

Minutes of Manitowish Waters Lakes Association Board Meeting

Monday, July 14, 2014

Koller Library

Karen Dixon, President, called the meeting of the MWLA Board to order at 9:35 a.m.

Members present: Karen Dixon, Tom Joseph, Eleanor Butler, Jim Reichert, Bob Becker, Tom Kramer, Merry Perkins, Greg Holt.

Members absent: Marilyn Gabert, Bob Stowers, Barry Hopkins, Jim Banovetz, Fred Theisen.

Guests: Anne Kretschmann, Jody Miller.

Approval of Agenda

Motion made by Greg H., second by Bob B. to approve the agenda. Motion passed.

Approval of Minutes

Motion made by Merry P., second by Jim R. to accept the minutes of the June 16, 2014 meeting. Motion passed.

Approval of Financial Report

Motion made by Merry P., second by Tom K. to accept the financial report. Motion passed.

Committee Reports

Water Ecology and Safety

TAISP: Anne Kretshmann reported on recent TAISP happenings. Onterra has done a partial lakes survey and found no new areas of Curley Leaf Pondweed. Divers did do a hand pulling of Curley leaf Pondweed primarily in one of the bays of Island Lake. A full lake survey of Wild Rice and Alder is coming up and a planning meeting will be held in the fall for Alder and Wild Rice Lake. Property owner Tom Baer has requested to be included in that meeting.

Phragmites, a giant reed grass, a new invasive species for the Manitowish Chain, was found on one property on the channel between Alder and Manitowish. The DNR has had a conversation with the landowner. Anne Kretschmann anticipates following up also with the landowner.

Purple Loosestrife is currently blooming. Board members were encouraged to look for and to tell others to look for it so appropriate steps can be taken.

An AIS training will be held 07/17/14 at Kohler Park.

A sample of the algae found on Papoose Bay in Rest Lake has been sent to the state and identified as

yellow-green algae. The current planned control measures include notification to Papoose Bay landowners to reduce the likelihood of run-off of nutrients thru monitoring of their septic systems and monitoring their use of fertilizers. There was discussion regarding the possibility that the algae may be coming from Papoose Creek. Discovery Center TAISP staff will do a visual survey. If the algae are found in Papoose Creek, the possible upstream source will try and be identified with notification to parties as appropriate.

Onterra will be conducting a chain-wide survey for stakeholders. This could be done on-line or thru a mailing. Onterra will send the survey template to the MWLA Board for input. The plan is to conduct the survey the fall of 2014.

The DNR is currently in the process of surveying for cisco and whitefish in the chain.

Fish Crib Habitat: Tom K. reported that 17 cribs are planned for Island Lake, with anticipated placement off the islands. Tom K. also reported that there likely are some errors in the G.P.S. coordinates for the cribs on Little Star Lake. He will be looking into this to see what correction needs to be made.

Government Relations

Rest Lake Dam: On June 27th, 2014, the DNR held 2 of 3 public informational meetings at the Manitowish Community Center. The third will be held August 16th. Jim R. reported that members of the Manitowish Chain Defense Fund would be meeting later today with Deputy Secretary Matt Moroney.

TB meeting: Portions of the Minutes of the July 8th Town Board meeting relevant to the MWLA were briefly reviewed. At the Town Board meeting, there was discussion regarding the boat launch at Rest Lake Park. This will continue to be looked into along with an overall grounds survey of Rest Lake Park being conducted thru the financial contribution of a private donor.

As part of Vilas County being able to perform any court proceedings for boating and water safety violation citations issued in Manitowish Waters thru the Boat Patrol, the Town Board accepted by reference necessary Wisconsin Administrative ordinances. It is likely that any violations will now carry increased fines.

Public Communications

Karen recapped subjects intended for the next newsletter. Volunteers will be meeting 07/17/14 to assist in processing the newsletter mailing.

Community Outreach

4th of July: The 4th of July festivities were briefly commented on, including the large crowd present and the success of the MWLA t-shirts, caps and sweatshirt sales and the continued popularity of the trout pond.

Annual Meeting: The Annual Meeting will be 07/26/14 at the Community Center, 4:00-6:00, with check-in beginning at 3:30. Board members will come early to assist with set-up. The agenda for the meeting

was discussed.

Informational flyers will be distributed to local businesses and placed on informational boards by Jim R., Bob B., Karen D., Jody M., and Ann K.

Marilyn G. will be providing cookies. Ann K. will secure the lemonade dispensers from the Discovery Center. Karen D. will be checking with the Village Market for the possible donation of a 1/4 barrel of beer and Tom J. will get the beer, lemonade and ice. Aurora Borealis will be donating wine. Marilyn G. will be checking with Renee Holman from Good Thyme Catering regarding plates, napkins, silverware and cups and verifying serving for 5:00.

Cran-a-rama: Due to the October 4th date for the Cran-a-rama, the pontoon boats from Greer's marina will not be available. Bob B. has offered his pontoon boat. The Discovery Center pontoon boat may also be available. Tom K., may be able to provide his pontoon boat as well.

Roadside pickup: Karen D. reported that Fred and Terry Theisen have graciously indicated that they will continue to provide this service this year.

Administrative

Elections: Up for MWLA Board re-election and willing to run again--Karen D., Tom J., Marilyn G., Eleanor B., Tom K., Barry H., and Greg H. Stepping down will be Jim B., Fred T., and Merry P. Current new candidates are Jody Miller and James Cagney.

Alliance: The July 12th meeting was reported to be a success; comments were included regarding the good food and the good music. The Alliance Annual Meeting will be Saturday July 12th.

Budget: The annual budget was reviewed. The discussed and reviewed budget will be recommended to the general membership at the July 26th annual meeting. Motion for recommendation to the full membership was made by Bob B., second by Tom K. Motion passed.

By-laws: The MWLA Board will likely review the by-laws at a fall meeting.

Old Business

Program to print names: Eleanor B. continues to work on seeing whether this can be done automatically on renewal forms.

New advertising sign(s) for pontoon tours: Eleanor B. will be providing further information at upcoming meetings.

Revise MWLA brochure: Tabled for future action.

New Business

Board self -evaluation and expectations: Karen D. provided a hand-out for self-evaluation by board members to use for their own edification; results would be for personal use only. Jim R. suggested in the

future reviewing the compliance of our Board with the MWLA Mission. Karen D. suggested that we may need to look at our by-laws in the future for any appropriate procedural changes should it become necessary to remove a Board Member from the Board.

NLES funding request: Consent was given for the MWLA to provide this year as has been done in the past a donation for the NLES Outdoor Education Program. The amount will be between \$800.00 and \$900.00.

Free membership idea from Marilyn: To encourage folks to become new MWLA members, Board members are encouraged to offer a free one-year membership to one person. Board members should provide Eleanor B. with the recipient's name, mailing address, e-mail contact information and as appropriate, the body of water on which the person owns property.

Donation to the Manitowish Waters Fire Co: It was agreed by Board members that the MWLA will provide a donation to the Manitowish Waters Fire Co. in the amount of 250.00 dollars for 2014. Also agreed upon were donations to the library for \$150.00 and the Skiing Skeeters for \$500.00. Karen D. will contact the interim camp director at Camp Jorn re: a donation from the MWLA similar to that which has been provided in previous years.

ATVs: The Vilas County Board on July 22nd will vote on an amendment to the Vilas County Forest Comprehensive Land Use Plan. If the amendment is adopted, the results will nullify the results of the 2004 Resolution prohibiting ATVS on Vilas County Land and Roads and potentially will allow for trails and provide for trail funding, maintenance and signage. Karen D. will send a note from the MWLA Board opposing the amendment to the Vilas County Land Use Plan.

Correspondence

06/30/14 - Request received from the World Musky Classic for \$60.00 for our ad in their program; the check will be mailed out.

06/18/14 - NLES Outdoor Education request for funding received--see New Business above.

The next meeting will be held Monday, August 18th at 9:30 a.m. Location will be either at the Discovery Center or the Airport Conference Center with notification provided to Board members via e-mail.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:45 a.m.

Respectfully submitted by Greg Holt, member of the MWLA Board.

