



Minutes From the Friends of Atascadero Lake Board Meeting on August 21, 2023

Present: Don and Nancy Lynge, Mark and Kathy Hontz, Barbara Combs, Nancy Hair. Absent: Bob Edmonds

Guests: Kathie Asdel, Macky Hedger, Ryan Erbstoesser, Dave Highland, Karen Burish Wyke, Natalie Chuppa, Cristel Wilson, Tom Bolton, Dena Kaigel, Ron Blackwood, David Savoy and Eli Kersh and one other person who I could not read their signature.

- The meeting was called to order by Mark Hontz, President. He introduced Eli Kersh, from Lake Tech Consulting. Eli gave a slide presentation on Atascadero Lake and lakes and ponds in general. The City hired Eli to monitor Atascadero Lake, so moving forward all decisions concerning Atascadero Lake are informed decisions based on actual Lake monitoring. The slide show was very informative. Every lake, in time, becomes a meadow eventually. Atascadero Lake is considered an “older lake”. Because of that, great care must be taken to get the “right formula” to balance the cultural (lake clean-ups), biological (pond dye and probiotics), and physical (removal of tule that is impinging into the lake) parts of the lake. ½ of the oxygen in the lake comes from the wind blowing across the lake, the rest must come from artificial means. Eli showed us a new state-of-the-art aeration system that would be more effective and operating costs lower than what is installed at the present. The death of a lake comes from stratification and lack of oxygen. This system, although expensive (could cost up to \$100,000), would pump oxygen into the greater part of the lake only when needed, is simple and would last for many, many years. The current system is more efficient in deeper lakes where the pressure is greater to break up the oxygen bubbles before reaching the surface. Right now we see all the bubbling on the surface of the lake where it should be released at the bottom of the lake. We want to thank Eli for coming down to share his excitement and ideas for Atascadero Lake. This is just a small part of what was discussed. Please go to his website where you can find out more information: www.laketech.com.
- Don Lynge brought up the subject of tule/rush removal. Eli agreed that a systematic cutting back of the tule would be healthy for the lake. Some tule/rush is good, too much is not. This would be a physical removal cutting down the stems to a couple of feet and removing them. This will be a topic covered before our Lake Clean Up day.

- A motion by Kathy Hontz and seconded by Nancy Lyngge, to have Ron Blackwood and David Savoy as new board members. All approved. Thank you and welcome!!
- Lake Clean-up: Don Lyngge will talk to the City about a date. The clean up is usually in October. If any of you know someone at the Grizzley Academy in San Luis please let us know. We have had the cadets out before to help and they were amazing.
- Treasurer's Report, Nancy Lyngge.: Beginning balance, \$47,372.88, deposits, \$185.00, withdrawals, \$760.16 leaving an ending balance of \$46, 797.72.
- Round Table: Barbara Combs brought up the replacing of the current dock. We know the city has put it out to bid. We are hopeful that the City will also clean up the rip-rap that is unsightly and remove the chain-link fence between the dock and the old kids swimming pool which is also unsightly.

Nancy Hair, Acting Secretary Friends of Atascadero Lake