

Windemere Township Lakes Association General Meeting Minutes Saturday July 13, 2024 Holy Angels Catholic Church

- I. The meeting was called to order by Chair Laurie Patrick at 9:04 AM.
- II. The Chair asked for additions to the agenda. There were none. Laurie explained the election process with nominations today and at the next meeting. The voting by secret ballot will take place at the August meeting. Laurie also announced that Russ Rechtzigel board member from Sturgeon Lake had resigned due to health reasons.
- III. The Secretary recognized the board members. Present: Chip Wells, Jerry Blazevic, Dan Benzie, Loren Radtke, Laurie Patrick, Joann Murphy, Noah Cashman, John Tasky, Bill Yechout & Kathy Burkard.
- IV. The minutes of the June 8, 2024 general meeting were posted on the website, sent out earlier and distributed at the meeting. A motion was made by Noah and seconded by Dan to approve the minutes. APPROVED
- V. Treasurer Dan Benzie went over the financial report that was handed out and emailed to all members. He reported a balance of \$120603 (general fund \$46377, AIS fund \$62690, water quality \$11436 and education/memorial fund \$100). A motion was made by Noah and seconded by Ernie Muller to approve the treasurer's report. APPROVED
- VI. Membership Chair Joann reported that we have 298 members(121 Sand, 67 Sturgeon, 86 Island and twenty-four small lakes). Many members have offered positive comments on the membership signs.
- VII. Committee Reports:
 - a. Lakes: Sand-Jerry stated that the lake level is one inch below the ordinary high water (OHW). The lake is draining. Water clarity is ten feet. Conservation Officers were on the lake recently. Jerry observed that some boaters were stopped for not complying with the rules. The sheriff has removed the no wake restriction on county lakes. Sturgeon-Bill reported that the lake is six- and one-half inches above OHW. The secchi reading was 18.5 feet. The public access is closed for the month of July while the state does a number of improvements. Island-Chip stated that water clarity had dropped to six- and one-half feet which is typical for this time of the year. The water level has been slowly dropping. In response to the discussion at the June meeting about the outlet Laurie sent a letter to the township asking that they inspect the outlet for debris twice a year and inform Dan or Chip so the information can be reported to our members. If debris are found the township would remove them. Dan stated that some people have been entering the private property where the outlet is located. The owners have only granted permission to the township to inspect the outlet. Smaller Lakes-Bill Lyon said that Lords Lake has water clarity of seven feet. Bill continues to contact the other small lakes to encourage membership in our association.
 - b. Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS)-Loren distributed a paper outlining the history of Eurasian Water Milfoil (EWM) on Sand and Sturgeon Lakes. Loren hopes that it shows an overall declining trend. The DNR has surveyed Sand and only found two acres that need treatment. Sturgeon should be surveyed shortly. Loren announced that Lake Management would be treating both lakes after the permits have been issued. Shoreland property owners that do not want the area

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within 150 feet of their shore treated should contact Loren or Chip. The lakes association will be surveying the township for Purple Loosestrife this summer and working with the Minnesota DNR to use biocontrol next summer. We have joined a statewide network to survey our lakes for Spiney Water Fleas (SWF). We have purchased about \$500 of equipment that will be reimbursed by the county. The special net used for collecting the SWF was available for members to inspect.

- c. Brush-No report
- d. Road Pickup-Kathy requested that more members volunteer for road pickup. Those members that pickup should report to Kathy.
- e. Newsletter- Laurie asked for suggestions for articles in the Fall Newsletter.
- f. Website-No report

VIII. Old Business

- a. Sturgeon High Water Committee-Bill reported no additional activity.
- b. 501(c)(3) Status-Noah reported some issues with filing the required paperwork. He will have more information at the August meeting.
- c. Membership Signs-John Tasky reported that the membership signs have been well received. He has recently been contacting local businesses to become business sponsors.

IX. New Business

- a. The chair requested nominations for the board. The following members were nominated for a two-year term: Sand-Jerry Blazevic and Joann Murphy, Sturgeon-Loren Radkte, Island-Chip Wells and Small Lakes- Bill Lyon and Laurie Patrick. Additional nominations will take place in August.
- b. Noah announced that the township has a new proposed zoning ordinance. The ordinance is posted on the township website for a 90-day comment period. He encouraged members to review it.

X. Adjournment

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

Speaker: Mara Jade, Water Resource Technician, Pine County SWCD.

Chip Wells, Secretary

July 14, 2024