

MWLA Minutes – August 15, 2016 Bobcat Cabin, Discovery Center

Bob Becker called the meeting to order at 9:30 a.m.

Paul Puccinelli moved to accept minutes from last minutes, the move was seconded by Karen Dixon. Motion carried

Committee Reports:

Water Ecology: TAISP – channel successful, Island Lake successful, Rest Lake CLP, Papoose Bay was searched but they did not find Curly Leaf Pondweed. Beetles were released and Purple Loosestrife was clipped on the Chain and Trout River. Purple Loosestrife reported below the dam in Benson Lake.

AIS - the training was well attended; boats were full for each session. 400 AIS monitoring hours are needed, 236 have been turned in to date. Many people have been bringing in plants to be identified. Fish Habitat – Tom Kramer contacted 6 locations. Island and Spider? Review rest, clear, spider, island proposed sites.

Financials: amount of donations have exceeded the budget. Several newsletters have been returned due to wrong addresses. Greg Holt moved to accept the financial report, with a second by Jim Reichert and motion carried.

Fish Habitat: Tom Kramer will be contacting the people who applied for Fish Sticks to look at their shorelines and trees for installing the fish sticks this winter.

Walleyes For Tomorrow: A bass tournament is planned for August 27th on the Manitowish Chain to help get more fish for the shore lunch fish fry on August 28th at music in the park. The tournament and fish fry will be done by WFT committee to raise money for fish habitat and stocking.

WFT and the town of MW will be planting extended growth walleyes in the chain at 10 fish per acre. There will be 40 to 42,000 fish planted on the chain at about \$2 per fish. So far they have raised approximately 45,000.

WFT committee met with the LDF Tribal council about stocking the amount of fish or more back into the off reservation lake. They agreed to do it to help out with the walleye populations in the lakes. They have 40,000 set aside to stock. The LDF Tribe speared about 15,000 last spring. They will be stocking well over 2 times that they speared. The Mole lake tribe also has extended growth walleyes to stock in lakes.

WFT committee talked to the tribe about not taking as many fish off of the MW Chain to help bring the populations back up. They said they would make a decision after the fall population study on the MW chain to be done by the tribe and the DNR. WFT and volunteers will be helping with the study.

Government Relations - At the last town board meeting, Dan and Ben (water patrol) reported they have stopped boats regularly with warnings and have issued a few citations. Most warnings are related to wake issues and educating the public about the requirement to slow down within a 100 foot circle around a no wake sign, not at the sign. A Koller Park neighbor has repeatedly complained about boats

pulling up to their property during music in the park despite town signage indicating the private property line. The patrol boats are trying to discourage parking within that area.

Bladder boats: Second generation boats are heavier and made to take on water, creating more wakes. Do we need local legislation to control these boats on the chain? Should we look at what other lakes have done to control bladder boats? Greg will do some research.

Due to erosion on Fawn and Stone lakes some residents are asking for another slow-no-wake buoy.

Parks and Trails committee - Send emails to Chris Troller or Bob Becker with suggestions and ideas. The Koller Park facilities need more trash receptacles and another stall in the Women's rest room.

Wisconsin Shoreland Initiative – Copies of a petition was presented for our signatures. Question was raised about WSI possibly moving from lobbying to politicking? Asking for solution to a problem is lobbying. Discussion ensued about who and how is politicking being defined by the WSI. Are they advocating against position or party? Does being a 501c3 preclude our participation?

Is MWLA functioning as the founding document stipulates? Double check what we want to be and how do we support the function(s). Karen read the purpose statement from the bylaws which says 'maintain, protect and enhance'.

Question was raised: do we want to sign petition as presented by WSI?

Greg Holt moved to do so, with a second by Karen Dixon. Motion approved.

More questions arose including: do we want to present to town board? Lend support to WSI? Winchester has signed on. Lakes and Rivers associations are joining.

Karen presented two photos of situation in Burnett County. Original cabin went from one to three stories. Another example was referenced on the MW chain. Does development on chain impact fish issues? Property value is directly related to water quality and water clarity. Do WSI initiatives directly impact these issues? Is market driving the 200 foot lot vs. 100 foot lot or is there a demand for legislation to protect the shore land? Town seems to be taking "wait and see" attitude.

Greg moved to ask that the town board include the WSI petition discussion on the agenda for their next meeting, with a second by Karen. Motion approved. Greg will speak to John Hanson and Karen or Paul will present at Sept. 13th meeting.

Public communications: Summer newsletter mailed July 19th. Another goes out late September. The bylaws state that a newsletter will be distributed 3 times per year.

Annual meeting: attendance down about 20. Raffle donations were down, we had less prizes than last year. It was agreed to maintain the last Saturday of the month as a meeting date going forward and the Discovery Center has been reserved for next couple of years.

Cran-a-rama – October 1st - Plan more in September. Tom Kramer's boat will be available and Mary Bowlus may have a boat.

Merchandise inventory: Sales at the annual meeting were \$90.00 vs. \$115.00 in 2015. Should we sell shirts or hats at the grocery store, next to bike shirts? Bike people took in \$21,000 on July 4th. To be discussed at the next meeting.

Committee assignments: Bob will send committee list to new members so they can review and decide what they want to sign up for.

Contact information was updated at the meeting.

We need to replace Jim Cagney on the board, should we ask someone from the Dead Pike Lake association to be on our board?

A Dead Pike Lake meeting included John Hanson, Tom Tiffany, Rob Swearingen, Bob Becker, Gale Wolf and others. The Charrette held earlier this summer was not a success, the University was paid \$50,000 by DNR and the outcome basically agreed with DRN. Now the issue is going to the legislature for action. Bob will contact Pete and Gale regarding being a board member and invite Dead Pike Lake residents to become members of MWLA.

There was discussion about adding a digital device as an alternative to cash and checks for retail purchases and dues payments. Jody made a motion to purchase a device not exceeding \$350.00, with a second by Karen. The motion passed. Bob volunteered to purchase a device. Sales reports will be digitally emailed to the treasurer and sales can also be recorded manually at time of sale.

Items from the floor: river group. Nothing new.

Discussion on the channel between Clear and Fawn lake. Rip Rap on north shore? How the original bridge was built is what's causing the channel to fill in because of backwash. Dredge it out? MWLA review in September, discuss with Quita and town board?

Discussed the Rest Lake shoreland swap with the DNR: MWLA received a "thank you for your letter" from the DNR saying the swap is a done deal.

A Fox news representative will be the presenter at Dinner on the Chain on August 29th; a seat is available for a board member if anyone wants to use it.

Next meeting September 19th. Adjourned 11:22 a.m.

Respectfully submitted by:

Jody Miller, Secretary MWLA