

MWLA Board of Directors Meeting
May 20, 2019
Minutes

President Bob Becker called the meeting to order at 9:30 am.

Board Members Present: Bob Becker, Greg Holt, Paul Puccinelli , Dennis Wilm, Karen Dixon. Delp Schafer, Angie Dombrowicki, Eleanor Butler

Board Members Absent: Gayle Wolf, Tom Kramer, Mary Bowlus, Jody Miller

Paul moved to approve the agenda; Greg seconded. The agenda was approved.

Paul moved to approve the minutes; Delp seconded. The minutes were approved.

Congratulations to Emily Heald for winning the Wisconsin Lakes Stewardship Award from the Wisconsin Lakes Partnership and the 2019 Invasive Species Council Invader Crusader Award.

Water Ecology and Safety –Emily Heald

AIS-Emily will train Board Members on how to identify AIS, especially curly -leaf pondweed and purple loosestrife immediately after the June 17th board meeting.

Emily reminded Board members to turn in their volunteer hours for lake monitoring. These hours are critical for grant funding.

Interpretative signs regarding AIS are ready to go at Rest Lake Boat Landings

Curly -Leaf Pondweed (CLP) - No chemical treatment is necessary at this time and the Discovery Center and will monitor all lakes Onterra and the Discovery Center (DC) will provide GPS information to divers to hand pull CLP. Emily and DC interns will also hand pull CLP.

Purple Loosestrife (PL) - 7th grade students assisted with rootstock planting on May 8. Volunteers are needed to pull PL in areas that are easier to access. More difficult areas will be done by Emily and interns. Board members should contact Emily if interested.

Clean Boats Clean Waters (CBCW)- The DC received a grant from the DNR to complete CBCW hours on Rest and Clear Lakes (same as last year). CBCW trainings are available and Board members are encouraged to attend. The next one is Saturday, June 8, 1-3 pm at the Discovery Center, Bobcat Cabin.

Citizen Lake Monitoring Network- This program is part of the Wisconsin Lakes Partnership where volunteers collect water samples in secchi disks to help monitor lake

quality. Volunteers are needed on all lakes except Spider and the Manitowish River. There is an article on this in the MWLA newsletter. Several Board members volunteered and will contact Emily.

Financial Report-Eleanor Butler

Delp moved to approve the Financial Report.; Paul seconded. The Financial Report was approved.

Golf Shirts-Bob Becker

Bob moved that we ask the Nines to sell shirts with MWLA's name on the side. The MWLA will receive \$5 per shirt with no additional obligations. The motion was seconded and the Board approved it. Bob wore a sample shirt to the meeting.

Storm Sewers-Karen Dixon

Karen questioned whether there were storm sewers in Manitowish Waters and, if so, where they were located. Greg said that he would check before the MWLA June board meeting if there are any drains in the parking lot in Manitowish Waters along with the one known on Highway W. (There is one.) The Board decided to discuss the issue of storm sewers at the June meeting, and at that time, decide if there was a course of action for the MWLA.

Government Relations

DNR Meeting-Greg Holt and Eleanor Butler

John Hanson has received a number of complaints about the lakes' drawdown. Most people wanted a longer drawdown period in the fall. The current drawdown period is 30 days from October 1st-31st. There was no decision on this issue but the drawdown timetable will be discussed in conjunction with possible changes to the MOU at the November meeting. The MOU is expected to expire in April 2020.

The DNR staff also discussed the Walleye Management Plan which includes a survey of the walleye population on the Chain, a survey of mussels on the Manitowish River, and a survey of sturgeon in the Northern Highlands. DNR also mentioned a sturgeon watch program on the Manitowish River.

Public Communications

Newsletter-Karen Dixon

Karen presented the Spring Newsletter to Board members. There were no suggested changes only praise for a job well done by Karen! The Newsletter will be mailed on May 24th and will be on the MWLA website.

Vilas County Lakes and Rivers Association (VCLRA)- Karen Dixon

The VCLRA wants to provide access for new lakeshore property owners to the website and for Lakes' association members to talk to new owners about lake preservation and safety issues.

Wisconsin Lakes Partnership Convention-Karen Dixon

Karen attended the convention in April representing the MWLA. One follow up issue was about I-LIDS. The DNR is waiting for more information before issuing grants for I-LIDS.

Paul suggested including boating regulations in understandable language (basic dos and don'ts) on the MWLA website as a reminder to boaters.

Dennis suggested that the MWLA give a free one-year MWLA membership to new buyers offered through local real estate brokers. This would help new owners of lake properties become more informed about lakes' issues. Paul seconded the motion. The motion was approved.

Community Outreach

July 4-Preliminary Planning

Trout Farm will provide the trout and poles needed for the trout pond at the July 4 event.

2019 Annual Meeting-Dennis, Mary, Karen, and Angela will be the subcommittee to plan the annual meeting.

Chamber After Five-Karen Dixon

Motion was made to join with the Discovery Center on October 8 for the Chamber After Five Event and share expenses and a potential donation to the 8th Grade class trip. Dennis seconded the motion. The motion was approved.

Board Members-Bob Becker

Bob Stowers resigned. Bob appointed Dennis, Delp, and Angela to a subcommittee, according to MWLA by-laws, to suggest and contact potential new board of directors' members and officers.

Delp Schafer's email address is: delpschafer@gmail.com

Memorial for Jack King-Karen Dixon

Karen will follow-up with the Discovery Center to see what needs funded. Jack was very involved with the DC and his wife Julie thought a donation from the MWLA in Jack's memory should go to them.

Angela moved to donate \$500 to the Discovery Center in Jack's name; Paul seconded. The motion was approved.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:25 am.

The next meeting is Monday, June 17, 2019 at 9:30 am at the Discovery Center, Bobcat Cabin.

Respectfully submitted,

Angela Dombrowicki,
Secretary