secretary/Treasurer's Report:** Lisa Trojanowski reported the following:

Lisa wanted to inform the Board know that at this time, WBL has approximately \$124,616.15 owed in back assessments and is working diligently to recover these funds.

(2) *Director Holzer moves to approve the financial reports for September as presented, subject to the Auditor's approval, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Director Baker. All Ayes, motion carried.*

**V. President's Report:** President Boos reported the following:

Color is upon us and camping is coming to a close. However, we have more activities to enjoy.

The Halloween truck or treat is today 5-6 at the campground. A scavenger hunt is also at the campground pavilion at 11.00 am.

A reminder, as of October 31, vacant lots need to remove recreational vehicles and camping accessories. Please refer to Which Birch C&R's.

The Activities Budget for 2025 will be reviewed at our December meeting. The cost per person is higher on the small events like bingo and plant exchange. The larger event like the 4th of July has a very low cost per person. The Board will adjust the cost per event to conform to the annual budget proposed 2025/2026. The Activities Budget will be posted. Anyone who want to chair an activity can contact Jim Ostrowski or Tim Boos.

**VI. Manager's Report:** Michelle Waters reported the following:

The storage areas are ready for the season. I have 4 sites left that are small, if anyone needs a site for a pop up or a trailer under 24' give me a call.

Update on the new cameras for the gate and campground; Paul will be installing the cameras on the 25<sup>th</sup> of this month at the gate. He hasn't set a date for the campground yet.

The water leak in the wall finally showed itself and has been fixed. New carpet squares have been installed in the hallway.

One of the pipes in the pool filter had a pin hole leak, so that was replaced and since the filter was down, maintenance replaced the sand as well. All is working as it should.

We still have members placing unwanted items in the old storage area. Jess found a bicycle buried in the brush pile along with some tires and smaller items. Someone deposited their building materials back there as well. We have put up a trail cam to monitor the area.

I would like to thank Dawn for volunteering to put up No Hunting signs on some of the White Birch property. Just a reminder that there is no hunting in White Birch.

Many thanks again to all our staff for their hard work and dedication, especially Bob and Claudia Pelfery, as they will be heading to their winter home soon. We appreciate their hard work in keeping our facilities safe and clean

**VII. Committee Reports:**

**A. Appointment of 24-25 Committee Members:**

Additions to Committee's

**C & R Committee:** Gwen Lorenc

*(3) Director Ostrowski moves to accept the addition of Gwen Lorenc to the 2025-2026 C & R Committee, 2<sup>nd</sup> Director Holzer. All Ayes, motion carried.*

**b. Committee Reports:**

**Activities Committee:** Director Ostrowski reported that we are currently looking for someone to host Thanksgiving and Christmas. Marney Frank had giving the Board a list of supplies that have been used in the past and a proposed quote to have the event catered. If you are interested in hosting these events, please contact President Boos or Director Ostrowski.

**Campground Committee:** Director Dombrowski reported the following:

Director Dombrowski stated that "everything looked neat, tidy and organized and was impressed by it. Nice job."

**EPC Committee:** Director Holzer reported the following:

"We had 8 tree removals and 1 dog run."

**Safety Committee:** Bob Pelfery reported the following:

"It's the end of Fall, we are winding down. We have stop signs, we have speed limits. Please obey them, they are here for your safety. They are not just ornaments. Obey them and enjoy the Winter. Everything is good this year. Thank you."

Steven Biechele reported September 2024 Clare County Sheriff Incident reports, 19- Ambulance & Rescue,9- Animal Control, 10-General Assistance, 9- Paper Service, 138- Property Check, 7-Suspicious Persons,56- Traffic Patrol and 6- Traffic Stop.

**IX. Comments from the Floor:**

1. Marney Frank, Lot # 227, "I forgot to mention that there will be no Bingo for November and December, because of Thanksgiving and Christmas. There is a lot on everyone's plate so we are going to suspend it for those two months."

**X. Unfinished Business:**

In regards to Agenda item "Audit Update," A copy of the audit was given to each Board member.

**XI. New Business:**

In regards to Agenda item, "2025-2026 Budget Review" Director Holzer went over the proposed budget. And it was discussed. It was stated that the financial committee will meet again to go over the questions, comments and concerns and a new proposed budget will be presented at the November meeting for discussion.

In regards to Agenda item "Ratify Email for Additional \$200 for Association Voting Postcards"

*(4) Director Ostrowski moves to ratify the email motion for an additional \$200 from Capital Improvement for Association Voting to send postcards, 2<sup>nd</sup> Director Stanley. All Ayes, motion carried.*

In Regards to Added Agenda Item "Maintain X" Michelle Waters is requesting to have the maintenance organizational program Maintain X reinstated.

*(5) Director Holzer moves to approve the purchase of Maintain X software not to exceed \$3600.00. 2<sup>nd</sup> Director Stanley. All Ayes, motion carried.*

**XII. Additional Comments from the Floor:**

2. Marney Frank Lot #227, "When people start asking what we are doing for Thanksgiving and Christmas, what am I supposed to tell them now? If you get someone to chair it, you are going to go with the one that is everyone brings a dish to pass? They will just have to let Jim or Tim know? Thank you."

3. Steve Brandle, Lot# 1369, "You kind of went over this kind of fast, Dawn did you say that you cut the fish planting budget in half? What was the justification for that? We are getting some this Fall; we were unable to get Spring because the company had truck issues. We always only do one planting. Every other year in the Spring, every other year in the Fall. I don't agree to cutting this in half. I would recommend to the Board to put this out to the membership to have some input there. Because I don't think the justification for cutting it in half is strong. Last year we did it in the Spring. We would have done it in the Spring this year, but the guy's truck was in an accident so we had to cancel it and reschedule for the Fall. Basically, if you cut the budget in half, we are only going to get half the fish. I think that is pretty drastic and severe myself. I think the members should have some input on it."

4. David Maniez, Lot 775, "I'm starting to become known as that guy who bought the Laurel Lane property. I have been coming up for about 11 years and finally joined the club. All 342 tires are gone. It is starting to take shape. I am just listening in and I am



just curious. Obviously, things are getting expensive in this world. You have folks from all over the state that are coming in. I know some people are scared of the idea of used items potentially to return. But Marketplace is a great place. Have we ever thought about that? Obviously if something breaks today and we need it tomorrow you don't have a choice to buy new. But maybe it is as simple as putting out a Google slide sheet, a spreadsheet online. We can share and update, kind of wish list items. myself, I just got an \$1800.00 new in the box on demand water heater for \$400. I put it in my house 2 days ago. Have we thought about doing that type of thing? A wish list, of items that we want. Big ticket items. Not saying we want people to just start throwing things at us, like here is this and that. But we do have people all over the state that we could coordinate with. Something that may be an update items, whether it be lighting, something mechanical, you name it. Like a load of gravel. I don't know, maybe just a wish list to help us kind of combat these crazy costs that everything is these days. Just something I have been thinking about. Maybe even utilize that for signups for some of these events. There may have to be some coordination there, because really older folks are not necessarily hopping on Google sheets. I understand that. It could help with potlucks, you name it, to try and coordinate the signups. Kind of a free option. It does not cost anything to throw a sheet on there that is accessible to anyone and everyone to look."

5. Steven Biechele, Lot 1321, "I am going to request the board not to cancel the food at the Annual meeting. That is open to the wider population of the WBL membership and I think it is important to continue that. I don't support extending the voting deadline again. Leave it where it is at and be good with it. And if it doesn't pass, that we support having separate proposals next year as part of the Annual meeting or however it is decided. At least the two that mirror the Township, the camping season and temporary structures. If not, all six of the major proposals. If it does not pass."

*(6) Director Ostrowski moves to adjourn the meeting at 11:00 am, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Director Holzer All Ayes, motion carried.*

Meeting adjourned 11:00 am

Submitted by,

Lisa Trojanowski Secretary/Treasurer

# Crafts for Christmas



To This



Please Bring: Tweezers, Paint Brush-Finne or Medium  
Clubhouse has Coffee or Bring Your Own Choice of Drink

**FREE**

Make and Take Craft

Presented by Rose Boos, Self-Taught, Willing to share.

NOVEMBER 14 10AM-12 Noon

Clubhouse

Make Christmas Card using Ferns from the Woods.

Decorate Fern as Christmas Tree: Your Imagination is the Limit.

Open to the First 10 Crafters to Reserve a Seat

Rose Boos cell: 734-645-8761

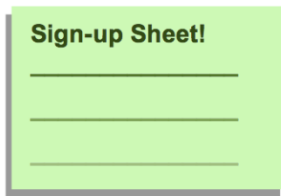
Supplied: Fern on Card, Envelope, Dried Flowers, Elmers Glue, Paper  
Towels, Limited Sequins and Pearls



# THANKSGIVING DINNER

NOVEMBER 16, 2024

AT 4:00 P.M.



PLEASE SIGN UP IN ADVANCE ... AND LET US KNOW:

1. HOW MANY WILL BE ATTENDING IN YOUR GROUP AND
2. **WHAT DISH TO PASS YOU WILL BE BRINGING.** (To make sure we have enough meat, tables/chairs set up, etc. and that there will be a variety of dishes and not all deserts.)

THE SIGN UP SHEET IS ON THE BULLETIN BOARD

PLEASE BRING A DISH TO PASS OR A DESSERT

TURKEY, HAM, COFFEE, PLATES, NAPKINS AND CUTLERY

WILL BE PROVIDED.

PLEASE CALL WILLA @ 989-289-4948 WITH ANY QUESTIONS.

THANK YOU.



TURKEY,

HAM,

COFFEE, PLATES,

NAPKINS, & CUTLERY

PROVIDED

