



Minutes of Annual Meeting and Picnic
July 27, 2013, 4:00 P.M. to 6:30 P.M.
North Lakeland Discovery Center

Call to Order and Welcome - The 21st Annual Meeting of the Manitowish Waters Lakes Association was called to order at 4:05 p.m.

Jim Reichert, director on the Discovery Center Board, gave the opening welcome. He spoke of Discovery Center's unique partnership with the Manitowish Waters Lakes Association (MWLA). We have all had concerns over the water levels from the Rest Lake Dam, but Jim said the greater threat to our waters is Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS). The MWLA, the Discovery Center and the Town Board have joined forces to form the Town Aquatic Invasive Species Partnership (TAISP) to help fight AIS. Boulder Junction Town Board is also involved. To date, we have received over \$150,000 in grant money to help the battle against AIS. We are all very fortunate to have Anne Kretschmann at Discovery Center to help us fight this significant threat. Thank you all for your help.

MWLA president, Karen Dixon, thanked Jim for his welcome and thanked everyone for coming.

Motion made by Fred Theisen, second by Bob Becker to approve the agenda. Motion passed.

Motion made by Greg Holt, second by Jim Davies to approve the minutes from 2012 Annual Meeting. Motion passed.

Motion made by Mike Kulczycki, second by Barb Kramer to approve the 2013-2014 budget. Motion passed.

Copies of the agenda, 2012 minutes and financial reports were available to all attendees.

President's report

Karen told the attendees that our number one goal is to strengthen TAISP. She also gave a huge thank you to Anne Kretschmann, water specialist and AIS coordinator, and Tim Dobbins, water education intern, for all their hard work monitoring our waterways this summer. Anne was awarded the 2013 Invader Crusader Award this year. Lake Captains and Deck Hands were recognized and asked to stand. Karen talked of the importance of being vigilant on the fight against AIS and asked everyone to help by donating time and/or money to this effort. Karen also reported that there are 12 new fish cribs ready to be put into Little Star Lake this summer.

The DNR has postponed the public hearing in regard to the Rest Lake Dam.

Besides fighting AIS, our membership dues help fund NLES field trips, Discovery Center programs, fish crib project, pontoon tours for Colorama, the free trout pond on the 4th of July, and more.

Karen realizes sometimes it's hard to find time to volunteer, but we really need your help to keep our waters clean and beautiful.

Introduction of Current Board of Directors

Board members present:

President: Karen Dixon, Treasurer: Eleanor Butler, Secretary: Marilyn Gabert

Directors: Jim Reichert, Greg Holt, Fred Theisen, Bob Becker, Tom Kramer.

Board members absent: Jim Banovetz, Merry Perkins, Bob Stowers, Tom Joseph, Barry Hopkins.

Nomination and Election of Officers and Directors

Vern Lahart made nominations from the floor. Motion by Greg Holt, second by Tom Kramer to close the nominations. Motion passed. Motion by Vern Lahart, second by Tiki Lambrecht to nominate the following people for a one-year term as officers and two-year terms as directors: President: Karen Dixon, Vice President: Tom Joseph, Treasurer: Eleanor Butler, Secretary: Marilyn Gabert, continuing directors Bob Becker, Jim Reichert, Bob Stowers, and Fred Theisen. Motion passed.

Presentation by Leif Williams

Karen introduced Leif Williams, NLES Science Teacher. Leif thanked the MWLA for funding the schools recent Water Resource Study Field Trips. He brought 7th grader, Katie Schmidt, to help present tonight. Also speaking will be NLES history teacher, Neil Wallace, who took on their ecology project.

Katie Schmidt also thanked the MWLA for funding the NLES Outdoor Education programs. The 7th graders were able to do a stream study, a fishing study and take a spring canoe trip. She and the other students were able to see and study dragonfly larvae. They saw lots of wildlife on the Manitowish River and learned how much fun rivers and lakes can be.

Through the 21st Century Skills program, Neil Wallace was able to have students learn with the hands-on program to help get rid of the AIS, Purple Loosestrife. The students had to focus on the four "C's" – Communication, Collaboration, Creativity and Critical Thinking. They created posters, games, etc to teach younger children about AIS. The students then went in the field to dig up 80 purple loosestrife plants. The plants were brought back to Discovery Center, potted, and netted to grow purple loosestrife eating beetles. The beetles will then be released into areas infested with purple loosestrife.

Presentation by Dan Cibulka

Dan Cibulka is an Aquatic Ecologist from Onterra, LLC with his masters in Environmental Studies. Onterra is working with TAISP and has written grants since 2011 for Lake Management Planning, AIS Education Prevention and Planning, and AIS Early Detection and Response for the MW Chain of Lakes. The project components are: Scientific Studies, Public Participation and Engagement (including the survey coming out in 2014), and Time Study with lakes.

Dan showed maps of the lakes and where Curly Leaf Pondweed (CLP) has been located in the MW Chain. He showed the progression of events from 2011 to the present. In 2012, they started with a low dose of chemicals. The low dose and changing waters levels made for an ineffective treatment. In 2013, Onterra treated the CLP in the Island Lake channel and by the island on Island Lake which was highly effective. They will hand harvest and monitor the CLP patches on Spider Lake and the Rest Lake Channel. CLP was absent in Clear Lake and Manitowish Lake has just one occurrence of CLP.

Acknowledgements and Announcements

Karen thanked our presenters, the MWLA board of directors and all the volunteers for their help in tonight's meeting and picnic. She pointed out the table toppers specifically thanking all the donors.

Raffles tickets will be sold until 5:30 p.m. and at 5:45 p.m. we will pull for door prizes.

Adjourn to Picnic

Motion by Greg Holt, second by Joan Galloway, to adjourn to the picnic. Motion passed. The meeting was adjourned at 4:55 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Marilyn Gabert, Secretary