

**LAKE METONGA ASSOCIATION, INC
FOREST COUNTY – CRANDON WI
2023 ANNUAL MEETING**



DATE: July 1, 2023

TIME: 8:30am

LOCATION: Crandon High School Auditorium

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: Mark Truymen, Gary Goeman, Lynn Smith, Julie Janquart, Steve Parks, Winnie May

ATTENDEES: 61 (Including Board Members)

The PowerPoint presentation used for this meeting is available for viewing at www.lakemetongawi.org along with a handout of slides for more detailed information.

I. WELCOME

President Mark Truymen opened the meeting at 8:32am, welcoming attendees and thanking them for being part of the annual meeting. He led the group in the pledge of allegiance followed by an introduction of board members and committee chairpersons then thanking committee members for their willingness to volunteer and continued support. Julie Janquart then asked attendees to review the proposed agenda asking for any additions to which there were none. Sherri Ashley made a motion to approve the agenda as written, which was seconded by Judi Van Zuiden and carried with a unanimous vote.

II. OFFICER REPORTS:

A. Membership Data

Secretary, Julie Janquart reported that membership over the last seven years has nearly doubled, and she believes is at an all-time high with there being 201 individual and 8 business members generating \$5,650 in revenue which did not include today's enrollees. She then indicated the membership drive efforts by individual volunteers in 2022 and 2023 were likely the reason for this increase.

B. 2022 Annual Meeting Minutes Review & Approval

With the 2022 Annual Meeting Minutes distributed at the door as attendees signed in, Julie Janquart directed people to take a minute to review it. After asking if there were any additions or corrections to which there were none, she called for a motion to approve the minutes as written which was made by Phil Resch then seconded by Kim Reed. The motion passed by a unanimous vote.

C. 2022 Audit Report

Treasurer, Lynn Smith explained that she accepted an appointment earlier this year to serve as treasurer and proceeded to organize the financial records for the 2022 Year-End Report which was reviewed by the entire LMA board then audited on June 21, 2023 by two LMA members along with 2 board members. She then introduced and thanked Judi Van Zuiden and Jan Bellucci who stood to inform attendees that the 2022 records were in good standing.

D. Financial Report

Using slides 10 and 11 from the PowerPoint presentation, Lynn Smith reported the 2023 Year-to-Date Revenue (\$16,010.00) and Expenses (\$4,755.71) with the Net Balance being +\$11,254.29 to the present. She then summarized year-end projected estimates based on the 2022 financial report as being \$32,260 in total revenue and \$36,355.71 in total expenses, explaining that these projected figures can and will be dependent upon the success of fundraising efforts including the Weeds-n-Walleyes banquet, picnic revenue totals, apparel sales and other miscellaneous revenue. Asking for any questions, an attendee wanted to know what W-n-W was to which Lynn defined the acronym and explained it as being our fall banquet which is our largest fundraiser. Another gentleman asked that in the future can the financial reports be in print for attendees to which Julie Janquart explained that the actual PowerPoint along with a pdf of the PP slides is placed on the website and available for download a week or two after the meeting.

III. PROGRAM & PROJECT REPORTS

A. Clean Boats Clean Waters Program

Mark Truymen introduced Kim Reed as our new Clean Boats, Clean Waters coordinator for the 2023 program. With that Kim provided a summary of the year-to-date data (6-30-23) as there being 441 boats with 834 people on board surveyed by the four inspectors, explaining that overall, 75% to 80% of the folks surveyed indicate putting in on Lake Metonga only which means there is minimal "lake hopping" that causes invasive species-transfer concerns.

B. Loon Report

Kim Reed explained that she was reporting loon information on behalf of her daughter Kayla who was out of state at the present time. Kim indicated that the nests were put in on Friday, May 5th (Peterson Bay) and Saturday May 6th (Farmers Bay), with the pairs of loons nesting shortly after. The Farmer's Bay pair were spotted on the nest June 13th, then only one on June 15th to then there being no loons observed by June 20th. She believed the pair abandoned the nest due to a need for food and to avoid the eagle activity. Eggs were spotted on the Peterson Bay nest early on but were abandoned shortly after. This pair then remade a nest on June 3rd but according to observers they did not hatch any chicks. An attendee asked the question, "what do we need to do to bring back the loons?" Responses to this question came from Steve Parks and Kim Reed, explaining that the new nest platform has helped but more food sources, reduction in boat traffic, minimizing careless boaters and educating people regarding these helpful measures are essential to greater success. Phil Resch added that continuing efforts to reduce the bullhead population will enable natural reproduction of walleye and perch which are a food source for loons.

C. Eagle Report

Mark Truymen mentioned that as some people may have noticed the positioning of the camera had been corrected this spring enabling a better view of the eagle pair as they hatched two eggs and cared for the chicks, but the camera has since experienced technical problems. Mark indicated that both fledglings are now out of the nest. Lynn Smith then reported that the pair of eagles nesting near her place also hatched two eaglets as well and will probably fledge soon.

D. Membership Drive

Mark Truymen informed us that at the 2022 Weeds-n-Walleye banquet LMA members Milt Dallas and John Wolf volunteered their services to go around the lake and talk to property owners about joining LMA, and then began the drive on the Saturday of 2023

Memorial Day weekend. Explaining that a packet of information including a member brochure, membership form and an events calendar were provided to them for distribution to potential new members, Mark reported that that the pair of volunteers enjoyed the time visiting with people, recruited 12 additional members and plan to continue the project over July 4th week(end).

IV. LAKE HEALTH & FISHERY UPDATE [Fisheries & Habitat, Aquatic Plant & AIS Committees]

A. Strawberry Bay Treatment Project: Fall Mapping Results & Future Monitoring

Mark Truymen introduced this topic by thanking Gary Mueller for his push to move forward in pursuit of DNR approval for treatment of EWM in Strawberry Bay at a cost of \$40,000 funded solely by Lake Metonga Association, Inc. Referring to the 2021 and 2022 maps on slide 18 to make comparisons, Mark Truymen summarized the results of the 2022 Fall Mapping Survey completed by Onterra. Attendees were informed that the treatment results in Strawberry Bay were highly successful thus far showing a significant decrease of Eurasian Water Milfoil (EWM) as indicated on the map, but that monitoring will continue over the next couple of years as required. Mark explained that the success rate for this project was high due to what he believes were two significant factors: chemical used this time was *Proclilcore* and the application company selected came out of Plover, Wisconsin rather than the business from Idaho making it easier for timing of the application regarding wind conditions, etc. He also explained that the EWM footprint throughout the remainder of the lake is much the same as the previous couple of years with there not being any significant changes.

B. Water Quality Data

Grant Reed summarized the water quality data (slides 20 to 23) pertaining to clarity, temperature, dissolved oxygen, and chemistry (chlorophyll, phosphorus), explaining that the clarity of the lake is "excellent" and Metonga continues to be in an Oligotrophic State based on the Chlorophyll data. He concluded by saying "we are doing very well!"

C. Bullhead Reduction Project

Opening this topic (slides 24 to 31), Phil Resch (Fisheries & Habitat Committee Co-Chair) began by thanking key people for their work on this project including the LMA Board, F&H Committee members, Mike Preul (Mole Lake Hatchery), Greg Matzke (DNR), other volunteers and most importantly the participants for making 2022 a "Banner Year". He then summarized detailed results for 2022 with emphasis on harvesting 2,250,000 minnows, eggs and 7,768 adult bullheads (Electroshocking by Mike Preul). He indicated that while the 2022 Fall Walleye survey did not reveal strong results, we are hopeful that after a big push this year we will see data indicating an increased level of natural reproduction for walleye. Phil continued summarizing the 2023 electroshocking results indicating Mike Preul, and his crew, managed to remove 8,702 adult bullheads this year with a 3-year total of 28,235. Finally details for the Collection Site were explained with emphasis on the fact that participants must complete the DNR Volunteer Agreement form as in years past to be eligible to net minnows, explaining how to go about doing so.

D. Shoreline Stabilization Education Project

Julie Janquart informed attendees that the Fisheries & Habitat committee added shoreline stabilization as a secondary project as shoreline conditions impact water quality which has a direct effect upon fish and wildlife. She explained that this focal point is an educational one only with neither the Association or F & H committee directly or indirectly promoting plans for property owners. With that Julie introduced Steve Kircher, Forest County Conservationist-Land Information / GIS Director, who then summarized how his office can assist individual's assessing their shoreline, determining the best course of action, pursuit of funding assistance through the county cost-share program or the Healthy Lakes Initiative, contractor selection and grant paperwork assistance. He concluded by emphasizing that permits are required prior to beginning any work.

E. Spearing Update

Julie Janquart informed attendees of data received from Greg Matzke, DNR that Mole Lake Tribe spring spearing Safe Harvest level was set at 765, with Mole Lake declaring 458 and spearing 450 Walleyes, pointing out that it was one of the lowest harvest levels in recent years.

V. FUNDRAISING & PUBLIC RELATIONS EVENTS [Outreach Committee]

A. July 2nd Events: Boat Parade (1:00) & Picnic (2:00)

Gary Goeman summarized details for the boat parade, indicating that there would be prizes for the top five boats selected by judges located at the Goeman dock and asked people to remember the parade route goes in a clockwise direction. An attendee then pointed out that in recent years the parade has not passed by their dock which was disappointing to family and friends. Gary responded that it may be due to the lake being too large to accommodate the dedicated time span, so participants cut out before the end. With that he offered them the option to watch the parade or help judge at his place. Gary then continued with picnic details including food for \$5 donation with brats donated by Don Le Master, 50/50 and paddle wheel raffles and a freezer full of meat, encouraging people to attend and asking for volunteers to help with the setup at 10:00am and/or during the picnic.

B. Weeds-n-Walleyes Banquet

Michelle Bauer, Outreach Committee chairperson thanked Gary and Chris Mueller for the many years of service planning and preparing for the W-n-W banquet then explaining that she and Chris Ebben have stepped up to take over the work. She then explained that beginning this year, there would be an honoree for the banquet seated at the front table with Les Schramm selected for 2023. She then identified several individuals who have donated \$1000 for the event already with the expectation for more soon. Michelle talked about some of the larger prizes already donated and then asked attendees to help by contacting businesses they are familiar with for possible donations, explaining that it does not have to be Crandon area businesses. She concluded by inviting all attendees to consider attending this year's event.

C. Community Event Public Relations Booth: Kentuck Day Festival & Art-in-the-Square

Mark Truymen identified the community events in which LMA sponsors an informational booth for as including Kentuck Festival Day (7-29-23) and Art-in-the-Square (9-23-23) as part of our community outreach activities. He indicated that there is a need for volunteers to set up / take down the booth and sell apparel during each event, commenting that without volunteers we were unable to have a booth for Art in the Square last year.

D. Apparel Sales

Michelle Bauer, speaking for Chris Ebben (Apparel Coordinator), informed the attendees that along with apparel sales today at this meeting, clothing will be available for sale at the picnic on Sunday as well as at the two community events mentioned earlier. She then explained that LMA needs a new coordinator for this program as Chris Ebben is now serving as Co-Coordinator for the Weeds-

n-Walleye Banquet along with Michelle. She asked any interested individuals to speak to any board member to discuss willingness to volunteer.

E. Facebook & Website

Mark Truymen reminded everyone that LMA has a Facebook page and extended an invitation to those unaware to sign in using it as an excellent way to remain current with the happenings on the lake and with association-sponsored activities. He then asked the audience for a show of hands for those who have seen us on Facebook to which more than half of the attendees raised their hand. Steve Parks then explained that the website is going through a "facelift" with the main page and pull-down menus being amended to make it easier to locate information.

VI. OFFICER ELECTION

A. Nomination Criteria

Mark Truymen informed attendees of the requirements for serving on the board and explained that individuals may nominate themselves or another person in attendance who can accept the nomination. He then identified the positions up for election as being president, treasurer, and board director with incumbent Steve Parks declining to run again.

B. Nominations & Voting

President: Phil Resch nominated Mark Truymen for president, which was seconded by Steve Parks and carried by a unanimous vote.

Treasurer: Deb Gauerke nominated Lynn Smith for treasurer, which was seconded by Kim Vele and carried by a unanimous vote.

Director: Deb Gauerke nominated Kim Vele for director which was seconded by Judi Van Zuiden and carried by unanimous vote.

VII. OTHER BUSINESS

A. Next Annual Meeting: August 3, 2024

Mark Truymen explained that due to the fourth of July weekend being so chaotic with activities and the need to spend time with family and friends, the board was giving consideration to the idea of holding the 2024 annual meeting on an alternate weekend with August 3, 2024 being proposed. After asking for a show of hands for interest in changing the day/date, which elicited a response of about one third of attendees, a brief discussion of other alternatives arose. When asked if people would be interested in keeping it on the Saturday before July 4th and starting the meeting at 8:00am, more than half of the attendees raised their hand in support for this option. At this point Mark indicated that the board would discuss and finalize a decision at an upcoming board meeting.

B. Member Questions / Concerns

John Vinoradsky asked if anyone else had noticed that there seem to be less zebra mussels in the lake to which Mark Truymen replied that he also noticed it. He then asked Julie Janquart to summarize Mike Preul's (Mole Lake Fisheries) response to this question which she said he felt it may be so and cyclical in nature but would not be the result of bullhead or any other fish consuming them. Phil Resch explained that calcium levels in the lake may play a role in determining this.

Chris Mueller then asked if anyone else had noticed a different-looking green snail on their shores as she had been picking up 20 to 30 of them daily. A few others confirmed seeing them as well.

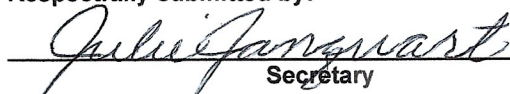
C. Door Prize Drawing

Winners of door prizes included Greg Hug, Dale Huss, Jan Sprink, Marge McClelland, and Cindy Mathe.

D. Adjournment

Andy Basten made a motion to adjourn the meeting which was seconded by Deb Gauerke and carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted by:


Secretary

7-12-23
Date