

SLPOA BOD Meeting Minutes
September 19, 2019
Dent Community Center

Members Present: GPM, GH, AS, JK

Members Absent: DK, TP, RF

Gary Miller called the meeting to order at 6:30 PM.

- (1) Jim Wolters was not able to attend our board meeting. Gary shared a letter he received from Jim addressing our request for information about Walleye stocking for Star Lake. Jim's letter included information about the amount of Walleye Fry that is currently being stocked on even years, as well as results of the past seven surveys. In addition to the stocking, there is natural reproduction of walleye occurring in Star Lake. The fish survey results support this. Due to this information, Jim feels that the current Walleye fry stocking strategy by DNR fisheries is adequate for Star Lake and would not support additional stocking at this time. We will include information about the fish surveys in the Fall newsletter.
- (2) Approval of August 8, 2019 Meeting Minutes – The minutes from the August SLPOA Meeting were distributed and reviewed by the board. JoLene asked that a correction be made to #2 to reflect the authorized signatures for the new higher interest-bearing account. It was understood that the current authorized signatures for our existing checking account would be the same for the new account. There was a motion made by AS to approve the meeting minutes with this correction, and a second was made by JK.
- (3) Treasurer's Report – JoLene reported that on August 23rd, a Money Market interest-bearing account was opened with a \$10,000 transfer from the checking. The new account earns .25% interest, as compared to .05% interest on the existing checking account. We had 2 more paid memberships received since the last meeting. Interest earned on MM was \$.55. Current balances are \$10,000.55 in MM, and \$8,803.07 in checking account.
- (4) Membership Update – With the 2 new paid memberships mailed, and 1 new membership form received at the picnic, we are now up to 209 members.

Gail shared information about the Membership forms that we have received. There were members that volunteered to serve on committees this year. The list was shared with the board members. Also, comments that were made on the membership forms were shared with the board. Gail shared all of the comments with the board members. We discussed contacting each of the members that volunteered or made comments to acknowledge their comments and also provide the Board member that is heading up the committees.

- (5) The buoy volunteer meeting was held on September 5th at the Dugout Bar & Grill in Dent. Gary provided a recap of the meeting. The group discussed the status of the program, ways to improve the placement and removal of the buoys, permit status, and the responsibility of Otter

Tail County for the buoys. The group reviewed where the buoys are currently placed, who has responsibility for the given buoys, the process to get/repair buoys, the type of concrete anchors that work best, chain type, connecting links, and the time for placement and removal. The group agreed that buoys should be on the lake before the Minnesota fishing opener and can be removed anytime after Labor Day.

Discussion was held on why OTC was not paying for the buoys. Gary Miller will follow-up with OTC officials on that issue. The volunteers were thanked for the provision of this important service to the users of the Star Lake resource.

- (6) Gary shared information about the Small Northern Tournament that is being planned for early Summer 2020. An idea for a name is "Swamp Shark Tournament". An announcement will be included in the Fall newsletter. We are looking into creating T-Shirts for the event. JoLene will work with the graphic artists on creating artwork. Gary has also talked to Camp Joy and they are willing to host the event. More planning will take place over the next several months.
- (7) Fall Picnic – Mike and Gail Hagen hosted the annual Star Lake picnic on August 24th. Several email invitations were sent to membership and 4 signs were placed around the lake to communicate the picnic. We received 81 RSVP's, and approximately 90 people attended the picnic. We were very pleased with the turnout and positive feedback from those that attended. Gail provided receipts for the expenses totaling \$266.47, or approximately \$2.96 per person.
- (8) Adopt-A-Highway Fall Clean-up – Gary will be coordinating the volunteers for the fall clean-up along Highway 41 to be held Saturday, September 28th at 9:00 AM. Email communications will be sent to the membership asking for volunteers.
- (9) Buy-Sell-Trade-Free Website addition – Gary has been working with Brenda Ebanks on adding this feature to our website. Gary reviewed the process with the board and an example of what the page will look like. It is ready to go live as soon as possible. Arnie has an item he can list so that when it goes live, we will have a listing. An email will go out to membership to announce this new feature and instructions on placing listings.
- (10) Planning for 2020 Membership Directory – We have been on a 3 year cycle of producing a membership directory. The directory has two sections: Section 1 is information specific to the SLPOA including an alphabetical listing of the membership. Section 2 is information on all Star Lake property owners that is from the Otter Tail County GIS database. There are also advertisements to help pay for the cost of producing the directory. The board will reach out to the 2017 board for help with planning to produce the 2020 directory.
- (11) Camp Joy Grant Payment Approval – Camp Joy has completed the work required to receive the second half of the grant for the work on the shoreline restoration. Gail made a motion to approve the \$1,000 payout for the second half, Arnie seconded the motion.

(12) Fall Newsletter Articles – the list of articles that will be included in the fall newsletter are as follows:

- a. President's letter
- b. Accomplishments for 2018/2019
- c. Small Northern Tournament Announcement
- d. Water Quality Report
- e. How to Report AIS Article
- f. High School Fishing League Tournament Results
- g. Treasurer's Report
- h. Membership Report
- i. Reprint of Amazon Smile information
- j. Note on Water Level Reporting Added to Website
- k. Note on Classified Section Added to Website
- l. Note on Adopt-A-Highway Completion
- m. Reprint of Safe Ice Information
- n. Fisheries Survey results, pages 5, 9 & 10 reprint
- o. Picnic Recap

(13) 2020 Membership Directory – We will utilize the next board meeting on October 3rd to discuss and plan the membership directory.

(14) Lake Stuff

- a. The decision of the OTC planning commission were shared with the membership through an email.
- b. Some questions have been asked about the signs that were placed around the lake regarding Infested Waters. Since Star Lake is downstream from West McDonald, we are in the watershed and the protocol is to consider all lakes downstream to be labeled as infested.
- c. The board has also been asked about what can be done about what appears to be abandoned cabins on the lake. There could be health and safety issues with hazardous conditions. Gary will check with the township and county.

(15) The next board meeting will be October 3, 2019 at 6:30 PM.

(16) Recap of Action Items:

- a. All - Fall Newsletter articles are due October 11th
- b. JoLene – check on creating artwork for T-Shirts
- c. Arnie will provide information for item to be listed as for-sale on website
- d. Gary will check with township and county regarding “abandoned” cabins
- e. Gail will send acknowledgements to members that have volunteered and/or provided comments on membership forms

Meeting was adjourned at 7:50 PM.

Gail Hagen
Secretary, SLPOA