

Minutes of Manitowish Waters Lakes Association Board Meeting

Monday, May 19, 2014

Koller Library

Karen Dixon, President, called the meeting of the MWLA Board to order at 9:30 a.m.

Members present: Karen Dixon, Marilyn Gabert, Greg Holt, Tom Joseph, Eleanor Butler, Bob Becker, Bob Stowers, Barry Hopkins, Merry Perkins,

Members absent: Fred Theisen, Jim Banovetz, Jim Reichert, Tom Kramer

Guest: Anne Kretschmann

Approval of Agenda

Motion made by Merry, second by Barry to approve the agenda. Motion passed.

Approval of Minutes

Motion made by Tom J., second by Merry to accept the minutes of the September 16, 2013 meeting. Motion passed.

Approval of Financial Report

Motion made by Merry second by Bob S. to accept the financial report. Motion passed.

Committee Reports

Water Ecology and Safety

TAISP – Anne Kretschmann reported that they received a new grant in February which makes a total of nine grants, because the first grant is finished. They also received a Clean Boats, Clean Water (CBCW) grant requiring 200 hours on Rest Lake so they've hired two new interns for the summer, Leah Dittberner and Drew Lockwood. Onterra will do an early inspection, and then there will be treatment of the Curly Leaf Pondweed (CLP) in the Spider/Island Lake channel and the Rest/Stone Lake channel.

There is money in the grant budget to hire scuba divers to pull the CLP, either in the channels if the treatments are not successful, otherwise in the bay in Island Lake.

Onterra held a planning meeting and came up with a Lake Management Plan for Rest, Spider and Island. It will go to the DNR for their comments before being adopted.

There has been an unknown algae in Papoose Bay on Rest Lake which has been quite a problem. It is thick and spreading out of the bay. Samples will be taken and sent for testing to find out what kind of algae it is. Then we can assess the problem.

There will be CBCW training this Wednesday sponsored by the MWLA (pizza and beverages provided). Anne also handed out a sheet with training dates for Captains and Deck Hands.

A group of 20 NLES students went out with Anne and Karen to dig and pot 62 Purple Loosestrife (PL) plants. PL eating beetles will be collected mid-June and be placed in the netted plants.

As part of the Lake Management Plan, a stake-holder survey will be mailed out this summer. Responses can either be mailed back or given online.

Onterra is still unable to treat the CLP in Rice Creek because of the wild rice that is also growing in Rice Creek. It is a huge concern with boats traveling into Rice Creek and dragging CLP into the rest of the lakes and spreading CLP in the MW Chain.

Resolution: Proposed by Tom J., second by Merry,

A) We support placement of buoys in Rice Creek and other areas that say, "Invasives Area Please Keep Out".

B) We support an effort to create a motorless zone in Rice Creek.

C) With expenditures as appropriate up to \$1,000.

Resolution passed by unanimous vote of MWLA board.

Fish Crib & Fish Stocking Project – Tom K. was unable to get logs this winter due to the deep snow. The plan is to get logs this summer and obtain all of the permits. They will then install the fish cribs towards the end of the summer.

The DNR prefers fish sticks more so than fish cribs. They will be installing fish sticks in lakes throughout Vilas, Oneida, and Iron counties through our Walleyes for Tomorrow chapter in the future. They will work on your property if you have room for them and your shoreline is deep enough.

Tom K. will be finding more out about them and let everybody know what our plans are for future fish stick projects.

Government Relations

Rest Lake Dam – There will be two Rest Lake Dam public hearings on June 27. The Manitowish Chain Defense Fund (MCDF) is meeting this Friday with Xcel Energy and the MCDF attorney.

TB, PC meetings – The Plan Commission is working on a donations policy where the PC will review donation information and make recommendations to the Town Board. There are draft proposals posted on town bulletin boards.

The first two weeks in June, the transfer station will be accepting landfill items

Public Communications

Karen is working on the spring newsletter and listed off the subjects she intends to include. She hopes to have it ready for stuffing and mailing on May 29.

Community Outreach

4th of July – Fred has already gotten the proper permits for our trout pond and he'll talk to the Fire Dept about the pond and water delivery.

Annual Meeting – A huge thank you to Fred for all the years he was in charge of, and made all the food for our Annual Meeting and Picnic. (Board requested that Karen send Fred and Terry an official thank you card). Fred is unable to take on that job this year, so we've hired Renee Holman of Good Thyme Catering to handle the food for our picnic.

Colorama – The Town has changed the name of this event to "Cran-a-rama". It will be held on October 4 this year. It is so late in the season that we are concerned that none of the board members will still have their pontoons in the water. Bob S. will talk to Greer about donating pontoon(s) for the free pontoon rides offered by the MWLA.

Roadside pickup – Fred and Terry have completed the first of three highway pickups.

Administrative

Elections – up for reelection and willing to run again: Karen, Tom J., Marilyn, Eleanor, Jim B., Greg and Barry. Merry is not running again and we are waiting to hear from Tom K. about whether he will run again.

Alliance – had their meeting on May 9 and discussed brat stand and highway clean up dates. Did some planning for their Annual Meeting and Appreciation Social scheduled for July 12.

Budget – the MWLA officers will meet and put together this year's budget.

By-laws – the officers will also review the by-laws and see if they need to be updated. We will particularly review the fee for our membership dues, planned giving and possible term limits.

Old Business

Program to print names – Eleanor has started talking to someone to see if we can automatically print names on our renewal forms

Pontoon sign - Eleanor will check into prices of signs advertising the free pontoon rides at Cran-a-rama. We have one large sandwich sign now, but thought it would be good to have a smaller sign ¼ mile either side of Blue Bayou to give people a heads up for the turn.

Brochure – Karen has placed MWLA brochures around town. When we have a little more time, we need to redo and update our brochures.

New Business

Wisconsin Lakes Partnership Convention – Karen, Anne and Tom J. attended this convention. They particularly liked the content of the break-out sessions and the networking that is available. There was a presentation on a 30-year

study at Little Rock Lake in Vilas County that was quite interesting. Onterra is a major sponsor of this convention. Planned giving was brought up at the convention and is something we may look into.

Rest Lake fireworks – This year's 4th of July fireworks cannot be held at the airport so will return to Rest Lake. Two people from the MW Fire Dept went to a seminar for training and will be in charge of the fireworks display. The fireworks will be set off from pontoons out in the lake. The paper used in the fireworks is biodegradable and tests were done on other lakes after firework displays and show that the lakes are fine very shortly after the displays. There will be a special Music in the Park concert on July 4th from 4:00 – 6:00 pm.

Historic Lake Maps – Long-time seasonal resident, Mark Leistickow, will be donating National Archive copies of 3 old maps of the area, dating back to the 1800's. The maps will be kept at the Frank B. Koller Library and it is hoped that copies will be made and sold to benefit the Library.

Correspondence

9-1-13 received notification of 501(c)(3) tax designation

9-21-13 sent thank you to Rita Mazur for use of Blue Bayou dock with check for \$150 (she donates the money to Relay for Life)

9-23-13 sent thank you letter to Greer Fitzgerald for donating the use of a pontoon to the MLWA for Colorama pontoon tours

9-25-13 received \$400 donation from MW Alliance for Fish Crib Project and AIS

9-27-13 received thank you from Rita Mazur

9-3-13 received thank you from Skiing Skeeters for donation of \$750

9-30-13 sent letter of thank you to MW Alliance for their donation of \$400 (\$200 to AIS, \$200 to fish cribs)

9-30-13 sent letter of thank you to Dan Johns with check for \$500 for his help with 501(c)(3) application

10-16-13 received thank you from Camp Jorn

10-17-13 received thank you from NLDC for Voyageur Membership of \$1000

11-4-13 received thank you from American Cancer Society (Blue Bayou Relay for Life)

1-17-14 received letter from Mark Leistickow re: historical maps

1-29-14 received thank you from Dan Biwan Family and Humane Society of Vilas County for contribution in memory of Dan Biwan, CPA

3-26-14 received "2013 Year of Connections" DVD from the NLDC

The next MWLA board meeting will be Monday, **June 16**, 2014 at 9:30 a.m. in the Koller Library meeting room.

Meeting adjourned at 11:28 a.m.

Respectfully submitted by Marilyn Gabert, Secretary