

MWLA Board Meeting Minutes  
Monday, June 15, 2015  
9:30 to 11:30 a.m. – Discovery Center Bobcat Cabin

Call to Order – 9:40 a.m.

Attendance – Karen Dixon, Greg Holt, Tom Joseph, Paul Puccinelli, Jody Miller, Marilyn Gabert, and Tom Kramer.

By phone: Jim Reichert., Jim Cagney.

Absent: Barry Hopkins, Bob Stowers, Eleanor Butler, Bob Becker.

Approve Agenda – motion by Greg, second by Jody to approve agenda. Motion passed.

Approve Minutes of May 20, 2015 – motion by Greg, second by Jody to approve minutes. Motion passed.

Approve Financial Report – postpone because Eleanor will not be at this meeting. We will be reviewing the draft budget. Handout corrected Profit & Loss report.

Introductions and welcome to newly elected MWLA board member, Paul Puccinelli.

On June 3, 2015, via email correspondence, Karen Dixon made the motion to nominate Paul Puccinelli for a 2-year term as an MWLA board member to replace the position recently vacated by Fred Theisen, seconded by Tom Joseph. Motion carried unanimously.

### **Committee Reports**

#### **Water Ecology and Safety/AIS**

- TAISP – There will be a training session tomorrow at 1:00 pm. Madison mailed about 600 Purple Loosestrife (PL) beetles to Anne this year, but we still need a few more. There are 20 potted plants that don't have any beetles. Can either go out and collect beetles in the wild or take that time to go out for a paddle and identify more PL. Tom J. will check his PL site. In any case, we will need to figure out how to get volunteer hours for PL.

Divers were supposed to be hand pulling Curly Leaf Pondweed (CLP) on the chain today, but it is raining. We need to get people out on the water this week Wed, Thurs, and Friday to identify CLP spots. Early seasons studies grants were not funded for that so between the DC and volunteers we'll have to cover the hours. Onterra will then come out and map those sites for free, just to continue the information for the study. Anne and the interns will be out looking for CLP over the next few days and anyone is invited to join them. Anne will send out an email to let people know when and where to meet to help with CLP detection. They intend to cover the entire chain, weather permitting. Onterra is meeting with us this afternoon for the Lakes Management Planning meeting and there are a couple new people joining us. Did not get grant money for Stone Lake and Manitowish Lake.

There will be a Lake Captain's meeting on Thursday, June 18 at 6:00 p.m. at the Pea Patch. Tom J. will let the Lake Captain's know the date and time by email. (This meeting was canceled)

- Fish Habitat Project - A group was out fishing and noticed the lack of forage on the MW chain of lakes. We should keep working on getting fish sticks into the chain – i.e. logs perpendicular to shore for fish habitat – or more woody habitat. There are grants available to help fund fish stick projects. There is a fee of about \$300 per lake to put in fish cribs and/or fish sticks. We had discussion on whether we want to put in fish cribs or fish sticks and it seems fish sticks might be preferred. Tom K will do more homework on this issue.

- Walleyes for Tomorrow (WFT) – We had discussed if we want to make a donation to WFT this year. Jim R. suggested we table this until we can discuss our budget on donations. We also need to discuss our own financial needs in light of lakes grants being harder to get.

#### **Government Relations**

- PC (next meeting June 16 and August 4, 7:00 p.m.); TB (next meeting July14, 7:00 p.m.) Last meeting, several people have contacted the MWLA and John Hanson about lake lighting and that there is no ordinance to deter all the really bright lights that pop up. It is now on the PC agenda for the August meeting. June 16 PC meeting agenda addresses; Bike trail, donation policy and two permits for large metal buildings.

No action taken on water ski hour policy so the current water ski hours will remain from 9:00 am – 7:00 pm.

PC decided they should have input into the bike trail, so now anything to do with the bike trail needs to go through the PC.

- MCDF and Rest Lake Dam - There was a meeting scheduled in Madison on June 22 about Rest Lake Dam, but that is now postponed. A Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) would address all stake holders, but now there is potential that the state budget will give the legislature control over the dam. The vote for MWLA to send a letter in opposition to paragraph 23 Shoreland Zoning Standards of the Motion 520; 8 in favor of sending the letter, 3 that were a no, did not get an answer from 2 board members. Karen informed Wisconsin Association of Lakes that the MWLA will sign on to WAL's letter to the Joint Finance Committee that speaks in opposition to changes in the standards.

### **Public Communications**

- Spring Newsletter mailed May 28; Summer Newsletter should be mailed by July 16 – next newsletter will address the Annual Meeting on July 25.

- New brochure – Karen met with Scott Bertz to discuss a new brochure for the MWLA. She showed us some samples and we'll get a subcommittee together to do more work on it.

2000 brochures – about \$175, plus roughly \$35 for shipping

Postcard - \$173 plus about \$32 for shipping

Scott will charge \$100 for his time on it.

- Mass mailing – If we do get new brochures, we might do a mass mailing. It's been about 10 years since we've sent one. Maybe we will again join the MW Chamber mass mailing next May.

### **Community Outreach**

- Planning for July 4<sup>th</sup> - Karen bought new pop-up tent for our events. We went through the set up list for 4<sup>th</sup> of July and filled in as many positions as we could. Karen will contact a few more people to help fill needed shift.

Annual Meeting (July 25) – Jim C will send us an email before our next meeting on July 13, with his plan and time line for his idea of breaking down into groups by lake and have meaningful discussion as to what our property owners' concerns are. We have a very tight limit on time but think we can cut everyone else and give Jim C. a maximum of 45 minutes to execute this discussion.

We need a better way to track how many people attend. Jody suggested that when people sign in they receive a ticket for the picnic. They must hand in their ticket in order to get their food.

Anne suggested having all the names, addresses printed out ahead and they just need to check off their info. New members will have to add their info.

Karen is already talking to people that will help with set-up, booths, etc. for that day.

### **Administrative**

- Review and revise draft budget for 2015-16 - Tom J. says to help with understanding the draft budget, we should look at it with last year's actual results. We went a little conservative with income categories as we never know for sure. With a little tweaking in different categories, it is roughly about the same as last year's budget. Expenses- we needed to increase some of the categories as many of our expenses have gone up. Anne needs to send in to DNR for a reimbursement for money we've already expensed. We put out \$5,158 last year and will get reimbursed 75% of that amount. We need that income in our budget for our budget to balance. Marilyn will make adjustments/corrections to the draft budget list and will email to the board.

Discuss our donation policy – Since we appear to have a balanced budget this year, it was decided to leave current donations as they are rather than to cut them to help fund our own projects.

- Alliance Annual Meeting is July 11 at 4:00 p.m. social is at 5:00; brat stand 7-11, 7-18; and 7-31.

### **Old Business**

- Water ski hours – addressed above

- Skiing Skeeters Program Guide – Karen gave \$45 from the MWLA to the Skiing Skeeters for an ad in their program guide.

### **New Business**

- Purchase of new EZ-Up tent – Our old tent was leaking badly so Karen purchased a new pop-up tent for \$130.
- Shoreland lighting ordinance – We received a couple letters from property owners who are concerned with excessive lighting from neighbors. Karen responded with an email telling them that the Plan Commission has put the issue on the their August agenda.
- Request for funds from NLES – have not received a request yet
- Vilas County Lakes and Rivers Association – Celebrating Lakes and Rivers Day – Karen said it was very informative about woody habitat and what makes a healthy lake
- Motion 520 and Shoreland Zoning Standards – 8 in favor, 3 opposed, 2 did not get back to Karen. The MWLA did sign on to the letter from Wisconsin Association of Lakes in opposition to the changes proposed in the state budget. Now we need to decide if we want to send a letter from just the MWLA to the County. Karen can forward an email to the membership that addresses only paragraph 23 Shoreland Zoning Standards of Motion 520 so the membership can be informed about this issue.
- Your items –none

### **Correspondence**

May 30 - received email from Denise Goldsworthy re: flood insurance – sent email response  
June 6 - received letter from Pat and Tom Stonehouse re: shoreland lighting – sent email response  
June 10 - emailed Heidi Kenney re: Program Guide and donation

Next meeting date - Monday, July 13, 2015 at 9:30 a.m., Koller Library

Adjourn – motion by Tom J, second by Tom K to adjourn at 11:47 a.m.

Submitted by Marilyn Gabert, Secretary