

Windemere Township Lakes Association Board Meeting Minutes Saturday June 13, 2020 Home of Dan & Sue Benzie

- I. The meeting was called to order by Chair Terry Peterson at 9:03 AM.
- II. The Secretary called the roll. Present: Chip Wells, Jerry Blazevic, Dan Benzie, Terry Peterson, Laurie Patrick, Dave Yost(phone), Patty Stasson (phone), Bruce Jacoby (phone), Rita Menke (phone), Sherry Lahti (phone) & Mark Dunaski. Excused: Clair Strandlie.
- III. The minutes of the September 14, 2019 board meeting were sent out earlier. A motion was made by Laurie and seconded by Jerry to approve the minutes. APPROVED
- IV. The financial report was sent out earlier. The checkbook balance is \$87081 (general fund \$33508, milfoil \$41998, water quality \$10245 and memorial \$1330. A motion was made by Jerry and seconded by Laurie to approve the report. APPROVED. An expenditure of \$1600 to the SWCD was questioned. The cost was for surveying the easement for the Island Lake outlet. Dan stated that for the past few years the income has exceeded expenditures by about \$10000 each year.
- V. Patty had provided a report on membership that was sent out earlier. There are 237 paid families (81 Sand, 89 Sturgeon, 51 Island and 16 smaller lakes). Last year at this time we had 195 members. This year we are doing a special recruitment for Sand Lake. Letters have been sent to all Sand Lake property owners that are not members. Members from 2019 that have not renewed will be sent a reminder letter and 2020 membership form in July. It was moved by Dan and seconded by Mark to waive sponsorships from our business sponsors in 2020 due to the pandemic. APPROVED. Patty noted that some members had comments on their membership forms. It was agreed that Patty would distribute the comments to board members who would follow up with members on their lake.
- VI. Committee Reports
 - a. Lakes-
 - i. Sand-Jerry reported the lake level was down over 5" from the average high-water mark. The game warden was out recently patrolling on the lake.
 - ii. Sturgeon-Mark reported information from Dave that the lake has dropped 2.6" from last fall. The DNR is considering raising the ordinary high-water level. There was considerable ice jacking on the lake this winter. The township is considering licensing contractors that work on shorelines. The sheriff has created a no-wake zone within 300 feet of shore. The High-Water Committee has not had much luck working with the county and the state seems to be considering the high water a natural phenomenon.
 - iii. Island- Chip reported a 9' secchi reading which is typical for this time of the year. The new outlet seems to be working well. There was no excessively high water on the lake this spring. The lake has high levels of phosphorous. The MPCA states that it is close to being an impaired water body. Chip and Dan applied for an advanced water monitoring study from the MPCA. They were selected to participate. The board approved via an email vote funding tributary monitoring and an analysis by Wenck on the sources of the phosphorous. Unfortunately, the MPCA program to study the lake water quality was eliminated this year. It has been decided to wait until 2021 to do the study.
 - iv. Smaller Lakes-Laurie stated that she had no report.

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- b. Brush-Laurie reported for Bill that the brush pile was open in April and May on the third Saturday of the month and will continue through October. The township asked that we separate the leaves from the brush and Bill has put up signs.
- c. AIS-Sherry reported that she was successful in getting grants from both the state and county for Eurasian Water Milfoil treatment. However Rich Rezanka has not been permitted to do field work so he cannot survey Sturgeon and Sand. We may need to contract with a third party to do the survey if Rich is not available.
- d. Road Pick Up-The first pickup of the year has been completed. We still need a volunteer for Harmony to Military Rd on Lakeland Rd.
- e. Newsletter-Laurie will edit a special summer newsletter since we are not having general meetings. It was moved by Chip and seconded by Mark to incur the cost of printing and mailing. APPROVED
- f. Website-no report

IV. Old Business

- a. Dan reported on the survey mailed to members this spring on wakes during high water. The completed surveys were provided to the lake representatives. About 70% of the members on Sand and Sturgeon favored some wake control. Many respondents were unfamiliar with current DNR rules on wakes. It was decided to put wake information in the newsletter and on the website. In general, the board favored waiting until other lake associations in the county acted. It was moved by Mark and seconded by Dan to refrain from taking any action on the subject until we have specifics on a no wake ordinance. APPROVED

V. New Business

- a. Mark reported that he received few suggestions over the winter for bylaw changes. It was decided to postpone the discussion until next meeting.
- b. Dues for 2021 were discussed. It was moved by Jerry and seconded by Bruce to reduce the dues to \$20. Motion FAILED. It was moved by Chip and seconded by Sherry to keep the 2021 dues at \$25, APPROVED
- c. Due to COVID 19 it was agreed to cancel the July and August general meetings
- d. It was agreed to do the board election by mail. A letter will be sent to all members explaining the process and asking for nominations.
- e. There was discussion about MN Lakes and Rivers legislative positions. After discussion it was decided that the lake association will not take any action on the recommendations.
- f. The lake association has purchased three lighted buoys for Sturgeon to indicate the sheriff's no-wake zone. The board approved the purchase earlier in an email vote.
- g. It was decided that the board should try a Zoom meeting for the next board meeting on August 8, 2020.

XI. Adjournment

It was moved by Chip and seconded by Dan to adjourn. APPROVED

Chip Wells, Secretary 6/13/2020 amended 8/8/2020