

## Minutes of Manitowish Waters Lakes Association Board Meeting

Monday, May 20, 2013

Koller Library

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

Members present: Karen Dixon, Tom Kramer, Marilyn Gabert, Greg Holt, Eleanor Butler, Tom Joseph, Bob Becker, Merry Perkins

Members absent: Fred Theisen, Barry Hopkins, Jim Banovetz, Jim Reichert, Bob Stowers

Guests: Anne Kretschmann

### **Approval of Agenda**

Motion made by Bob B, second by Tom K. to approve the agenda, amended to add fish stocking under Water Ecology and Safety. Motion passed.

### **Approval of Minutes**

Motion made by Greg, second by Tom K. to accept the minutes, with one small spelling correction, of the October 15, 2012 meeting. Motion passed.

### **Approval of Financial Report**

Motion made by Bob B., second by Merry to accept the financial report. Motion passed.

### **Water Ecology and Safety**

TAISP – Anne Kretschmann reported that TAISP has hired a new intern, Tim Dobbins, from Sugar Camp. We just received the August grant and were very high-ranked on the application. The next grant we were ranked 1<sup>st</sup> in the state. There have been 6 grants written to date.

There is a new draining campaign. Posters are being put on ice machines and ice packs will be given away at boat landings to promote fishermen putting their fish on ice and not taking lake water with them. Also handed out at boat landings this year there will be Blitz Towels with a similar message on them.

On June 20, Anne K. and Ted Ritter will be presenting an Aquatic Vegetation Workshop at the Discovery Center. There is an additional Lake Expert Pontoon workshop on August 8 from 2:00 – 4:00 pm presented by Carolyn Scholl.

A TAISP logo is being worked on and should be ready to use soon.

Onterra will be doing chemical treatments on the Curly Leaf Pondweed (CLP) on the river between Island and Spider Lake as soon as the water temperatures are appropriate – probably within two weeks. We need volunteers to monitor the herbicide so we can adjust for future treatments. It would entail taking water samples, adding an acid and mailing it in. Onterra needs to wait for permits before they can treat the CLP in Rice Creek.

Anne reviewed the Lake Captain list and found we could use a Lake Captain for the Alder/Manitowish Channel and the Alder/Wild Rice Channel. A volunteer labor worksheet was handed out to the board along with a map of the affected areas on the chain. She also handed out a list of AIS programs that will be offered through the DC.

Clean Boats Clean Water (CBCW) – 200 hours need to be put in on the chain this year. The Rest Lake grant specifies that 25 hours must be volunteer hours. Karen Dixon puts in CBCW hours every summer and Anne suggested that anybody on the board or from town could join her and we could work towards fulfilling those hours.

Purple Loosestrife (PL) – Karen and Anne went out with the local 7<sup>th</sup> graders to dig up and pot 75 PL plants. The plants will be used to grow PL-eating beetles to release into the wild.

2013 Invader Crusader Award - Anne Kretschmann just won the Invader Crusader Award. The Wisconsin Invasive Species Council presents this award for outstanding efforts and commitment to stopping the spread of invasives through education and field management.

Fish Crib Project – Tom K. reported that 12 fish cribs will be put in Little Star this year. The logs are cut, they need to put them together and then they will sink them..

Fish Stocking – There was discussion on stocking some of the area lakes with walleyes and crappies. Tom K. said he will look into it and check with the DNR about necessary permits.

### **Government**

MCDF – Rest Lake Dam – The DNR said there will be an informational meeting on either July 11,12, or 13. In May, the chain was at 6'6". Also in May, the river dropped 40" in 6 days.

Town Board – There will be a Town Board meeting on June 11.

Alliance – There will be an Alliance meeting on May 24. They had to cancel their highway pick- up due to inclement weather.

**Public Communications** – Karen has been working hard on getting the MWLA newsletter ready. She went over the topics included and hopes to mail it out next week. There are a lot of pictures included this time. Those that open the newsletter via email will be able to see the pictures in color. Marilyn developed a MWLA flyer for the May Chamber mailing.

### **Community Outreach**

July 4<sup>th</sup> and Annual Meeting – Briefly touched on these subjects and handed out worksheets. Fred has already obtained the permit for the trout pond for July 4<sup>th</sup>.

Administrative – Eleanor talked to her computer programmer about preprinting member names on our membership renewal cards. He suggested using a different program than the one we currently use. We could also set it up so the address shows through a window on the envelope, then we wouldn't have to print mailing labels. It won't be ready in time for this mailing, but Eleanor will work on it so we can be set up for next time. This spring's newsletter will go out next week. Eleanor will look into getting a stamp that says, "membership renewal inside", so people don't miss it.

Elections – All the MWLA officers will again run for office along with most of the board members who have terms ending. One board member has yet to make a decision.

501(c)(3) – Tom J. and Dan Johns have been putting in many hours and the application is ready to go, but it was recommended that we have a conflict of interest policy. Motion by Tom J., second by Bob. B. to pass the Conflict of Interest Policy. Motion passed. The application will cost \$750 and the document will be \$25.

Budget – The officers will meet on May 23 to set up a 2013 draft budget to bring back to the board at the next meeting.

### **Correspondence**

12-11-12 received thank you card from NLES for our financial support of the Outdoor Education Field Trips  
2-28-13 sent letter to Gov. Walker, Rep. Swearingen, Sen. Tiffany supporting Wisconsin Lakes AIS Control Initiative  
3-8-13 received \$400 donation from MW Alliance for Fish Crib Project and AIS  
3-12-13 sent letter of thank you to MW Alliance for their donation of \$400 (\$200 to AIS, \$200 to fish cribs)  
3-28-13 sent letter to DNR Secretary Stepp and seven WNRB members opposing any change in motor trolling rules  
4-3-13 received thank you from NRB for our letter of input re: motor trolling  
4-3-13 sent letter to Vilas County Board of Supervisors opposing any change to ATV resolution of 2004  
4-6-13 received information from Camp Jorn re: Strong Kids Campaign  
5-14-13 received NLES invitation to an appreciation breakfast on May 22.  
5-16-13 received invitation from Liz and Dick Uihlein for Dinner on the Chain

### **Old Business**

Scratch pads – Karen got prices from Hahn Printing for making MWLA scratch pads. Karen will set up a draft of the scratch pad for us to review.

**New Business**

Wisconsin Lakes Partnership Convention – Karen and Anne attended this convention. They said it was good and they learned a few new things. There were interesting speakers and they did some networking. Karen picked up a few tiny Life Line Booklets. Bob B. will call and look into the details of having some printed for the MWLA.

John Bate's request – John Bate's would like to talk to the MWLA board, the Town Board and the Alliance in regard to the Rest Lake Dam. The board decided to wait until after the operating order is issued by the DNR before any decision on a meeting is made.

Economic Development workshop – with Roger Brooks. Eleanor and Bob B. attended. Roger stressed that the town needed to decide on a brand (theme).

Economic Development Meeting – Karen reported that a survey will be sent out in the May Chamber mailing. After the survey there will be a town forum. There will be a Western Vilas County Business Incubator set up in the old Up North building. There is currently an Eastern Vilas County Incubator in Eagle River.

Water Safety Patrol Officer – Dan Cardinal has been hired as the new Water Safety Patrol Officer.

Next meeting for the MWLA will be Monday, June 17, 2013 at 9:30 a.m. in the Koller Library meeting room.

Motion made by Tom J., second by Greg to adjourn. Motion passed. Meeting adjourned at 11:55 a.m.

Respectfully submitted by Marilyn Gabert, Secretary