

LAKE METONGA ASSOCIATION, LLC
2017 ANNUAL MEETING MINUTES
JULY 1, 2017 9:00 AM
CRANDON HIGH SCHOOL



1. CALL TO ORDER:

The Lake Metonga Association annual membership meeting was called to order by President Gary Mueller at 9:07 AM. The Board of Directors present: President Gary Mueller, Treasurer Steve Parks, Secretary (appointed) Julie Janquart, Directors: Gary Goeman, Les Schramm, Rebecca Van Zuiden. There were 76 members present. Gary Mueller led the membership in the Pledge of Allegiance and asked to have new members stand and introduce themselves. He also took a minute to thank the volunteers whom set up coffee and treats.

2. APPROVAL OF 2016 ANNUAL MEETING MINUTES

The minutes from July 18, 2016 were given to each person signing in to the meeting to enable them to review the document prior to the meeting. Gary Mueller asked for any questions or corrections based upon content of handout of which there were none. Motion to approve the minutes was made by Harry Resch and seconded by Kim Vele. The motion was approved by a unanimous vote.

3. TREASURER'S REPORT

Prior to beginning his report, Treasurer, Steve Parks asked that specific questions regarding the treasurer report be deferred to after the meeting at which time he will remain if necessary to answer individual questions in detail. Steve began with a summary of the 2016 Treasurer Year-End Report as he referenced the full report on large screen for membership review. He indicated that 2016 was a good year for the association with a growth of roughly \$13,500. The report showed the income amount for 2016 as being \$113,435.81 and the expense listed at \$99,776.82.

In summarizing the 2016 income total, he informed the membership that the major contributors to the line item of "Other Donation & Grants" which totaled \$53,582.74, included the DNR- \$35,000; City of Crandon- \$5,000; Mole Lake Sokaogon Chippewa- \$4,000; Forest County Potawatomi- \$2,000; and Town of Lincoln- \$3,000. Steve also indicated that the Income line item of "Fundraising (Apparel, City Events, WnW)" had a total amount of \$53,680.48 with the individual fundraising project generating the following amounts: Apparel Sales - less than \$1,000; 4th of July Picnic- \$5,000, Sportsman's Raffle- \$5,000; and the Weeds-N-Walleye generating an income of \$42,000.

The 2017 Treasurer Report includes revenue attained and expenses payed prior to the end of June 2017. Year to date revenues are \$8,738.30 and expenses total \$54,550.85. Steve pointed out that the DNR Grant ends at the end of 2017. The final draw from the grant will be applied for some time in the fall, after related expenses have been determined. Steve stressed that fundraising needs to continue to be a major source of revenue for the association — for lake maintenance and particularly for invasive species weed control once the current DNR grant is finished at year's end. Although the association will pursue continued DNR financial support, there is no guarantee that milfoil treatment will continue to be funded by the DNR.

A motion was made by Chris Mueller and seconded by Ron Wolf to accept the treasurer's report. The motion was approved with a unanimous vote.

4. THE HEALTH OF THE LAKE & SATELLITE SCANS

FOR DETAILED FACTS SEE 2017 ANNUAL MEETING POWER POINT PREPARED & SUMMARIZED BY LES SCHRAMM

A. Water Clarity Key Points:

Water clarity tests have been done since 1992 as indicated on the graph. There has been a fluctuation in water clarity results ranging from 14 feet to 30 feet which was the deepest level recorded in 2006. The 2016 results indicated a clarity depth of 18 feet and currently this year (2017) the water clarity depth is at approximately 24 feet.

B. Sechhi Report:

C. Mark Truman gave current disc readings.

D. Oxygen Levels:

In reviewing the Lake Water Quality 2016 Report, Les stated that the oxygen levels are pretty much the same in the spring, but the levels drop off in July and August as is typical each year.

E. Water Quality Index Based on Chlorophyll:

Chlorophyll levels shown improvement in 2016 at 1.5 ug/l which is in the Very Good range as compared to 4.15 in 2015. Major sources of chlorophyll related water quality problems stem from failing septic systems, animal waste, road salting and chemicals.

F. Water Quality Index Based on Phosphorus:

Les indicated that higher phosphorus content in water enhances weed and algae growth so lowering phosphorus levels in our lake would help with reducing problems caused by Eurasian Water Milfoil. Phosphorus levels between 2015 (16.7 ug/l) and 2016 (16.15 ug/l) were in the Good range. Major sources of phosphorus-related problems are human/animal waste, soil erosion, detergents, failing septic systems, run off and boats/jet skis running at higher speeds in shallow water.

G. Satellite Data:

Les shared Lake Metonga explain the purpose in using satellite data related to water conditions in our lake. Data collected by lake personnel is compared to satellite data which can alert to potential problems. It can also detect excess of Eurasian Water Milfoil infestation to be used as a comparison to data collected by all the lake consulting firm. Finally, it can give indication of excessive of algae blooms.

5. PLANNED EURASIAN WATER MILFOIL TREATMENT FOR 2017

FOR DETAILED FACTS SEE 2017 ANNUAL MEETING POWER POINT PREPARED & SUMMARIZED BY LES SCHRAMM

Les reviewed a series of slides related to the Eurasian Water Milfoil problem including satellite maps from 2015 through late summer of 2016 indicating the location of the problematic Milfoil, the locations for treatment as approved by the DNR and the final results after treatment. Treatment which was done in five areas near the north and south boat landings as well as an area on the east shore did help to improve each of those areas.

Les explained that after a careful review of all data and maps, the consulting firm and DNR set primary and secondary goals for future treatment as well as identifying potential barriers that make complete eradication impossible. The primary goal is to minimize EWM near boat landings and public beaches to provide recreational access to riparian owners and lake users as well as to deter the transfer of EWM from Lake Metonga to other water bodies through the Clean Boat-Clean Water program. The plan for 2017 treatment is to apply herbicide to the same areas as was done in 2016. The treatment was applied to a total area of 48.9 acres on June 8th and 9th of this year at a cost of \$45,790 which has been paid to Schmidt's Aquatic for work completed.

Finally, Les provided a summary of Grand-Funded expenditures totaling \$30,421.26 under the DNR Grant of \$78,898.27. Total expenditures including the cost for the 2016 treatment, DNR permit for treatment, LMA funds, donated labor / mailings and Onterra Pre/Post Treatment surveys totaled \$58,817.51. The LMA share of the treatment was \$28,396.25. The balance of funds remaining in the grant is \$48,476.85.

6. 2016 FISHERY REPORT & SUMMARY

DATA STUDY COMPLETED BY GREG MATZKE, FISHERY BIOLOGIST AND SUMMARY PROVIDED BY: LES SCHRAMM

A. General Summary:

- a. Studies are done every 2 years. Les showed a graph of Study Results from 1988 to 2016. The data shows that the study done in 2016 resulted in finding that there were 2.9 adult Walleye per acre which remains above the preferred level. Les briefly reviewed the current DNR 3 bag limit set in 2015 for all northern lakes as follows: keep 15" to 20", 20" to 24" throw back and keep 1 over 24" within the 3-bag limit. 2017 Spearfishing Report graph and Spearfishing Rules was reviewed by Les with key points indicating that the Mole Lake tribe is the only one that spears on Lake Metonga. They have been very respectful of harvest limits, continue to help fund restocking efforts as well as other contributions to ensure optimum fishing opportunities for all and have a strong working relationship with the Lake Metonga Association.

B. 2016 Walleye Population Estimates:

- 4/20/16 to 4/26/16---DNR set Fyke Nets
- Captured: 1048 Males (11.2 TO 22.7 Inches); 910 Females (16.2 TO 28.7 Inches)

- 4/26/16 ---DNR & Mole Lake- face Electroshocking
- Captured: 348 Males & 69 Females
- Marked: 134 Males & 21 Females

C. Bullhead Harvest

The Board of Directors agreed to reimburse Mole Lake Fishery, through Biologist Mike Pruel, for up to \$3000.00 to harvest Bullheads in 2017. The fee included use of electro-shocking boat, 30 hours of harvest, a driver and two netters. Harvested Bullheads were made available to anyone who wanted them of which there were only a few people but the majority were given to Raptors (Bird & Animals Rehab Center) in Antigo. The harvest was completed week of 6/18/17 whereby a total of 2100 bullheads were harvested which totaled in weight at approximately 3000 lbs.

7. CLEAN BOATS / CLEAN WATER REPORT *SUMMARY BY GARY MIGNON*

The program continues to run as it did in 2016. Three teenagers have been hired to work the 2017 summer boating season. Each worker received Clean Boat-Clean Water training from Gary Mignon. DNR provided materials are distributed to and a summary of key points of concern related to the spread of invasive species to other lakes are discussed with people using boat landings with the goal being that individual clean their trailers and boats prior to putting the boat in water or departing from the landing. Workers are payed by the city of Crandon whereby withholding taxes are taken out then the city will be reimbursed by Lake Metonga Association.

8. FUND RAISING EVENTS *SUMMARY PROVIDED BY: CHRIS MUELLER & GARY MUELLER*

Chris thanked the many people who have helped in the past and asked for continued volunteer support explaining that each of these fundraising events serve to provide needed funding for continued lake maintenance operations as well as to make people aware of association existence and related programs which enhance our lake. Chris and Gary provided a summary of each of the following events yet to be held this year and asked for volunteers to sign up to help on sheets found in auditorium lobby and at the picnic being held on July 2, 2017 at Beachside Bar.

A. Kentucky Day (July 29, 2017)

- a. Mini-Raffle and Clothing Sales

B. Art in the Square (September 16, 2017)

- a. Mini-Raffle and Clothing Sales

C. Weeds "n" Walleye Banquet (October 7, 2017)

- a. Dinner held at Mole Lake
- b. Mini-Raffles, Silent and Open Auctions
- c. Volunteers and donations welcome

D. Boat Parade & Cookout July 2, 2017 *SUMMARY PROVIDED BY: GARY GOEMAN*

Parade begins at 1:00 with the Picnic to start at 2:00 at Beachside Bar & Grill. Volunteers needed for judging which will take place at Les Schramm's house on Strawberry Point. Individuals attending picnic will be able to purchase outerwear, caps, can cozies, raffle tickets for a wide variety of items as well as a freezer full of meet, Packer Tailgate package. A \$5.00 donation per person will be collected for burgers and bee all donated by Beachside Bar & Grill.

9. WEBSITE REPORT *PROVIDED BY REBECCA VAN ZUIDEN*

Rebecca reported that the website is up to date with information available to members and non-members alike. The site provides a wide variety of information about the lake, current and past Association projects, board & annual meeting minutes, fund-raising projects & events as well web cam viewing of 3 areas of lake including the eagles nest at the Truymen property. Individuals with photos that they have and would like to share on the website can do so by clicking on "Contact Us" for further details on how to pursue this.

10. LOON REPORT *SUMMARY PROVIDED BY KAYLA REED*

Kayla reported that both pairs of loons had returned to Farmers Bay and Peterson Bay in mid-April and shortly after began incubating their respective nesting areas where 1 chick hatched in Farmers Bay and 2 chicks in Peterson Bay. Unfortunately, shortly after the sole chick in Farmers Bay and one of the two chicks in Peterson Bay died with cause unknown. The pair of loons in Farmers Bay hatched a second set within short time after but both chicks died also. Only one chick survived to fledgling state.

An exact cause cannot be determined for the loss of the chicks in both bays. There are many reasons that the chicks could have passed away: drowning, weather, sickness, boaters, etc. Unfortunately, observations have been made by numerous people of boats and jet skis going full speed into both nesting areas which increases the chance of hitting a chick. With this being a possible direct cause of these chicks' death, Kayla requested that consideration be given to adding "No Wake" buoys in these areas. She is willing to work with Les Schram to seek DNR permits for this if the membership approves.

11. WEB CAM REPORT SUMMARY PROVIDED BY MARK TRUYMAN

Mark reported that anyone wishing to view lake in real time through Web Cam simply needs to log in the LMA website homepage. He also indicated that the eagles did not make their home this spring near the nest camera however they continue to use it periodically this spring and summer.

12. OLD BUSINESS DISCUSSION LED BY GARY MUELLER

- A. Rosemary Resch brought up a concern regarding the most recent algae bloom affecting some areas of the lake currently. Les Schram addressed her concern by explaining that there are several factors that contribute to this such as the clarity of water allowing sunlight down to as deep as 40' and warmer temperatures causing enhanced growth. In addition, weed & feed treatments along with other activities serve to further the problem. Phil Resch suggested that the association provide a reminder to all riparian property owners that they can help with this problem by limiting some of the activities that contribute to algae and invasive weed growth.
- B. Rosemary Resch asked if anyone had considered whether Millfoil Weevils placed in lake would help with control of EWM. Les Schramm answered her question explaining that the DNR says that it will not work. He explained further that the association continues to work with the DNR and Onterra to determine the best way to proceed with the EWM problem.

13. NEW BUSINESS

A. LAKE MANAGEMENT PLANNING GRANT

INFORMATION PROVIDED GARY MUELLER

Gary provided a summary regarding Lake Metonga Management Planning Project 2017 referencing detailed information provided on meeting power point slides. Gary explained that this study must be done to gather and assess all information from all stakeholders with the goal of determining future direction for our lake management program. Gary summarized the timeline for the study, projected costs and how the association will cover the cost. The board will seek bids from several companies and then determine the best option available. A motion to approve the plan as discussed was made by Ken Hermes and seconded by Tim Reed. The motion was carried by a unanimous voice vote.

B. DISSOLUTION CLAUSE

Gary explained that our insurance company would like the LMA to add a *Dissolution Clause* to the Bi-Laws referencing the power point slide which provided the actual language which would be adopted in the Bi-Law Document. Mark Truymán explained that the language simply addresses what would happen to the assets and money if the association were to dissolve. A motion was made by Ken Hermes and seconded by Phil Resch to add the Dissolution Clause as presented in the LMA Bi-Laws. The motion was approved by a unanimous voice vote.

C. BI-ANNUAL FINANCIAL AUDIT:

Gary explained to the membership that the issue of having some type of routine audit of the books was brought up informally by an association member. The matter was then addressed by the Board of Directors at a recent planning meeting whereby the discussion led to deciding that an audit of the books shall be completed bi-annually by an independent CPA hired at association expense after the treasurer two-year term of office.

14. MEMBERSHIP INPUT/CONCERNS

A. NO WAKE BUOY

This topic evolved initially during Kayla Reed's Loon Report summarized above. With concern regarding boat speeds near the loon nesting areas as possibly contributing to the number of loon chick deaths this summer the idea of seeking an ordinance and placing *No Wake* Buoys in these bays was brought up for continued discussion.

with intent to pursue the purchase. Several key points were made during this discussion that evolved around the effectiveness or lack of effectiveness of placement of this type of buoy placement.

Gary Mueller explained that if we were to pursue some type of ordinance the enforcement of the ordinance would be the responsibility of the association but would have to be done by law enforcement which would make this option difficult. It is believed that the DNR does protect wildlife however it is very difficult to get boat registration numbers to submit to DNR when there is intentional targeting of Loons and their chicks. Kayla Reed pointed out that the loons do come out of Farmers Bay to which Phil Resch pointed out that if we used “No Wake” buoys the placement would be in the cove rather than in Farmers Bay itself.

As discussion moved toward finding a solution Steve Parks pointed out that the loons do not remain in the respective bays but rather are out on lake as well. He then suggested that we could place informational signs at landings asking boaters to be respectful of our valued loons. Sylvia Patzlaff then suggested that we go ahead and pursue the use of buoys in each bay. Gary Mueller asked for a show of hands for those in favor of pursuing this further and it was approved by a significant majority.

B. SPEARING QUESTION

An individual wanted to know what happens if a walleye is speared that is not within the legal limits as set by the DNR. Gary Mueller explained that this probably does happen occasionally and is generally accepted as unavoidable when it happens. He further explained that the Mole Lake Tribe has been more than generous with the Lake Metonga Association and very active in responsible management practices that maintain quality fishing on our lake. We continue to have an excellent working relationship as we work together for a common goal.

15. ELECTION OF OFFICERS

Gary explained that the Secretary position for the term of 2016 to 2018 was left vacant after no one volunteered to be nominated at the 2016 Annual Meeting. Subsequently, in spring of 2017 Julie Janquart volunteered to fill the position through the end of term (July 2018) and the board formerly appointed her at the June 2, 2017 board meeting as per association by-laws.

The three positions up for election included the President, Treasurer and one Director for the 2017 - 2019 term. A nomination from the floor was made by Harry Resch and seconded by Brent Gagnon to re-elect Gary Mueller as President which was passed by a unanimous vote. Phil Resch then nominated Steve Parks to continue in the Treasurer position with a second from Judy Van Zuiden and the vote was unanimous. The director position which was vacated by Les Schram is still open although a nomination from the floor was made by Chris Mueller and seconded by Phil Resch for the election of Jason Neilitz, whom was not present to accept the nomination and subsequent unanimous vote.

16. THANK YOU TO LES SCHRAMM

Les Schram whom has served as a strong and positive advocate for quality lake management practices through his 23 years of involvement as a Lake Metonga Association Board Member has announced his retirement from his position with the association. At the close of the meeting, President Gary Mueller, on behalf of the membership, led a “standing ovation thank you” for Les’ many years of dedicated service to the association and the Lake Metonga community.

17. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned by Gary Mueller at 10:45 A.M.

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED BY: *JULIE JANQUART, LMA SECRETARY*