

## Manitowish Waters Lakes Association Board Meeting

September 19, 2016 at 9:30 a.m.

Attendees: Anne Kretschmann, Bob Stowers, Paul Puccinelli, Bob Becker, Jody Miller, Karen Dixon, Angie Dombrowski, Eleanor Butler, Delp Schafer.

Absent: Greg Holt, Tom Kramer, Jim Reichert, Mary Bowlus

Meeting was called to order at 9:30 a.m. Paul P. moved to accept minutes from last meeting, with a second by Angie D., motion was approved.

### AIS Report:

Anne K. reported that she had attended a special board meeting in Boulder Junction to request \$7000 and they approved \$4000. She has asked each town for funds to match the grants we received.

Purple Loosestrife: Only about half the number of beetles needed have been planted. Apparently, this year beetles are not in abundance. Some rootstock was cutback for use next year. Lakes included: Rest, Stone, Stepping Stones, Wild Rice, Rice Creek and Island.

The goal for 400 volunteer hours is achievable, we have 526 hours year to date.

DC Intern, Peter Rebholz, has been hired to help Anne with grant paperwork this fall.

Anne reported on upcoming changes to the grant program: Clean boats, clean water – previously, the requirement was for 200 hours at one landing, a change will now allow hours to be split between multiple landings. It is anticipated time will be split between Clear and Rest Lake boat landings.

Anne attended a listening session with the DNR regarding upcoming public hearings planned for the Fall to discuss grants. Changes will have been made for the 2019 grant cycle. Check the DNR website for specific information. It appears we won't be able to request a town wide grant and the DNR is not clear on how it might impact a chain of lakes.

Paul P. made a motion to draft letter to DNR stating our position that a chain of lakes should be included in the grant and forward to the board for signature. Second from Angie, motion carried.

### Finance report:

\$12,645.18 since 2010. \$6,912.24 has been spent on fish cribs and other habitat. Miscellaneous collections (since 2010) total \$10,516.00 to spend on whatever.

Finance: Paul made motion to approve, second from Bob Stowers. Motion approved

Paul made a motion to donate up to \$5000 for fish planting, second by Bob Stowers. Approved

### Government Relations:

Judy Peterson Ilg and husband talked to the Planning Commission about making a trail sign regarding the bogs and other ecological info on their property. Planning commission approved the sign.

Tomorrow night is a public meeting about the Town's comprehensive plan including (not limited to) broadband needs and affordable housing.

Town board: Regarding Rest Lake Park a motion was made to hire a consultant about moving the boat landing or rebuilding at the existing location.

Room committee allocated \$10,000 to walleye stocking and \$200 to Music in the Park.

The next Town board meeting is Oct. 4, at 6 p.m. with Plan Commission meeting at 7 p.m.

### Shoreland Initiative

A resolution was passed to sign the Shoreland Initiative petition. Eleanor reported that the CPA advised MWLA should carefully review what's allowed and what's prohibited prior to making further contributions to the Shoreland Initiative. Eleanor will send email.

Karen will help with writing newsletter with Bob on vacation. Reviewed subjects to include in letter. Need volunteers to send the letter.

### Community Outreach:

Cran-a-rama - Volunteers Greg, Eleanor, Anne, Peter, Karen, Jody, Tom

Booth – volunteers needed

Pontoons: Have confirmed the availability of 3 boats with drivers. Bob B. has also arranged for greeters and clean up.

Administrative: Square - charge 2.75%, key in number 3.5% plus \$0.15. credit card reader is free, chip card is \$50. Receipts are sent to cardholder's email.

Old Business: Paul questioned the on board meeting dates that have been circulated for 2017. Apparently, the 2016 calendar was used so a correct listing will follow.

Eleanor read the following email from a CPA regarding donations and tax exempt organizations:

“You do need to be very careful with this. As a 501(c)(3) organization you are strictly prohibited from making any political contributions or participating in political activity. You are, however, able to have some limited lobbying expenditures. The WI Shoreland Initiative website doesn't provide very straight-forward information on its organization/tax status. If your organization wants to give them money you need to make sure the contribution would be considered lobbying, not political. You also need to watch the dollar amount – while some limited lobbying is allowed, you could lose your exempt status if lobbying expenditures or lobbying activities were deemed to rise to a “substantial” level. And, of course, in typical IRS fashion there is no bright-line, easy to monitor definition of substantial.

A few items to note when considering political versus lobbying...political expenses are paid or incurred to promote the campaign of a particular candidate. Even indirect political participation is 100% prohibited (activities or expenses condemning a particular candidate who holds a different viewpoint.) Lobbying, on the other hand, relates to legislation and can include advocating the adoption or rejection of legislation, directly contacting members of a legislative body, or grassroots lobbying – urging members of the public to contact their legislators or take other steps in support of or rejection of legislation. “

It was agreed that we should continue using the Bobcat cabin at the Discovery Center for 2017 meetings.

Lakes in Action – Karen will attend, possibly Eleanor.

Signs for Blue Bayou Pontoon Boat Rides: Karen has the Community Center storage key. Linda W. will print more signs if needed. Bob will distribute signs to businesses. A check for \$150.00 will be donated to Relay for Life, as thanks for utilizing Blue Bayou's dock at Colorama.

Channel between Clear and Fawn Lake: Steve Peterson with DNR (owns land). Can get dredging permit to dredge channel and add rip rap? Steve suggest wooden seawall Bob said big rocks. Start with Quita, she will review area with water specialist.

No correspondence to review.

New business:

Paul P. raised the issue of light pollution: Will the new tower in Presque Isle it has a shield? Should we generate a letter to Presque Isle stating we're in favor of the tower but asking that they incorporate light shields. Paul made motion, Bob Stowers second. Moved. Paul will send the letter on behalf of the board.

Committees: Delp suggested joining Government; Angie suggested joining Government.

We discussed possibility of having Dale Wolf (Dead Pike Lake association) speak at the first meeting in 2017. DPLA members have been invited to join our association.

Question was raised about inviting residents of Stepping Stone Lakes to join MWLA?

October mailing: Volunteers will be needed to stuff envelopes.

Bob Stowers moved to adjourn, Paul seconded and meeting was adjourned about 11 a.m.