

Manitowish Waters Lakes Association  
Board of Directors meeting  
May 15, 2015

Meeting called to order at 9:30 a.m. by President Bob Becker.

Attending: Bob Becker, Delp Schafer, Greg Holt, Karen Dixon, Mary Bowlus, Angie Dombrowicki, Emily Heald, Jody Miller, Jim Reichert (phone), Tom Kramer, Eleanor Butler.

Absent: Paul Puccinelli

Approve Agenda: Greg moved to approve the agenda with a second from Bob Stowers, board approved.

Minutes from September 19, 2016 meeting: Greg made a motion to approve the minutes with a second from Angie and the board approved.

Karen introduced Emily Heald, new water coordinator with the Discovery Center.

Water Ecology and Safety – reported by Emily Heald:

Grants: Phase 2 and 3 closed December 2016. Info circulated to group in February for feedback. Onterra meeting dates have not been confirmed yet.

Phase 5 grant –initially the grant was not approved but later the DNR confirmed that additional funds were available and the grant was awarded (\$94,390.18). Stone, Vance, Sturgeon and Benson Lakes, and the Manitowish River will be monitored only in the summer. It was determined that the lakes are too shallow during the spring and fall for monitoring. 142 volunteer hours are needed to support the grant.

Two interns will be assigned to MW for clean boats/clean water. Early CLP monitoring by DC interns via pontoon is planned. Will alert the board in advance if anyone wants to participate.

Onterra will continue to do CLP monitoring this summer. No chemical treatment is planned this year, they want to assess what the seedbank looks like to determine next course of action.

Information on training dates was circulated to the board earlier.

Last week a group of 7<sup>th</sup> graders helped with monitoring Purple Loosestrife on Big Muskellunge lake. About 60 roots were dug up and planted in pots to attract beetles for use in treating Purple Loosestrife this summer.

Healthy lakes grant: Per Tom Kramer there were three tree drops on two sites this winter, two trees on Spider and one on Island.

Fish Habitat: Tom Kramer suggested a review of State property on the chain to determine possible locations for fish sticks. The regulations require trees used for fish sticks be located 15 feet above the high water mark on shore which can discourage some private property owners.

Walleyes for Tomorrow: 105,000 fry were released last Sunday from the portable fish hatchery. Mostly females were captured from High Lake and Fish Trap Lake, very few males. A question was raised about the fish spearing this spring. Walleyes for Tomorrow have continued to request that the tribe restock

the same number (or more) of extended growth walleyes that were harvested. The Tribal members contacted seem willing to do it, still working on getting agreement.

In the fall of 2016 35,000 plus extended growth walleyes were released into the chain. The original plan was for 42,000 but the suppliers didn't have sufficient stock.

Financial report: Question was raised about the \$6000 budgeted in 2016 for water ecology and safety vs. the expenditure of \$1,485. We were reminded that the board approved \$6000 be set aside in case the grant request was denied. Tom Kramer made a motion to approve the finance report with a second from Mary B. Board approved.

Government relations:

Greg confirmed he will attend June meetings since Bob will be on vacation.

Rest Lake Boat Landing report: New boat landing area , parking lot and roadway has been cleared. Targeted date for completion is mid-June. Old launch site is still in place for upcoming clean boats/water training.

At the request of the board, Greg will continue providing his reports from Town Board, Planning Commission and Parks and Trail committee meetings.

Dam MOU meeting in April: Greg recapped what was discussed including a new gauge placement (exact location to be determined), the MOU wording being changed to clarify flow control in the spring. Walleye spawning can be affected by increased water depth which may prevent eggs from warming up to hatch. Asked for date and time stamped photos from ice damage this winter. Should we discuss next meeting to reach out to the MWLA members, email alert or newsletter?

Bob Becker: Has drafted the spring newsletter and expects it will be mailed by the 24<sup>th</sup>. Eleanor said she would be out of town and suggested Bob coordinate with Gina to create copies and Eleanor will print labels in advance. A suggestion was made to send the newsletter to all property owners, not just members. The board members agreed that wasn't a good idea, our flyer is included in the Chamber of Commerce mailing to all property owners.

Eleanor mentioned that she only received two responses to her inquiry for putting a flyer in the Chamber newsletter and suggested board members read and reply to emails requesting their input.

Community Outreach:

Bob suggested each member of the board consider taking responsibility for specific events. This will be discussed at the June meeting.

Fred/Aurora Borealis will not be available to cater the annual meeting this year and suggested Reuland's. Other suggestions from the board include Catering to Go, Blue Bayou, Lazy Ace. Should we request raffle prizes from members? Mary and Angie volunteered to co-chair the annual meeting.

Roadside trash pickup: Intersection of Highway K to NL School – Fred and Terry continue to represent MWLA for cleanup.

A request to donate to the Carlin Lake initiative was vetoed by the board, the area in question is outside MWLA jurisdiction.

Jim asked if we should consider developing a strategic vision for the MWLA and possibly identify specific targets for growing revenue. More aggressive with donations? What ifs – potential grant problems, town not continuing contributions, etc. Create new programs i.e. bringing in children to Discovery Center to teach them how to fish. Target membership growth.

Old business: Bob B. met with Quita and Stacey about the bridge/channel between Clear and Fawn Lakes. Kyle McLoughlin also visited and determined there is deterioration on Clear Lake side and a need for some rip rap. The area needs dredging, no channel left. Suggested dredging a channel and marking it with buoys to guide boats as they emerge from under the bridge. Bob is asking Chuck Kramer to help determine the cost. There may be state or grant money available for the project.

Skiing Skeeters ad: In past years we've had an agreement to pay \$60 for an ad, based on MWLA donation of \$500.00.

Greg: Quita Sheehan looked at shore land erosion at Rest Lake Park, south of current pier and from the ski docks pier north. There is a current contract between the county and the town to address erosion from the current boat landing to ski dock and they are considering a second contract to cover the shore from the ski dock north to the private property. Some good sized trees need to be removed, can they be used as tree sticks?

Karen, Greg and Emily reported on the WI Lakes Partnership Conference in Stevens Point. Approximately 600 people attended, the workshops and speakers were excellent. One nugget of information regarding the zoning changes: 54 counties had more restrictive zoning than what has been passed, only 17 counties did not.

Greg will report on bladder boats at the June meeting.

Adjourned 11:15 a.m.

Respectfully Submitted by:  
JoAnn Miller, Secretary