

## **Minutes of Manitowish Waters Lake Association Board Meeting**

Monday, October 12, 2015

Koller Library

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

Members present: Karen Dixon, Eleanor Butler, Jody Miller, Bob Stowers, Paul Puccinelli, Tom Kramer, Greg Holt.

Members absent: Tom Joseph, Marilyn Gabert, Bob Becker, Jim Cagney, Jim Reichert, Barry Hopkins.

Guest: Anne Kretschmann.

### **Approval of Agenda**

Motion made by Greg Holt, seconded by Jody Miller. Motion passed.

### **Approval of Minutes of September 14, 2015 meeting**

Motion made by Tom Kramer, seconded by Jody Miller. Motion passed.

### **Approval of Financial Report**

Motion made by Paul Puccinelli, seconded by Tom Kramer. Motion passed.

### **Committee Reports**

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

TAISP—Eleanor Butler is working on updating the list of survey stakeholders for the upcoming survey; currently the list is on Unix and will need to be re-formatted. Anne K. will be cross-checking our membership list with the Town list that the Chamber of Commerce has.

Anne K. reported that TAISP has asked the Town of Manitowish Waters for the upcoming budget to include funds for AIS. The approval for this will be formalized in the upcoming budget that the Town Board is working on. Additional money will also be set aside as a contingency in the event reimbursements for anticipated grants do not materialize. Boulder Junction will again also contribute funds.

Anne K. reported that a boat wash for the Rest Lake boat landing is in the initial discussion phase and she and John Hanson will be working on this more in the future.

Karen D. reported that the September 14<sup>th</sup> Lake Planning Meeting was a success and very informative and a report on this will be coming in the future.

Fish Crib and Stocking Project/Walleyes for Tomorrow - Tom K. reported that four individuals have expressed an interest in participating in the Fish Sticks program. Tom K. will be receiving the permit applications from Steve Gilbert.

#### **Government Relations:**

Planning Commission/Town Board - 87 folks attended the October 6<sup>th</sup> Planning Commission which included discussion regarding the proposed contract between the Town of Manitowish Waters and Elizabeth Uihlien for donation for maintenance of the bike trail. The Planning Commission approved the recommendation to the Town Board that the proposed existing maintenance agreement between the Town and Elizabeth Uihlien not be approved, and that the signage issue be addressed and that a yearly review of trail maintenance be incorporated into any agreement. The Town Board will take up the matter again at the meeting on October 12<sup>th</sup>. Karen D. has asked that the October 12<sup>th</sup> Town Board meeting agenda include allowing for discussion as to whether the Town will be involved in efforts to modify or repeal Act 55 related to shoreland zoning.

Rest Lake Dam - Eleanor B. reported that the anticipated meeting between the DNR and Xcel Energy has been postponed as the DNR's person on this, Mike Bruhn has resigned. No date has been set for a meeting at this time.

Shoreline Zoning Update - On Sept. 15, Karen Dixon made a motion, via email, to go forward with the contribution of \$3,000 to the shoreland zoning repeal effort minus the caveat (representative of the MWLA having a seat on

the Plum Lake Shoreland Zoning group steering committee or equivalent), seconded by Eleanor Butler. Motion passed with 8 members in favor and 5 opposed. Those voting in favor were Karen Dixon, Eleanor Butler, Tom Joseph, Marilyn Gabert, Greg Holt, Bob Stowers, Jody Miller and Jim Cagney. Those opposed were Bob Becker, Paul Puccinelli, Jim Reichert, Barry Hopkins, and Tom Kramer.

Karen has received multiple positive correspondences from MWLA members regarding the Plum Lake initiative relative to shoreland zoning repeal contribution by the MWLA.

### **Public Communications**

Fall newsletter-The Fall newsletter was mailed out on September 30<sup>th</sup>.

New brochure dissemination - Karen has provided 4 local realtors, multiple restaurants, the Chamber of Commerce and Koller Library with copies of the new brochure; more copies will be disseminated locally in the spring.

May Chamber of Commerce mailing - It is possible that the new brochure would be able to be converted to a flyer format and included with other community flyers that the Chamber of Commerce sends out in May. Paul P. made a motion that the brochure goes out in flyer format with the spring Chamber of Commerce mailing. Greg H. seconded the motion. Motion passed.

### **Community Outreach**

Cran-a-rama/Pontoon Tours update, FYI ad - MWLA merchandise sales were down this year, ~ \$325.00 worth of items were sold. Donations received during Cran-a-rama included \$82.00 for AIS and \$49.00 for Fish Cribs. Four pontoons provided 120 pontoon rides during Cran-a-rama. The ad donated by Bob Becker promoting MWLA in FYI was discussed and felt to be very well-done.

2016 Annual Meeting - The Annual meeting will be July 30<sup>th</sup> at the Discovery Center in 2016. Jody M. will be checking with local restaurants to see if there is an interest in catering the event. The approximate recent costs charged by caterers have been ~\$12.00/plate; in 2015 ~ 125 folks attended the event. Possible presentation ideas suggested for the 2016 meeting included: Economic Value of Lakes, related to value of maintaining clean lakes; Lake Stress; Water Basin Education; Value of Our Local Wetlands with possible presentation by a Wisconsin Wetlands representative; Shoreland Restoration with possible presentation by Quita Sheehan Lake Conservation Specialist with the Vilas County Land and Water Conservation Department. Further discussion on this will continue at 2016 Board meetings. It is noted that the Chamber of Commerce 2016 Wine in the Woods event will take place the weekend before the MWLA annual meeting, allowing for the tents at the Discovery Center to be in place for the annual meeting without additional charge for tent set-up.

### **Administrative**

Discussion of bylaws re: officer succession; filling leadership positions, adding new board members - the previously planned meeting of the working group committee was cancelled. The planned date for the meeting has been moved to October 21<sup>st</sup> at 6:00 p.m. at the home of Karen D.

### **Old Business**

Investigate online membership payment - No requests from the general membership have been made to date for online payment. Possible costs associated with this if done through PayPal would include 2.9% plus \$0.30 for each transaction; to use PayPal, members would have to be enrolled in PayPal. This subject has been tabled until next year.

Chamber After 5 - The MWLA could possibly co-sponsor a Chamber Presents meeting with the Discovery Center with a possible presentation by Quita Sheehan from the Vilas County Land and Conservation Department. Further discussion of this will occur next year.

## **New Business**

Wisconsin Lakes Action Alert - Proposed Wisconsin Senate bill 239 is looking at ending the requirement for the DNR to review high capacity wells when there is a transfer of ownership. The Wisconsin Lakes committee will meet again this October to further discuss this proposed bill and any possible involvement in the process.

Items from the floor - Karen D. passed out and a copy of the information compiled in Minnesota on the factors stressing Minnesota Lakes. She also has provided a copy for each of the Town supervisors.

## **Correspondence**

9-7-15 received thank you from MW Skeeters for donation of \$500.00

9-16-15 sent e-mail alert re: Healthy Lakes grants

9-16-15 sent letter to Senator Tiffany re: shoreland zoning with follow-up phone call

9-16-15 sent e-mail alert re: Shoreland Zoning Repeal efforts (received 15 - 20 responses, all positive)

9-20-15 sent letter and \$3000 check to Plum Lake Association, Inc., Shoreland Zoning

9-22-15 received letter from NLDC requesting budgeted funds for AIS Program

9-25-15 sent letter and check for \$5000 to NLDC for AIS Program

10-1-15 received receipt and thank you form Plum Lake Association for \$3000 donation for shoreland zoning efforts

10-4-15 sent email thank you to all Cran-a-rama and pontoon tour volunteers

## **Next meeting/adjournment**

Next meeting - The next MWLA meeting will be May 16<sup>th</sup>, 2016 @ 9:30 a.m. at Koller Library.

Adjournment - Bob S. moved to adjourn, Paul P. seconded. Motion passed. Meeting adjourned at 11:08 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Greg Holt