

SLPOA BOD Meeting Minutes
October 15, 2020
Home of Gary Miller

Board Members Present: GPM, GH, JK, AS

Board Members Absent: TP, RF, KR

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

- (1) The meeting minutes from the September 10th, 2020 meeting were distributed and reviewed. JK made a motion to approve the minutes and GM seconded the motion; all were in favor.
- (2) The minutes from the discussion with Howard Fullhart, MN DNR Fisheries Biologist, were reviewed. GH made a motion to approve these minutes and JK seconded the motion; all were in favor. These minutes will be attached to the meeting minutes for September 10th, 2020.
- (3) Treasurer's Report – JoLene reported that the balances in our accounts are as follows: \$7,972.04 in checking, and \$26,093.14 in the money market. The total of both accounts is \$34,065.18. The funds dedicated for the Lake Protection Fund reported on 10-15-2020 is \$18,088.95.
- (4) Membership Update – Jolene and Gail reported that the total number of paid memberships for the 2020-2021 membership year is 206. The 2019/2020 membership year ended with 232. The lower amount this year is most likely due to the cancellation of the annual meeting, the fall picnic, and other issues as a result of COVID-19. The board will work on plans to drive memberships for 2021/2022 membership year.
- (5) Fall Adopt-A-Highway Clean-Up – the clean-up was held Saturday, October 10th. There were several volunteers that participated. Our thanks to Gary and all of the volunteers that worked to keep our commitment of keeping this area of County Highway 41 clean!
- (6) The Frank's Memorial Bridge on County Road 41 is now open with posted weight restrictions. Gary will put together an email communication to membership for distribution.
- (7) The Fall Newsletter is completed and was sent out to membership via email on October 5th. There were 21 members that do not have an email on file. Hardcopy newsletters were mailed to those members on October 8th.
- (8) Gary asked that the board think about ideas for articles for the Spring Newsletter. GH suggested we consider a group tour of the Fisheries Hatchery for the membership. Gary will look into the process for scheduling and when would be the best time of the year to be able to see the activities at the Hatchery. Other ideas from the board for the Spring newsletter should be forwarded to Gary.
- (9) The Digital Speed signs for Highways 41 and 108 were discussed. Gary has been in contact with the President of Lake Lida Property Owners' Association, David Hilber, regarding their

involvement with the signs on 108 and 4 on the South and North sides of Lida. David confirmed that the lake association worked with Lida Township and OTC Road Department for the placement of these signs. The signs were purchased using funds from the association, and were installed by OTC. He also shared that they have been treating South Lida for 2 years to control Curly Leaf Pondweed at a cost of approximately \$18,000 each year.

We also discussed the following regarding the Digital Speed Signs:

- a. Gary received communication from OTC and they provided a copy of the Otter Tail County Driver Feedback Sign Policy. We will need to work with OTC for the Digital sign in County Highway 41. OTC stated that they have no interest in being involved with our request or permitting process for signs on State Highway 108.
 - b. Gary sent a letter to both Dora and Star Lake Township boards to ask for their help with applying for permits for Digital Speed signs along 108. He has not received a response.
 - c. We talked about putting together communication that will be targeted to residents that live along the impacted area on State Highway 108. The objective will be to let them know of the safety concerns expressed by our members, our intent to purchase Digital Speed Signs, and to petition them for their support.
 - d. We talked about the possibility of planning some type of a fundraiser to help fund the purchase of these Digital Speed signs.
 - e. We will put together an RFP that will be sent to MN DOT approved vendors in order to get multiple proposals for review and consideration.
- (10) Spring Swamp Shark Tournament Planning – Based on the success of the first event held earlier this summer, we will plan to hold this event next year. We plan to apply for a permit so that we can have more than 25 boats. Gary will pursue the permit process.
- (11) Gary asked Brenda Ebanks to look into electronic payment options for membership dues that can be housed on our website. Brenda prepared an overview and the board determined that we will pursue PayPal for the financial transaction. JoLene will get the account set up and provide the necessary information to Brenda so that she can add this feature to our website.
- (12) The buoys on the lake have all been picked up. We will continue to keep the current volunteer structure for buoy placement, maintenance and pickup for 2021.
- (13) The SLPOA Board will have several positions end in 2021: Gary, President; Gail, Secretary; and Arnie, Director. Both Gary and Arnie extended their appointments for 1 additional year due to our inability to have an annual meeting. We will need several Star Lake residents to step up and accept the responsibility of being on the board of our association. Gary will draft a communication to membership to appeal for their participation on this board.
- (14) Gary will prepare a letter requesting increased Conservation Enforcement for the Winter of 2020/2021, particularly in the South Arm. We are also asking residents to be aware and report suspicious activity.

(15) Several board members are not in the immediate area during the winter months. We will not have a SLPOA board meeting until early Spring. The date, time and location will be communicated at a later date

(16) Recap of Action Items:

- a. Send ideas to Gary for articles in the Spring Newsletter – ALL
- b. Prepare letter to impacted residents along State Highway 108 and petition their support for the Digital Speed Signs – Gary
- c. Put together RFP for Digital Speed signs and send to MN DOT Approved Vendors – Gary
- d. Contact MN Fisheries Hatchery for information on Group Tours – Gary
- e. Look into Permit process and requirements for 2021 Swamp Shark Tournament – Gary
- f. Set up PayPal account and provide information to Brenda – JoLene
- g. Prepare communication to membership about 2021 board vacancies and need for membership to be involved - Gary
- h. Prepare letter requesting increased Conservation Enforcement during Winter - Gary

The meeting was adjourned at 8:00 PM. The next board meeting will be held early Spring 2021, and the date, time and location will be announced at a later date.

Respectfully Submitted,

Gail Hagen
Secretary, SLPOA