

## Windemere Township Lakes Association General Meeting Minutes Saturday June 10, 2023 Holy Angels Catholic Church

- I. The meeting was called to order by Chair Laurie Patrick at 9:08 AM.
- II. The Chair asked for additions to the agenda. There were none.
- III. The Secretary recorded the board members. Present: Chip Wells, Jerry Blazevic, Dan Benzie, Loren Radtke, Clair Strandlie, Laurie Patrick, Russ Rehtzigel, Joann Murphy, Bill Yechout & Noah Cashman. Excused: Chris Birkholz and Paula Engstrom
- IV. The minutes of the August 13, 2022, general meeting was posted on the website, sent out earlier and distributed at the meeting. A motion was made by Noah and seconded by Clair to approve the minutes. APPROVED
- V. Treasurer Dan Benzie went over the financial report that was handed out. He reported a balance of \$110159 (general fund \$43748, milfoil fund \$58337, water quality \$8074 and education/memorial fund \$0). A motion was made by Noah and seconded by Clair to approve the treasurer's report. APPROVED
- VI. Joann reported on membership. She sent out 340 renewals. To date we have a total of 240 returned (Sturgeon 85, Sand 80, Island 49 and smaller lakes 26). Last year at this time we had a total of 253. Reminder letters will be sent out in July.
- VII. Committee Reports:
  - a. Lakes: Sand-Jerry reported that Sand was sixteen inches below the ordinary high-water (OHW) mark. Water clarity is sixteen feet. There is less Eurasian Water Milfoil (EWM) especially by the landing. Island-Chip stated that water clarity was eleven feet which is typical for this time of the year. There was some flooding this spring and a member requested that the outlet be checked. Sturgeon-Bill reported the lake level is ten inches above the OHW and the water clarity is twenty-one and a half feet. Bill noted that there did not appear to be as much EWM as in years past. Beavers continue to block the stream to Dago Lake. Small Lakes-Laurie reported for Chris. Water clarity on Passenger is nine feet and they continue to have problems with muskrats. If members from other small lakes have issues, they should contact Chris.
  - b. Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS)-Loren stressed the importance of AIS detection. He had placed some information on a table in the back of the room. Zebra Mussel detectors made by Russ Rehtzigel are available. We have grants from both Pine County and the Minnesota DNR to fund treatment this year. Rich Rezanka has surveyed both Sand and Sturgeon Lakes. He found only nine acres on Sand and fourteen on Sturgeon. This is a significant reduction from fourteen acres last year on Sand and forty-two acres on Sturgeon. Treatment with ProcellaCOR by Lake Management will take place the first part of the third week of this month. A follow up survey to measure the effectiveness of the treatment will take place later this summer. Loren stated that property owners that did not want their onshore area treated should contact him or Chip before June 15<sup>th</sup>.
  - c. Brush-Bill informed the members that due to the winter storms the township has opened the brush pile from 9 AM to 5PM seven days a week. When the township closes the access Bill will return to monitoring disposal on the third Saturday of the month.

(over)

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- d. Rita announced that she and Richard will be retiring from being the road pickup coordinators at the end of the summer. Members interested in coordinating the program and/or picking up the West Frontage Road should contact Rita or Laurie.
- e. Laurie stated that there will be a Fall newsletter and would like ideas for content.
- f. No report on the website.

VIII. Old Business

- a. Bill reported that Houston Engineering has provided a report on the high-water situation on Sturgeon. The report is available on the township website. The township will be holding a special meeting where Houston Engineering will present information on possible next steps. When the date for the meeting is determined members on Sturgeon will be informed via email.

IX. New Business

- a. Noah discussed the advantages and process of our organization becoming a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization. First, we would be more accountable to our members and second, we would be able to access additional revenue streams. On the downside we will incur additional costs. The bylaws and articles of incorporation will need to be amended. The changes will be presented at the next meeting. One of our members requested that the additional costs be indicated.
- b. Dan discussed creating a cost share grant program for members interested in improving their shoreland. A simple one-page application available on the website would be used. Two up to \$500 grants would be available each year. It was moved by Dan and seconded by Noah to approve the new Shoreland Buffer Grant Program.  
APPROVED
- c. Laurie announced that the dues and business sponsorships for 2024 will remain at \$25 and \$100 respectively.

X. Adjournment

It was moved by Russ and seconded by Noah to adjourn. APPROVED

Speaker: Dennis Genereau, Windemere Township Zoning Administrator,

Chip Wells, Secretary

June 11, 2023