

II. PURCHASE AND DEVELOPMENT OF FACILITIES

1. When Friends of Lake Neepaulin decided to take ownership of the beach, the dam and the lake, was it aware of the liabilities that went with the ownership?

Yes.

2. Why, then, did Friends of Lake Neepaulin agree to take over the control of the beach, dam and lake?

The people involved in the purchase of the facilities cared very much about the community in which they lived. These people understood that a further continuation of the undesirable conditions which had started to influence the image of the Lake Neepaulin community would eventually cast even greater dispersion on the neighborhood if the conditions were not soon reversed. Therefore, the facilities were purchased mainly to upgrade the image of the community and to protect the value of the property in the community from sinking lower and lower. Basically, a small group of people did what a majority of the residents in the community did not dare, or did not want, to do. They took on the responsibility of trying to upgrade their community and make it a better place for everyone to live.

3. Where did the money come from to purchase the properties?

The people who purchased the beach, dam, and lake believed so whole heartedly in the goal to change the image of Lake Neepaulin into a positive one that they agreed to gift their own monies for the common good of all who lived in the community. Seventeen individuals contributed a total of \$33,000 for the purchase of the properties and \$5,000 for lawyer's fees. To date, none of the individuals who donated money has ever been repaid for the contribution nor has any individual ever received a personal profit from the acquisition.

4. What did the beach and lake look like at the time of purchase?

The beach was void of everything except for weeds that were never cut. Several types of algae, which choked the ability to view the lake's surface, swirled around the top of the lake in hues of blue, green, white and brown. Dark green, almost black, round balls, the size of a golf ball, were interspersed among the previously described, almost vomit-like hues that floated all over the lake. The picture was not a pretty sight. In fact it was so vile that people who lived on, or near, the lake did not encourage the presence of house guests, and those who lived away from the lake did whatever they could to prevent their visitors from catching a glimpse of the unsightliness. Many realtors even discouraged house hunters from looking for a home in the community.

5. The condition of the beach, the lake and the dam has completely turned around today. How did this change occur?

The condition of the area became exceedingly more positive due to the efforts of certain dedicated individuals who spent hours upon hours of voluntary time upgrading the environment so that an area that was once unsightly turned into an attractive park setting.

6. From where was the money obtained to accomplish the beautification and development of Lake Neepaulin?

The money utilized for the development of the Lake Neepaulin area came, in part, from membership dues. The majority of the money, however, came from the extra donations of individual, benevolent citizens who live in Lake Neepaulin