

SLPOA BOD Meeting Minutes

Home of Gail Hagen
40244 330th Ave, Dent MN 56528
August 10, 2022

Board Members Present: Dick Fultz, Steve Roth, JoLene Kerr, Gail Hagen, Linda Dimitrijevic, and Yvette Lewis

Board Members Absent: None

Dick Fultz called the meeting to order at 6:30 PM.

- (1) The minutes of the July 14th 2022 SLPOA Board of Directors Meeting were discussed. JoLene made a motion to approve the minutes as written, and Linda seconded the motion. All were in favor.
- (2) Treasurer's Report – JoLene reported that the balances in our accounts are as follows: \$3,283.98 in checking, and \$25,056.45 in the money market. The Lake Protection Fund is \$17,317.95, and is included in the money market total. The total of both accounts is \$28,340.43. Gail made a motion to accept the treasurer's report, Linda seconded. All were in favor. Linda also reported on her research of Minnesota Lakes & Rivers and some discussion was held. We determined that we would hold off this year and reconsider contributing next year.
- (3) Membership Report – Gail reported that we currently have 183 paid memberships, with 13 of those as Associate Members. A letter and membership form mailing to property owners' that have not renewed or joined went out on August 4th. Yvette also reported that she had contacted someone from Frank's Lodge and was not interested in pursuing renters on behalf of SLPOA this year. We will contact them again in the early Spring to discuss communications for 2023-2024 membership year.
- (4) Committee Updates from BOD:
 - a. Adopt-A-Highway: JoLene and Steve have established September 17th as the date for the fall Adopt-A-Highway ditch cleanup. We will communicate this date to membership a couple of weeks prior to the event.
 - b. Water Safety: We need someone to be the lead for the buoys. Dick has not been able to get someone to volunteer. We will have sign-up sheets at the picnic on the 27th to request volunteers for the various committees.
 - c. AIS & Water Quality: Linda provided an excellent report on the activities of the Water Quality committee as received from Carolyn Herron. A written copy is attached to these minutes. Many thanks to Carolyn and her volunteers. Linda also reported on the AIS committee. Bob Gettel has put together a device that will be used to test for AIS at the public accesses. The ends of rakes have been used along with rope to allow the testers to rake in aquatic plants which will be examined for possible invasive plants. Their plan is to test the lake bottoms near the accesses into the lake as those areas will be the most susceptible to exposure from boats entering the lake. We also discussed talking with owners of property that have private accesses such as Bell's Resort and Ebert's Resort. The Ais committee will also have a table at the picnic with an activity to promote awareness of best practices for protecting our lake.

- d. Membership & Publicity: As reported previously, a letter was mailed out on the 4th to non-members. Also, an email and Facebook post will be created to promote the picnic. Gail also discussed the option of sending a postcard to members to communicate the date and details of the picnic. The board agreed that getting the information in the mail will help to make sure all are informed. Future communications will also communicate the date of the Adopt-A-Highway event.
 - e. Fisheries Improvement: Dick and Steve will work to identify potential volunteers to work on this committee.
 - f. Shoreline Restoration: No updates to report.
- (5) Digital speed signs: The Star Lake Township board meets tomorrow night and Dick plans to attend. Gail and Dick are also working on letters to the township board that address this topic.
- (6) Highway 41 Bridge Update: No official update. Concrete is ready to be poured. Unofficial word is that it will be near the end of September before it is open for traffic.
- (7) Blue Gill Limit Change Proposal: Steve reported that he spoke to the DNR Fisheries representative and learned that the DNR plans to place a 10-year moratorium on considering any changes in limits on lakes. The only exception would be if the process had started prior to this year. He will contact Gary Miller to obtain information on communications during his tenure. We will also plan to have the Petitions out at the picnic to obtain more signatures from property owners in support of the limit reduction.
- (8) Winter Ice Fishing issues: Dick is attending the Star Lake Township board meeting tomorrow night and plans to speak about our concerns and request for No Parking signs. He will report on the results at our next meeting.
- (9) Star Lake Picnic: The picnic will be held August 27th at Mark & JoLene Kerr's home, 33726 Beaver Dam Trail.
- a. Time is Noon to 2:00 PM
 - b. We will have sign-up sheets out for the various committees.
 - c. Betty's Pantry will cater the food and has been notified to expect 150 people.
 - d. Gail talked about the option of renting a tent from Mark's Fleet. They have one that is 20x20 for the cost of \$157 and would be large enough to cover the tables with food, floats, and accommodate chairs in case of rain. JoLene made a motion to move forward with reserving a tent and Yvette seconded the motion. All were in favor.
 - e. The Root Beer floats will be served again this year. Yvette will take care of ordering the ice cream through her supplier. Gail will get the keg of 1919 Root Beer from The Dougout. Yvette will also get cups, spoons, straws and napkins.
 - f. Linda will have a table for the AIS committee.
 - g. Yvette shared information on items that she can personalize with "Star Lake" as giveaways. She has can koozies, back packs, and other items. She will get them ready and let us know what the cost will be.
 - h. Gail will make a poster that Yvette will put up at DuCharme's. JoLene will update the signs and place them around the lake. Gail will also prepare email and Facebook posts to help promote the picnic.

- i. We will also get table covers for the serving tables. Linda will bring the table covers that she has, and Gail will also get a roll that can be used for other upcoming events as needed.
 - j. We will have name tags for attendees. The board will also need to wear their name tags.
- (10)2023 Membership Directory: Gail shared a mock-up of a brochure that will be used to secure advertisers for the directory. The pricing was discussed and Gail suggested that we sell the inside front cover, the back cover and the inside back cover as colored ads. These placements will bring in higher dollars for the advertising. Gail will finalize the brochure and have it ready for the next meeting. We will also brainstorm potential advertisers that would be appropriate for the directory and relevant to the needs of the membership.
- (11)Fall Newsletter:
- a. Articles from the committees will be due by October 1st.
 - b. Date earmarked for mailing is October 15th.
- (12)The next BOD meeting is scheduled for September 14th at 6:30 and will be at JoLene Kerr's home, 33726 Beaver Dam Trl.
- (13)Recap of action items:
- a. Prepare communication for Adopt-A-Highway date – Gail
 - b. Prepare sign-up sheets for committee volunteers – Gail
 - c. Mail postcard to membership with picnic information – Gail
 - d. Research prior Fisheries communications – Steve
 - e. Reserve tent for picnic – Gail
 - f. Order keg of root beer – Gail
 - g. Order supplies (straws, cups, napkins and spoons) – Yvette
 - h. Make poster for picnic – Gail
 - i. Update signs and place around lake – JoLene
 - j. Get take-out containers – Gail
 - k. Bring name tags, tickets and membership forms – Gail
 - l. Finalize giveaways and bring to picnic – Yvette
 - m. Bring table covers – Linda and Gail
 - n. Bring props for pictures – Linda
 - o. Finalize brochure for directory advertising sales – Gail

Gail made a motion to adjourn. The meeting was adjourned at 8:10 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Gail Hagen
Secretary, SLPOA

Water Quality Report

We have completed 3 water quality samples this year so far, with interesting results. Just looking at Secchi disk water clarity, Lee Mindemann and I got a 22' reading in May, I read it at 17.5' on July 2 (June 20 and on for many days was too windy or rainy) and July 17 was 18'. I also just this morning got 22'. Are we delighted? We've been advised by Steve Henry at RMB lab to compare current readings after infestation with zebra mussels with averages prior. The lake's database from the lab for all July Secchi disk readings since we started sampling in 1996 through 2018 (probably before zebra mussels) was an average of 12.5 feet. The 2019–2022 average was 14.8 feet, which are likely the years we were building the infestation of the invasive. My best assessment is that our current readings are thanks to zebra mussels, rather than a remarkable clarification of the lake through any Best Practices we might have deployed!

Another measure to examine is the Total Phosphorus reading. The average of July samples from 1996–2018 was 16.55, and 14.6 during the 2019–2022 time period. Since zebra mussels filter nutrients from the water, Total Phosphorus should get less (better), also with the infestation.

We're allowed to enjoy the increased water quality, but must always stay aware of the cost to the fishery and all other lake inhabitants, whose food supply is diminished.

We received big thanks from the Minnesota Invasive Species Research Center for our donation of \$1,000 to their research efforts toward the possible treatments we could use against zebra mussels! Thanks for your years long support of this water quality monitoring!

Carolyn Herron