

# Windemere Township Lakes Association Board Meeting Minutes

Saturday September 9, 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, Chip Wells, Noah Cashman, Bill Yechout (telephone), Kathy Burkard, John Tasky, Russ Rechtzigel & Loren Radtke. Excused was Dan Benzie.
- II. Laurie welcomed our two new board members Kathy Burkard and John Tasky
- III. The minutes of the May 6, 2023, board meeting were sent out earlier. A motion was made by Jerry and seconded by Russ to approve the minutes. APPROVED.
- IV. Laurie reported for Dan who could not attend. The financial report was unchanged from the August general meeting. Our balance is \$112712 (general \$45277, EWM \$58635 and water quality \$8799). There are several routine expenses that will be paid over the winter. Motion to approve the report from Russ second by Noah. APPROVED There was discussion about making a contribution to Holy Angels for the use of the meeting area for the three general and two board meetings. It was moved by Jerry and seconded by John to donate \$400 to Holy Angels. APPROVED
- V. Joann reported on membership. We have a total of 320(103 Sand, 113 Sturgeon, 73 Island and 31 other lakes). We have only 4 corporate sponsors.
- VI. Committee Reports
  - a. Lakes-
    - i. Sand-Jerry reported that the lake is 5 inches lower than it was at this time last year. Water clarity has dropped to 14 feet.
    - ii. Sturgeon-Bill reported that the lake is 14.2 inches below the ordinary high water(OHW) level. Water clarity is 13.5 feet. The DNR has still not made a decision on clearing out the creek leading to Dago Lake. Bill stated that the buoys on the lake would be removed shortly. Maintenance needs to be performed on them over the winter. A motion was made by Noah seconded by Bill to reimburse Bill and Russ up to \$100 for buoy maintenance. They will check with the sheriff if permits are needed for the buoys. APPROVED
    - iii. Island- Chip reported the water clarity had dropped to 5 feet. The lake level is very low.
    - iv. Smaller Lakes-Laurie will report in the future. Passenger like all the other lakes has very low water level.
- X. New Business
  - a. It was moved by Chip and seconded by Jerry that the Executive Committee members remain the same(Chair- Laurie Patrick, Vice Chair- Noah Cashman, Secretary- Chip Wells, Treasurer- Dan Benzie and Membership Chair- Joann Murphy) APPROVED
  - b. Chip moved and was seconded by Noah that for 2024 the board will meet May 4<sup>th</sup> and September 14<sup>th</sup> and general meetings will be June 8<sup>th</sup>, July 13<sup>th</sup> and August 10<sup>th</sup>. We will continue to meet at Holy Angels. Suggestions for presenters included: Lake Stewardship Program, local DNR enforcement officer, Windemere Township Zoning Administrator and Tony Bakhtiari township supervisor. The presenters need to be determined prior to the Spring Newsletter. APPROVED
  - c. Kathy volunteered to oversee the road pickup program; Chip will connect her to the Menkes.
  - d. There was a great deal of discussion about the business sponsorships. John volunteered to improve the program.
  - e. Laurie agreed to oversee the production of the Fall Newsletter. Articles will be provided by  
(over)

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board members. Topics suggested were AIS prevention (Loren), Purple Loosestrife(Loren), our shoreland grant program(Dan) , non-profit status(Noah), new board member profiles(Kathy and John), and Chinese Mystery Snails(Loren).

- f. John passed around a picture of signs used by the Pelican Lake Association placed on home address posts. The signs identify members. Jerry made a motion to have John pursue this idea which was seconded by John. APPROVED
- g. Chip moved and Noah seconded the following: In accordance with the bylaws of the Windemere Township Lakes Association approved August 12, 2023 two signatures are required for checks. The signatures shall be the treasurer, Daniel Benzie and any one of the other board members: Laurie Patrick, Loren Radtke, Franklin Wells, Joann Murphy, Russell Rechtzigel, Jerome Blazevic, John Tasky, Noah Cashman, William Yechout and Kathleen Burkard. APPROVED
- h. Noah suggested that we have a Special Action Meeting next summer to involve some of our members. One idea was to clip Purple Loosestrife heads.
- i. The board reviewed the 2023 Priorities: AIS Management- Loren reviewed the 2023 activities and will be applying for county/state funding for EWM treatment in 2024. Water Quality-Chip discussed the Island Lake high phosphorus level. The majority of the phosphorus is the bottom of the lake. Controlling it by encapsulation is both temporary and very expensive. Sturgeon Lake Plan Follow up.-Noah stated that the committee is working with Tony Bakhtiari from the township. The township has sent a letter to a number of state officials urging them to move toward a solution to the high-water level on the lake. Non-Profit Status- Noah will be filing the amended Articles of Incorporation. He will complete the appropriate forms with the IRS before the end of October. The Internal Revenue Service(IRS) will respond in no more than ninety days. The Bylaws were rewritten and approved at the August general meeting. Thank You Notes for Large Contributors-Laurie sent out about 100 notes to members that donated \$100 or more. "Clean, Drain and Dry"-Noah continues to oversee the program. Software Repository- Loren has recommended "Goggle for Non-Profits". We need to wait until the application to the IRS is approved. Where to Put Brochures and Boat Launch Signage-no discussion. Business Sponsorships-There was a good discussion about the program. John had several good ideas and volunteered to direct the program.
- j. Noah moved and Chip seconded that the 2024 Priorities remain the same but to eliminate: Water Quality, Bylaws revision, "Get the Lead Out" and Where to Put Our Brochures. APPROVED
- k. Loren requested that our budget category of Eurasian Water Milfoil (EWM) be changed to Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS). The board agreed.

### XI. Adjournment

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

Chip Wells, Secretary 9/10/2023