

Minutes of Manitowish Waters Lakes Association Board Meeting

Monday, August 12, 2013

Koller Library

Karen Dixon, President, called the meeting of the MWLA Board to order at 9:34 a.m.

Members present: Karen Dixon, Marilyn Gabert, Greg Holt, Tom Joseph, Eleanor Butler, Jim Reichert, Bob Becker, Bob Stowers, Tom Kramer, Barry Hopkins.

Members absent: Merry Perkins, Fred Theisen, Jim Banovetz.

Guest: Anne Kretschmann

Approval of Agenda

Motion made by Jim R., second by Barry. to approve the agenda with the addition of reviewing the minutes of the Annual Meeting. Motion passed.

Approval of Minutes

Motion made by Tom J., second by Tom K. to accept the minutes of the July 8, 2013 meeting. Motion passed.

Approval of Financial Report

Motion made by Tom K. second by Barry to accept the financial report. Motion passed.

Minutes from the Annual Meeting were reviewed, and will be approved at next year's Annual Meeting.

Committee Reports

Water Ecology and Safety

TAISP – Anne Kretschmann reported that they have put in for a new grant on August 1 for \$67,000 for Wild Rice Lake, Trout River and Alder Lake. They've done the early season survey on Rest Lake. This Tuesday there will be another training session for AIS. They have been out doing Purple Loosestrife surveys, clipping flowers and GPSing the sites. Purple Loosestrife beetles have been released on Stepping Stone, Wild Rice Lake, Island Lake, the islands in Stone Lake, Rice Creek and Crystal Lake.

Billing from Onterra is done quarterly so we should see a bill soon. Karen, Anne, and Tom J. will meet to talk about the Lake Captains and Deck Hands program.

This fall Onterra will meet with the core group for lake planning on Rest Lake. Rather than it being part of a regular MWLA meeting, we will schedule a separate meeting for that.

There was discussion about the problem of trying to treat Curly Leaf Pondweed (CLP) in areas with wild rice.

The state is revamping the rules for Fish Sticks Project (trees dropped in the water for fish habitat and shoreline wave protection). The new rules should be out this fall.

Fish Crib & Fish Stocking Project – Last Saturday, the fish cribs were put out on Little Star Lake. Next year we hope to get fish cribs out on Island Lake and maybe Clear Lake.

Tom K. will talk again to the DNR about possible fish stocking on our lakes. There is a local group starting a "Walleyes for Tomorrow" chapter. Tom K. will keep us posted on their progress.

NR115

Karen presented a flyer about the possible revisions to the NR115. There will be public hearings in August and they will take written comments until September 5. Motion by Tom J., second by Jim R. to send a letter opposing the changes proposed to the NR115.

Public Communications

The summer newsletter was sent out on July 12. The fall newsletter will go out around late September or early October. We should be thinking about subjects to address in the next newsletter.

Community Outreach

Annual meeting – Our Annual Meeting was held at Discovery Center this year and was a great success.

Unfortunately, the Center is already booked next year for the weekend of our Annual Meeting. Next year's meeting will

be on Saturday, July 26, 2014 and we'll move back to the Pavilion by the Community Bldg. Karen will talk to Discovery Center and get on the calendar for 2015. Raffle proceeds and donations helped to pay for the picnic and rent of DC facility.

Roadside pickup – Fred has completed the second of three highway pickups.

Colorama – September 21, 2013 is the date of this year's Colorama. Rita at Blue Bayou has again graciously offered to let us use her dock and restaurant for the free pontoon rides the MWLA offers that day. Jim R will bring his pontoon, Bob B. will bring his pontoon, Bob S. got a pontoon donated from Greer's pier and Bob will captain that boat. For the use of Blue Bayou, we will make a payment of \$150 to Relay for Life right after Colorama. We discussed the pros and cons of selling hooded sweatshirts at Colorama. The Administrative Committee will make the decision whether to order some and what kind. They will do this in time to order them for Colorama.

Government Relations

Rest Lake Dam – The meeting with the DNR on the Rest Lake Dam was postponed. The DNR was informed by the State Supreme Court that economic factors have to be taken into consideration with any proposed change to the operating order for the dam.

TB, PC meetings – The Plan Commission meeting involved approval of a few CUP's, they made an amendment to the rules to the Chippewa Retreat Resort and & Spa Condominium to enclose their pool and expand the fitness center, there was a change in the Little Star condo plat. The PC is planning to review their sign ordinance. They will develop a policy rather than change the ordinance. There will be a workshop next summer to address signs.

The Economic Development Committee (EDC has finished writing their by-laws that need to be approved by Town Attorney and Town Board. They will then be the Economic Development Association. The EDC steering committee is comprised of Eric Behnke, John Hanson, Steve Bartling, Andy Stowers and Chuck Kramer, David Karaffa, Brent McFarland, Chuck Rayala, Duanne Swift, Joe Mazur, Linda Wohlleber, and Merry Perkins. Anyone interested in being a member can contact Eric Behnke, Chairman of the committee.

The next PC meetings are Sept. 3 and Oct. 1, the next Town Board meeting is August 13, the EDC meetings are Aug. 14, 20 and 28 at 7:00 p.m. at the airport.

Alliance – The Alliance will do their Highway 51 clean up Sat. Aug. 17 and they will also be having a brat sale in town the same day.

Administrative

Invitation - As Voyageur Members of the Discovery Center, we received an invitation to the annual dinner. Eleanor, Jim and Karen plan to attend.

501(c)(3) – We got a letter of receipt for our 501(c)(3) application. Within 90 days we will hear if we have received our 501(c)(3) status.

Checks were sent to MW Fire Co for \$250, Camp Jorn for \$500, Koller Library for \$150, Discovery Center \$175 (final rental payment), NLES for \$840.

Correspondence

7-15-13 sent checks and cover letters to Library, NLES, Camp Jorn, Fire Co., Discovery Center

7-14-13 received Uihlein-Kobussen invitation to Dinner on the Chain (Aug. 26) Eleanor will attend.

7-25-13 received thank you from Camp Jorn for donation

7-28-13 emailed thank you to all Annual Meeting volunteers

7-30-13 sent thank you cards to donators to the Annual Meeting – Bill and Marilyn Gabert, Kathryn Dumas, Kevin Theisen and Joel Schroeder, Fred and Terry Theisen, Lisa and Barry Hopkins, Rita Mazur

8-2-13 received invitation to "Living the Land Ethic" dinner at NLDC. Eleanor will attend.

8-6-13 received 6 tickets to Camp Jorn Pancake Breakfast

8-10-13 received from IRS of receipt of application for 501(c)(3) status

Old Business

Advertising scratch pad – Eleanor picked up the scratch pads in Eagle River saving us shipping costs. They were handed out at the Annual Meeting and were well received.

Skiing Skeeter donation - Motion by Tom K, second by Jim R. to give \$750 to the Skiing Skeeters. During all of their ski shows, they promote the MWLA and talk about AIS.

New Business

Relay for Life – Right after Colorama, we will write a check to Relay for Life for \$150 for use of Blue Bayou on Colorama for our free pontoon rides.

Jack Arndt – Karen will write a thank you note to Jack Arndt for his years of service as local water patrol.

MWLA board meetings - It was agreed that Monday morning seems to work the best for most of us for board meetings. Sometime this fall, Karen will make up a schedule for next year's meetings.

Committee assignments – We briefly reviewed this list. Everything seems to be working well, so committee structure and assignments will remain the same.

Musky Classic – This year's World Championship Musky Classic will be held on Sept. 6-8. Anne will set up the AIS booth on Friday morning during registration for the Classic. Jim R. has agreed to help Anne that morning.

The next MWLA board meeting will be Monday, September 16, 2013 at 9:30 a.m. in the Koller Library meeting room.

Motion made by Barry, second by Greg to adjourn. Motion passed. Meeting adjourned at 11:00 a.m.

Respectfully submitted by Marilyn Gabert, Secretary