

**Manitowish Waters Lakes Association
Board of Directors Meeting
Monday, October 17, 2022 at 9:30 a.m.**

In attendance: Greg Holt, Delp Schafer, Angie Dombrowicki, Karen Dixon, Carla Hameister, Tom Kramer, Jody Miller

Excused: Paul Puccinelli, Mike McKeon, Mary Bowlus, Jamie VandenLangenberg, Eleanor Butler

Board President, Greg Holt, called the meeting to order at 9:35 a.m.; quorum verified.

Agenda: Motion by Jody, second by Karen, to approve the agenda as presented. Motion approved.

Minutes: Motion by Jody, second by Tom, to approve the minutes of 8-15-22 board meeting. Motion approved.

Committee Reports

Administration

Financial Report: Eleanor emailed the Financial report to the board prior to meeting for board review. Greg mentioned that there have been four donations since our last meeting on August 15. Finance report was accepted as presented.

Water Ecology and Safety

AIS: Jamie emailed an update to the board:

Rest Lake update- compost has been delivered and is being spread by chucks. Will be getting matting and seed down as soon as that's done and will give Greg a heads up in case anyone would like to join to see how the seeding is done.

Fish Habitat: Tom reported that Walleyes for Tomorrow will be putting fish sticks in the Chain this winter. Karen will send an email alert (approved by Tom) that asks to shoreland owners to allow fish sticks to be placed in the water off their property; volunteers to help with fish stick placement on the ice with ATV's and snowmobiles; and volunteers to donate 3" to 5" hardwood (maple and/or oak) saplings to make the fish sticks. The fish sticks will be placed once the ice is considered safe for vehicles. The mobile fish hatchery will back in Minocqua and the MW Chain next summer.

Public Communications

Newsletter: The fall newsletter mailing was done on October 7 with the help of Eleanor, Greg, Karen and Mike Dixon, Tom Kramer, and Delp Schafer. Carla requested that in the future we try to present more perspectives on controversial issues i.e.: wake boats, by including information from the Water Safety Committee and from the Boating Industry. Carla was open to the idea of drafting an article about wake boats for the Spring Newsletter.

Community Outreach

Fall on the Farm wrap-up: Greg will relay to Patty Gauthier at the Chamber, that we would like a different booth location next year. Overall, we thought the event went well and we made \$448 in sales. Jamie provided "Guess the acorn amount" game. The winner received a book about oak trees donated by the NLDC and the MWLA donated a \$50 gift certificate to the Aberdeen.

Government Relations

- Town Board Meeting: Greg reported that Jamie presented the AIS report to the TB.
- Dead Pike Lake (309 acres): There are ongoing discussions with the DNR that have not been very cordial regarding water quality and water levels. John Hanson asked Greg to be a member of the DPL MOU working group but it has not yet held a meeting.
- Water Safety Patrol: Dan Perry reported that buoys have been pulled and placed on the shoreline wrapped in garbage bags (except for the old buoy on the river by Karen's property – it's on the shore but not wrapped). There were 14 written citations over the summer and that qualifies the Town for DNR grants. Dan requested a second Water Patrol boat for the summer of 2023.
- Town Water Safety Committee – Below are excerpts from the Water Safety Committee minutes of Sept. 14:

Keep second boat for busy weekends/July or for use by Town Safety Committee or Town Board.

Need duplicate boat with all the same equipment; as identical as possible.

Software needs to be upgraded.

Need one new officer covering more shifts.

Boat Patrol expectations:

Fireworks

Water ski show

Music in the Park/Dark (all live music)

Lights on buoys: Water Safety Committee likes the idea of lights on the buoys

Clear Lake entrance from Fawn dredging:

Still working on permit process

Hope to do this fall (won't happen until spring or next fall)

Try to get lifetime dredging permit - No evidence of permit for previous dredging

Might have to do soil samples, endangered species

Town should upgrade piers due to ADA issues

Education Meetings:

Post-season survey

Lake Ambassadors – education, take photographs and videos

Discussion of buoy placement and violation reporting concerns brought up by Angie. **Motion by Greg, second by Tom, to recommend that the MWLA board send our concerns about buoy placement (GPS) and violation reporting to the Town Water Safety Committee (see written request below to be sent by Carla). Motion approved.**

1. *Who determines what the correct GPS coordinates are for placement of the buoys and how often are they checked and correctly placed during the season?*
2. *Has a survey been done (like what was planned) for the accurate placement of the buoys compared to the correct GPS coordinates? If so, can we see the results?*
3. *What are the standards/policies for buoy placement?*
4. *Can we get better education out to the public about where to send pictures/videos of safety violations – who should they call and what number? Could we get a QR code for ease of use?*

- DNR working group – Rest Lake Dam: The group met in September to discuss current MOU; possible use of drones for observing ice off across the Chain before spring fill and to observe the draw down in the fall; look at historical records of snow pack, water retention, and fill of Chain in the spring.

Concerns raised and questions asked about why the fall draw down happened so quickly.

Draft summary of MWLA board meeting 10-17-22 (2)

Old Business

Hazardous Wakes: Discussed above.

New Business

Priorities to address over the winter:

- Rest Lake property – signage and promotion
- Credit card
- Membership/Treasurer (split the responsibilities)
- Housing important documents
- Merchandise
- Organize materials in the CC basement
- Bylaws review

- Greg, Karen, and Carla will look at membership, credit card, website, newsletter, etc. May include experts such as Kelly Straubel from the Chamber and Scott Bertz.

- Angie and Jody will look at merchandise issues.

Meeting adjourned 11:15 a.m.

Next Meeting Monday, May 15, 2023 at 9:30 a.m. at the Discovery Center.

Greg will check with Eleanor about paying the Discovery Center for the use of Bobcat this past summer.

Respectfully submitted by:

Karen Dixon, Secretary