

**Bay Lake Improvement Association Board Meeting
May 3, 2014
Lonesome Pine Restaurant**

| Officers/Directors | Present | Committee Chairs | Present |
|---|---------|--------------------------------------|---------|
| Dominic Ciresi – President & Development | X | Bye, Jim - Runtilla | |
| Bruce Johnson – VP & Development | X | Erickson, Paul – History | |
| Gondeck, Chris – Co-Treasurer, Water Safety | X | Kelly, Mike - Legal | |
| Graff, Sylvia - Co-Treasurer | X | LaTourneau, Larry - Security | |
| Johnson, Tamara – Secretary & Conservation | X | Marquardt, Betty - Membership | |
| Devins, David – Aquatic Plant Mgmt | X | Shekels, Scott - Website | |
| Goolsbee, Josh – Beach Captains | X | Tripp, Tiffin – Shoreline Protection | |
| Bale, Rick | X | Coss, Terry - Water Quality | X |
| Keller, Bobbie – Breezes | | | |
| Malek, Gary – Fishing Resources | X | Ysseldyke, Jim | X |
| Rollins, Phil – Access Monitoring | | | |
| Ruttger, Chris - Nominating | X | | |
| Souder, Steve – Conservation and Runtilla | X | | |

The Board meeting was called to order by President Dominic Ciresi at 9:30 am.

Minutes

There was not a Secretary's report to report. Steve Souder took the December 21, 2013 Board Meeting Minutes and he is working on them.

Please note: There was not a quorum so no official business was conducted.

Treasurers' Reports

Sylvia Graff reported that she has received final payment for 2012 fireworks. Chris Gondeck reported Financial Statements. Donations for 2013 are up from 2012. The Treasurer's report was approved with a motion from Bruce Johnson and seconded by Steve Souder and David Devins.

Committee Reports

Membership

Dominic Ciresi reported for Betty Marquardt that \$260.00 in donations has been received for fireworks and have 19 memberships. Chris Ruttger called a motion to vote for the 2014 Officers. Steve Sounder seconded the motion.

Environmental

Environmental Fund raising in 2013 is up from 2012.

Aquatic Plant Management from David Devins:

David Devins reported about the same acreage will be treated in 2014 and the cost will be \$65,000 - \$70,000. He said spring treatment and survey will be done in late June and then again in February.

Access Monitoring

Gary Malek discussed the need for Access Monitors (volunteers and inspectors) especially on weekends. Gary said the weekdays are primarily locals fishing and there is not as much of a need for coverage. Dominic said he would talk with Phil to ensure there is coverage over the weekends. It was suggested to build a fund for Xequannox, a chemical used for Zebra Mussel prevention. Dominic said it hasn't been proven to work in open water. There was discussion to come up with a long term strategy. David Devins suggested the focus should not be on getting rid of, but to control. Chris Ruttger suggested installing 2-3 cameras. Sylvia Graff and Chris Gondeck support looking into the cost of power washers. Concerns that were discussed were coverage, staffing, labor costs and who operates this.

Dominic Ciresi presented Phil Rollins' reports and supports the need and continuation of Access Monitoring.

Crow Wing County Public Access Inspection Program

Crow Wing County (CWC) is again offering to coordinate a public access inspector program, in coordination with DNR and lake associations. In consultation with Dominic, I have indicated to the county that we will again participate, with the goal of having DNR Level I inspectors on our public access from 7am-7pm daily from around ice out until mid-late Sept. Considering the 500 hours we have been granted from DNR, the approximate cost of the county program would be \$18,000 (20 week X 7 days/week X 12 hours X \$15/hour, less the \$4000 grant savings and less bad weather days with no inspectors needed).

The county charges each participating lake association a percentage of the cost of the scheduling supervisor, based on each lake association's level of participation. BLIA's projected cost is \$1,250, which we have pre-paid to the county.

Further, DNR and the County have shifted the cost of capturing individual launch information to the lake associations, directing each association to either purchase PDA's for the inspectors on their respective access or collecting and tabulating data captured on paper forms. While PDA's are relatively inexpensive (max \$300), there are concerns about how such a device would be passed from one inspector to another, as well as potential damage to the device. While the county is studying this issue, my thinking is to collect paper forms and have volunteers enter them into a spreadsheet as the summer proceeds.

DNR Inspection Grant Update

Phil applied to DNR for the grant that provides subsidized public access inspectors. We were approved for up to 500 hours of inspector time. DNR splits the cost of the inspectors with the grantee; approximate cost to BLIA if all 500 hours filled would be \$4000. Local DNR schedules the inspectors, which must be coordinated with the county inspection schedule.

iLids Update

Phil is recommending that we continue our relationship with the iLids company. That is for them to install, provide maintenance for, and operate the iLids we purchased over 5 years ago, at a cost of over \$10,000. I believe the device and accompanying signage needs to continue to be part of our total prevention program at the access point. The annual cost is about \$2,000.

AIS: MN Lakes and Rivers Advocates

Our membership in this organization has allowed me to be much more knowledgeable about AIS related issues at the state level. Dominic has testified at several legislative hearings and I continue to communicate with the MNLRA executive director. We have continued our membership for 2014 at a cost of \$300.

An important bill is being considered the week I am writing this report and is being strongly supported by MNLRA. Here is their summary:

The Bill:

[HF 2855](#) sends money directly to counties, local governments and lake associations to fight AIS.

- **Counties can use this revenue to provide grants directly to lake associations and other groups in support of their AIS programs,**

- **Sends \$10 million to counties for AIS work,**
 - **Money is apportioned (50%) based on the number of watercraft ramps and (50%) based on the number of watercraft trailer parking spaces at those ramps. Areas with higher need are apportioned greater funding,**
- A county that receives funding must use the money solely to, "prevent the introduction of or limit the spread of invasive species....,"**

CWC is well aware of the bill and the possibility of having state funds to support county AIS efforts. I'm told by county staff that since the funds would not be available until 2015, plans to use the funds would be developed during the off-season 2014-15.

Summary

The AIS threats continue to worsen as more MN waterways become infested. There continues to be study and encouraging news about Zequanox as a potential treatment for zebra infestation, but nothing is yet available for large treatment areas.

I'm requesting the following 2014 funding for AIS prevention activities:

| | | |
|------------------------|-----------------|-----|
| DNR Grant inspectors - | \$ 4,000 | |
| CWC Inspectors - | \$18,000 | |
| CWC Scheduler - | \$ 1,250 | |
| iLids - | \$ 2,000 | |
| MNLRA Dues | \$ | 300 |
| Misc - | <u>\$ 1,000</u> | |
| Total | \$26,550 | |

Phil Rollins requests an annual expenditure of about \$26,550.00. David Devins motioned to approve Phil's expenditure / budget. Bruce Johnson Seconded.

DNR Update

Gary has talked with the DNR about rock replacement and creating a natural spawning area for Walleyes. He will talk with the DNR about a 100 yard expansion. He believes he would need to apply for a permit, but will talk with the DNR and look into it further. All the Board members are in support of this.

Water Quality

Terry Coss suggested continuing the water sampling. Terry suggest winter sampling be done every other year to monitor for any long term trends or sudden changes that may be of concern. Terry said we have good data record dating back to 1985 and should maintain it. The AWRL provided a proposal for 2014 at a cost of \$3,960 - \$4880.00 depending on if AWRL does all the work or if BLIA supports with a volunteer & equipment. He recommended the Board authorizes this sampling. Dominic Ciresi

motioned to continue doing the Water Sampling and pursue AWRL or another company to do the sampling. David Devins seconded. Terry's other suggestions for 2014 are monthly sampling (May - September) and lab analysis, TSI mapping over flight and Environmental assessment over flights. Terry contacted the MPCA and obtained copies of the information the state had on the old Bay Lake dump. He also reviewed the 2004 AWRL report on the site. In 1998 MPCA concluded no harmful releases had occurred and no further action was planned. The 2004 AWRL follow-up report suggests that acid conditions and discolored water in the stream flowing by the closed dump site are due to normal decomposition of vegetation in the wetland. Terry suggests that we consider the MNSCU CAP Program to bring in more expert help to BLIA at a minimal cost through Minnesota State Colleges and Universities (MNSCU) Community Assistance Program (CAP). The CAP program matches grad students needing projects for their degree programs with communities or non-profits that need help of this type.

Golf Outing and Picnic

2nd Annual Amazing Race

Other

Breezes:

Dominic Ciresi said that Bobbie Keller wants everyone's Breezes articles submitted.

Storm Protection:

It was noted that Paul Erickson suggests writing an article on storm protection. Dominic said he will talk with Paul and ask him to write it.

Fish Fry:

Gary Malek discussed catching Northern fish ,having them cleaned and then fried can cause some problems. He said you can donate your limit only. One cannot catch, donate and then fish again.

Christmas Party:

Sylvia Graff said that the Christmas Party has been changed from Saturday to Sunday, December 7, 2014. This is to accommodate Rutgers schedule.

Adjournment

Bruce Johnson motioned to adjourn the Board Meeting at 11:02am. Steve Souder seconded.

Respectfully Submitted,

Tamara Johnson

Secretary