

LAKE METONGA ASSOCIATION

2016 Annual Membership Meeting

Saturday June 18, 2016, 9:00 AM

Crandon High School Auditorium

1. **Call to Order:** The Lake Metonga Association annual membership meeting was called to order by President Gary Mueller at 9:00 am. The Board of directors present: President Gary Mueller, Treasurer Steve Parks, Secretary Judi Van Zuiden, Directors Gary Goeman, Rebecca Van Zuiden & Les Schramm. Vice-President Tim Leonardelli absent.

Gary Mueller took a brief moment to thank Betty Sosnovske for the treats & coffee that were set up before the meeting. Present: 56 members.

2. **Approval of Minutes:** The Annual Meeting minutes from July 4, 2015 were reviewed. Sylvia Patzlaff made a motion to approve the minutes. Larry Carter seconded the motion. Motion approved.
3. **Treasurers Report:** Steve Parks reviewed the treasurer's report. Steve mentioned that the Weeds n' Walleye outcome was really good. Moving forward we need to make the fund raising a priority because the state is not going to be able to support the treatment of the lake. It may become 100% of the LMA's responsibility to cover the costs for treatments. Ken Hermus made a motion to approve the treasurer's report. Mark Truymen seconded the motion. Motion approved.
4. **Lake Status:** Les Schramm review the Water Clarity and Chemistry of the lake as "the health of the lake". The water clarity report readings began in 1992 through 2015. They were taken in July & August. Gary Mueller did the readings this year and Mark Truymen is taking over to continue the readings. In June, the clarity was at 39 feet. 2005-2006 showed the highest readings when the zebra mussels were at the highest population in the lake. Gary stated that a satellite goes over our area 2 different times during the day. It shows what is happening with the water clarity & algal blooms. The water clarity quality index is based on chlorophyll. At this time there is not a lot of change taking place showing a good reading. The total phosphorus reading is slightly higher which is contributed by human & animal waste, soil erosion, detergents, septic systems & runoff. Boats & jet skis running at high speeds in shallow water always helps to add to the problem.

Eurasian Water Milfoil Treatment overview: EWM was found in 1998 at the north end at the boat launch. An herbicide treatment was recommended by the DNR. It is an effective for treatment, but not controlling.

5. **DNR Guest Appearances:**

- a. Lake Status DNR perspective: Jim Kreitlow was introduced for helping with the treatment of the lake. In 2007 he stated that 27 acres were treated. In 2008, 54 acres were treated using funds from a series of grants. In 2010, 2011 & 2012, about the same acreage was treated, but a little more scattered. 2013 was controlled below 60 acres. He said grants are awarded on a points system. Jim stated that the state budgeted \$514,000.00 and over \$1,314,000.00 funds were applied for. In 2014 the LMA paid \$23,670.00 for treatment & hand pulling. The DNR denied any grants that year. In 2015, the cost to treat 77.6 acres was \$121,381.00, but the DNR would not provide any funds for treatment. In 2016 the DNR said we could use some of the grant money & would authorize treatment of beds that were 10 acres or less. The LMA treated 59.9 acres. The cost was \$29,829.00 to the association which included fees & permits.

Jim stated that our lake is a very large body of water & very deep. When herbicides are used & factors are good, they can kill plants. Spending a lot of money isn't always effective. The boat

landing areas are spot treatments. We have used granulated treatment & then liquid, but it's a tuff lake to get results. As property owners we can manually clean out a 30 foot wide path in front of our area w/out a permit. We can use a rake to clean the area. If anyone wanted to use chemicals, they would need a permit.

Jim stated that there are two ways lakes in WI are treated. Spot treatment since 1997 & whole lake treatment, which is based on the total volume of water in the lake after it stratifies with low dose treating the entire lake. The treatment will kill milfoil but will also effect natural growth in the lake, too. The cost to do a whole lake treatment is approximately \$350,400,000.00. The DNR is doing studies to see how this may effect fish & the natural growth of the lake. We would have to continue to do treatments forever because we will never get rid of the EWM. Spot treatments are not very effective.

At this point Jim answered questions from the members; using barriers to treat the lake to control the environment for treatment. The DNR looked at this option & would pay for the curtains. If we continue on this course his best opinion is that the growth of the EWM has grown to the areas that it's going to grow with the density being a deciding factor. He feels that Lake Metonga is not a fertile lake. It's a deep, clear lake, but not enough to support a very dense growth. The EWM probably will not grow in the deeper zones.

Jim said they would be willing to allow harvesting, but harvesters are not cheap. He suggested that the LMA could buy their own harvester & maintain it for harvesting as treatment. But again, that option is not cheap either.

Jim discussed Weevils and stated that they did not prove to be effective. We could not stock enough to make a difference.

The balance of the grant will be allowed to be used for treatment. The association would be allowed to use part of the grant for shore restoration & run offs that will benefit wildlife & fisheries. He discussed another program for healthy lakes to be used for management for people to use around the lake properties creating more habitat to protect the lake in the long run.

Jim said our options if we did not want to raise funds any more strictly for chemical control would be to form a lake district. But he understood that a district was not well received in our area. He said the good thing is that the EMW is providing a habitat for some wildlife like the rusty crayfish, but they don't eat milfoil.

Jim was asked if raking the EWM would help? He said it would be a good idea to take the EWM out. He also said we need to consider updating our lake management report so we would have an option to continue applying for grants. Grants are awarded by a point system. He said there were other projects that had higher scores than us that were awarded grants and that we can find this information on the DNR web site.

Gary Mueller stated that hopefully our success this year with the treatment of 50-60 acres will be more successful. Jim was asked if we could apply for treatments in other areas and he said that the DNR was willing to look at that, but they usually look towards the landing areas. The grants are usually awarded to maintain the high traffic areas instead of the entire lake.

Gary Mueller said that we should know the results for this treatment later this year. He explained that previous treatments had deciding factors with the elements over the years. This year the winds were very calm. Onterra will go back later in the summer & sample each area that was treated.

Jim said that the DNR may not notice any visual changes, but maybe individuals will see a change. We will have to wait & see. He said the DNR will evaluate & see if treatments are successful. The

DNR may allow treatments in the future, but may not fund the treatments. Jim said the DNR is concerned about using herbicides in the lakes and they are working on studies to determine the results of the long term treatments whether they will injure native plants by using the herbicides. Jim said pulling the EWM can be very effective.

The trapper that was on the lake last summer was discussed. The concern was what kind of bait he was using to harvest rusty crayfish and the effects of that bait used in the lake. Jim said we should question them if we see them again.

b. Fishery update: Greg Matzki was not present.

The program continued with information that Greg Matzki provided to Les. He showed the 2016 walleye population & study results report. 2.9 walleye per acre were recorded. 1.5 in the last survey were in recorded 2013. Les explained new regulations for fishing walleye. He also show the spearing results for 2016 was 866 walleye.

6. **Fund Raising Report:** Deb Gauerke reviewed all the fund raising events and asked for volunteers to help with those events. Kentuck Days is July 30, 2016, and Art in the Square is September 17, 2016. You can help either in the morning or the afternoon. The Sportsmans Raffle items will be drawn at the Art in the Square on September 17, 2016. Tickets are available today.

Gary Mueller stated that between all the events we were able to fund treatment costs this year. Deb said that there are 3 raffles; the Sportsmans raffle has only 400 tickets with 20 prizes. There is a mini raffle at both the Kentuck Days & Art in the Square events. We need help getting donations & help in the booth at both of the events.

Chris Mueller offered a special "Thank You" to everyone who helped with the banquet last year. They raised over \$28,000.00. She explained and discussed the "Early Bird Special". She said they are looking for donations and asked if anyone would like to sponsor their own event. She offered ideas because they did a wine tasting & crap shooting that was successful. Or someone could do a specialty dinner for 4-8 people. Or maybe a snowmobile event with a chili dinner.

7. **Clean Boats Report:** Gary Mignon was not present. Gary Mueller explained that Gary Minion went through training sessions & will be handling this program. The trailer at the North end was built by the high school and it has lift up wheels. He said we will raffle that trailer & tickets are available at the North boat landing. There are 3 guys handling the launches & it is going very well. \$4,000.00 was donated from Mole Lake to help fund this program.

8. **Web-Cam Report:** Gary Mueller had an update for the web-cams & said that there will be 3 web cams in process. One is at Beachside Bar & Grill. One will be at the North Shore City Beach and the 3rd at Mark Truymans' eagle nest later this fall. He said an eagle was rescued about 2 weeks ago. It suffered from a broken clavicle and they took it to the Antigo Raptor Rescue. Gary Mueller said that the eagle will be rehabilitated & it can be returned to Lake Metonga.

9. **Web Site Report:** Gary Mueller said that Rebecca has done an awesome job with the web site & it is user friendly before he introduced her as the web site coordinator. Rebecca said that the LMA is trying to go "green" and that we have 95 confirmed e-mails on our web site. She said that this will remain private & our list will never be sold or shared. She asked members if they have not received an e-mail notice from the LMA please check your junk mail or spam files. She introduced a "New Tab" on the web page as the "Heath of the Lake". It has a quick reference for EWM, Clean Boats-Clean Water, etc., and there are quick links to give you more information.

10. **Boat Parade/Cookout:** Gary Goeman is the chairman for the Boat Parade & Cookout. He reminded everyone that the event will be held Sunday, July 3rd, 2016 with the boat parade starting

at 1:00p.m. and the cook out at 2:00p.m. at the Beachside Bar & Grill. Dave Patzlaff is our boat Marshall & will organize the boat parade in front of Beachside. We need volunteers for judging the boat parade and the judges will meet at Les Schramm's home at Strawberry Bluff. Gary Goeman said that Beachside is going to prepare the food for the cook-out, but we need help with serving the food. There will be kid's games and raffles. The wheel will be running about 2 hours.

Beachside Bar & Grill has the band "Tomorrow's Eve" performing after the picnic at 5:30. Then hang around and enjoy the fireworks that will follow the performance of the band.

11. Election of Officers:

a. Vice President [2 year] position: Mark Truman made the motion to elect Gary Goeman as Vice-President. Deb Gauerke seconded the motion. Motion approved.

b. Secretary [2 year] position: a motion was made by Chris Mueller to allow the board to elect someone for the secretary's position at a later date. Cisse Goeman seconded the motion. Motion approved.

c. Board Member [2 year] position: Cisse Goeman nominated Mark Truymen as board member. Brent Goeman seconded the motion. Motion approved.

13. New Business:

a. Gary Goeman stated that the board approved ordering clothing with a new fun summer imprint. Items are available while supplies last. Judi stated that we may try a different imprint next year or may have a contest for entries. If anyone has any ideas, let us know.

b. Weevils: Gary Mueller stated that he spent a day at the Stevens Point farm that harvest weevils. He said we can grow weevils, but we need about 10 people to spend 4 hours a day to harvest. Then they need to be distributed around lake. It takes a 3 year commitment to make the program work.

c. Lions "Metonga City Beach Shelter": Gary Mueller stated that the Lions Club is working on expanding the "Metonga City Beach Shelter". He said they have applied for grants, but may need a loan as an option to complete the shelter. Gary asked if the association was interested in making a donation. No discussion was offered. Gary announced that it was a dead issue.

d. Tour Mole Lake Fish Hatchery: Gary Mueller said that the Mole Lake Fish Hatchery is an amazing place & would like to ask Mike Pruell about doing tours. More info at a later date.

e. Bullhead nets: Gary said to be sure to take one to help take the little bullheads out of the lake. The Mole Lake Fish Hatchery is not doing a regular harvest this year.

14. Old Business: none.

15. Adjourned: a motion was made by Deb Gauerke to adjourn the meeting. Brent Goeman seconded the motion. Motion approved.

Submitted by Judi Van Zuiden/Secretary