

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

Monday, June 16, 2014

Koller Library

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

Members present: Karen Dixon, Marilyn Gabert, Greg Holt, Tom Joseph, Eleanor Butler, Bob Stowers, Barry Hopkins, Jim Reichert, Tom Kramer, Jim Banovetz

Members absent: Fred Theisen, Merry Perkins, Bob Becker

Guest: Anne Kretschmann, Drew Lockwood (Water Intern)

### **Approval of Agenda**

Motion made by Tom J., second by Greg to approve the agenda. Motion passed.

### **Approval of Minutes**

Motion made by Jim R., second by Jim B. to accept the minutes of the May 19, 2014 meeting with one small edit. Motion passed.

### **Approval of Financial Report**

Motion made by Jim B. second by Greg to accept the financial report. Motion passed.

### **Approval of Full Year Financial Report**

Motion by Tom J., second by Jim B., to approve the financial report. Motion passed. Jim B. commended the Administrative Committee for developing such an effective budget for the past year.

### **Committee Reports**

#### **Water Ecology and Safety**

TAISP – Clean Lakes was hired as this year's applicator for the treatment of the Curly Leaf Pondweed (CLP) on the MW Chain. The bay on Island Lake was treated along with the Spider/Island channel and a bay on the Rest Lake channel. Rice Creek is still full of CLP and cannot be treated because of the wild rice. Anne has requested that the topic of buoys be put on the agenda for the Manitowish Waters and Boulder Junction Town Board requesting them to fill out the application for the buoys that will say "Invasive Area Please Keep Out." or "Invasive Area Please Clear Prop". Tom K. will find out if anyone lives up Rice Creek.

There is money in the grant to hire scuba divers to hand harvest any CLP that is in small patches.

Kevin Griffith was gracious enough to allow the Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS) pontoon to dock at his property right next to Rest Lake Park boat landing.

This Tuesday is the first AIS training and they have so many people signed up there will be a second session.

If anyone is available to help, this Wednesday Anne and Drew will go out and collect Purple Loosestrife (PL) Beetles to bring back to Discovery Center for breeding on the potted PL plants. Meet at Discovery Center at 1:00 pm.

Onterra is in the process of doing a full lake study on Wild Rice and Alder Lakes.

Please keep track of all your volunteer hours monitoring the lakes and turn the hours in to Anne.

Fish Crib & Fish Stocking Project – Twelve fish cribs will go out on Island Lake at the end of the summer. Tom K had one person request that a fish crib go out in front of his place.

Walleyes for Tomorrow (WFT) just had a big fundraiser at Red Crown Lodge. They received \$20,000 in sponsorships. WFT will work with the local Indians when spearing walleyes so WFT can get a particular bone (otolith) out of the walleyes that indicate the age of the fish. WFT needs this information for potential lake stocking.

## **Government Relations**

Rest Lake Dam – The Manitowish Chain Defense Fund (MCDF) attorney has made a request to the DNR to change the date of the latest public hearing. They were given less than 30 days notification and need time to gather information from the experts and time to notify people. MCDF met with Xcel energy who thought the draft operating order was too stringent.

TB, PC meetings – The Plan Commission has been discussing a donation policy. A motion was made to accept the draft policy recommended by the Plan Commission, but the motion died when there was no second. There will be a Bike Trail dedication ceremony at the intersection of Hwy H & Hwy K sometime in July. We need to check into the exact date.

## **Public Communications**

Karen is working on the summer newsletter and listed off the subjects she intends to include.

## **Community Outreach**

4<sup>th</sup> of July – Discussion and sign-up for shifts at the 4<sup>th</sup> of July Trout Pond and information booth. Anne and Drew will have the AIS booth set up next to MWLA.

Annual Meeting – Saturday, July 26, 2014. We tabled further discussion until our next meeting.

Cran-a-rama – Bob S. talked to Greer to see if we could use his pontoons for free pontoon rides at Cran-a-rama. However, the Cran-a-rama date was changed from the usual end of September to the first weekend in October. Greer will not have any boats in the water at that time and the gas pumps will be shut down. Jim R's boat will be pulled by then. We could possibly use the Discovery Center's AIS pontoon. Karen will check with Bob B. to see if his boat will still be in the water on Oct. 4.

Roadside pickup – Fred and Terry have completed the first of three highway pickups.

## **Administrative**

Elections – up for reelection and willing to run again: Karen, Tom J., Marilyn, Eleanor Greg, Tom K. and Barry. Jody Miller has agreed to run in Merry's place. Jim B. will step down from the board. He would still like to be involved in an advisory position if we need him. The board will discuss names of possible candidates to replace Jim B. at the July meeting.

Alliance - Their Annual Meeting and Appreciation Social is scheduled for July 12. They usually meet the first Saturday in July but that was July 5<sup>th</sup> this year so they changed their date to July 12. That date was in conflict with the Discovery Center's Wine in the Woods, so the DC just changed the date of Wine in the Woods to Thursday, July 31. Karen will make an announcement at the Alliance meeting about the new Wine in the Woods date.

Budget – the MWLA officers met and put together a budget for this year and was reviewed at our meeting. We will make a couple changes and review it again at our July meeting. We want to add some office supplies to the budget.

By-laws – There was some discussion about possible term limits at this meeting, but we did not have time to discuss membership dues or planned giving.

## **Old Business**

Program to print names – Eleanor is still going to talk to someone to see if we can automatically print names on our renewal forms

Pontoon sign - Eleanor will check into prices of signs advertising the free pontoon rides at Cran-a-rama. We have one large sandwich sign now, but thought it would be good to have smaller signs ¼ mile either side of Blue Bayou to give people a heads up for the turn. Sign would say "Free pontoon rides ahead". Eleanor is still going to look into the price of such a sign, but we may hold off ordering one until we know if we have enough pontoons in the water to offer the rides this year.

## **New Business**

Discovery Center – Sarah Johnson has resigned from her position at Discovery Center. She has two small children and wants to be able to spend more time with them.

Letter – Karen received a letter from Michelle Freyder who was willing to do research on the lakes. Karen forwarded the letter to Discovery Center.

North Central County Lakes Association Workshop – There were two Blue Heron Shoreline Stewardship Awards given out. One went to Nick & Carol Williams, the other went to the Island Lake Woods Subdivision. Karen Dixon has agreed to be on the Vilas County Lakes and Rivers Association board along with Anne Kretschmann.

**Correspondence**

5-20-14 sent thank you card to Fred and Terry Theisen for their help with the past four MWLA Annual Picnics

5-20-14 sent check for \$45 and cover letter to Skiing Skeeters for MWLA ad in summer program

5-27-14 sent out MWLA Spring e-Newsletter using MailChimp

5-29-14 mailed out MWLA Spring Newsletter

5-30-14 sent check for \$500 to Walleyes for Tomorrow for Silver Sponsor and \$25 for membership

5-30-14 emailed congratulations to Judy Ruch from Presque Isle for being chosen 2014 Crusader Invader

The next MWLA board meeting will be Monday, July 14, 2014 at 9:30 a.m. in the Koller Library meeting room.

Motion by Tom J, second by Jim R., to adjourn the meeting.

Meeting adjourned at 11:47 a.m.

Respectfully submitted by Marilyn Gabert, Secretary