

Windemere Township Lakes Association Board Meeting Minutes Saturday May 6, 2023

- I. The meeting was called to order by Chair Laurie Patrick at 9:00 AM. The meeting was held at Holy Angels Catholic Church. Present were Jerry Blazevic, Joann Murphy, Laurie Patrick, Dan Benzie, Noah Cashman, Bill Yechout, Chris Birkholz, Russ Rechtzigel & Loren Radtke. Absent were Clair Strandlie and Paula Engstrom, and excused was Chip Wells.
- II. The minutes of the Sept 10, 2022, board meeting were sent out earlier. A motion was made by Jerry and seconded by Noah to approve the minutes. APPROVED.
- III. Dan reported the financials from the last two years noting that the annual revenue has increased every year, going from \$53,500 in 2021 to \$72,800 in 2022. Current checkbook balance of \$98,585.77. Motion for approval from Noah second by Bill. APPROVED
- IV. Membership Joann reported mailings last week and already 100 returns. About 30 from each of the large lakes and 11 from the smaller lakes. She noted there are 13 smaller lakes, and they were targeted this year with 184 mailings. Membership mailings went to our 339 members.
- V. Committee Reports
 - a. Lakes-
 - i. Sand-Jerry reported ice out April 30th, water high but lake elevation stake displaced by ice. Outlet flowing good.
 - ii. Sturgeon-Bill reported that the lake is 8" above the OHW. Ice out was May 2. Houston Engineering presented the report on high water options to the township, but with supervisor turnover nothing has happened. Bill and Noah will pursue further with new supervisors and Mark Dunaski. They will also look at an article for the newsletter to update members. Bill will explore options for beaver trapping in stream to Dago Lake, as that is a significant outflow for sturgeon.
 - iii. Island- Dan reported Ice out on May 1. Outflow working and lake dropping steadily.
 - iv. Smaller Lakes-Chris reported ice out end of April on Passenger. Lots of muskrat activity damaging shoreline and will work on trapping. DNR did AIS inventory last Fall and the lake was clear. Chris and Laurie notified all the lakeshore owners.
 - b. AIS Loren reviewed the winter meeting with all the stakeholders and the process for this year. Because of state requirements everything is moved up this year. Lake survey first of June, notifications, treatments, and invoicing by end of June. Follow-up survey again by Freshwater Scientific. Funding has been approved by the county for up to \$40,000 and we still have \$21,000 available from the State from the two-year grant. Anticipating the cost to be about the same as last year.
 - c. Road Pick-up Laurie reported that Rich and Rita will organize again and notify folks when ready in May.
 - d. Newsletter Paula was not in attendance and unable to be reached. The board reviewed options and will compile the newsletter this week. Articles will be done by Bill on Sturgeon Lake level, Noah on 501c3, Loren on AIS, and Dan on shoreline buffers. Laurie will edit and JoAnn will get the mailings out.
 - e. Brush Bill reported good activity.
- VI. Old Business
 - a. 501c3 Noah researched this winter and learned we will need new organizational structure first. Plan to bring to general membership in June a proposal to amend bylaws, finalize in July, then file paperwork for non-profit with completion by this Fall.
 - b. Software repository Loren There are lots of options available but a good, free one is "google workplace for non-profits". This requires us to be 501c3. This will be put on next winter's project list.

(over)

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- c. Thank you notes. Laurie will send thank you notes to all members and sponsors with \$100 or more donations. Consensus from board.
 - d. Gifts for presenters Chip ordered cups for presenters as many of them have already received hats.
 - e. Presenters for this summer. Noah Dennis Genereau and Jeremy Williams on shoreline zoning and the importance of shoreline soils. Rich on AIS in August. Still working on July, but maybe Auditor/Assessor on lakeshore taxes or Jeff Forester from MLR.
 - f. Streamlining meetings. Discussion on consent agenda, keeping on topic and limiting board member time. No consensus on plan currently, but to revisit.
- X. New Business
- a. Dues for 2024 were discussed and approved to remain the same. \$25 general and \$100 for sponsor. Motion Dan second Noah APPROVED 8 Ayes, 1 Nay.
 - b. Cost share grants for shoreline buffers was discussed by Dan. Consensus agreement to offer two \$500 grants with applications due by July1. Will bring to June membership for approval.
 - c. Laurie discussed Pine COLA meeting and shared the input given to Caleb for presentation to the commissioners regarding short term rentals and lakeshore development.
- XI. Adjournment
- It was moved by Russ and seconded by Laurie to adjourn. APPROVED

Dan Benzie, Treasurer 5/6/2023