

**Bay Lake Improvement Association  
Annual Meeting Minutes  
9:30 A.M., Saturday July 15, 2006  
Ruttger's Bay Lake Lodge**

Officers/Directors	Present	Committee Chairs	Present
Roloff, Mark – President & WQ	X	Albertson, Chuck - Conservation	
Jespersen, Patricia – VP	X	Bye, Jim - Runtilla	
Gondeck, Chris – Co-Treasurer		Erickson, Paul –Nominating, History	X
Graff, Sylvia - Co-Treasurer	X	Hanson, Ruth - Continuity	
Ysseldyke, Jim - Secretary	X	Kelly, Mike - Legal	X
Devins, David – Aquatic Plant Management	X	Don Knutson – Environmental Fund Assistant	
Hanson, George – Beach Captains	X	Kraft, Joel – Fishing Contest	X
Bale, Rick – Environmental Fund	X	Krueger, Kevin – Water Safety	X
Jessen, Mark	X	Marquardt, Betty - Membership	X
Ruttger, Chris	X	Nelson, Jim - Security	X
Keller, Bobbie - Breezes	X	Orwoll, Gregg - Fireworks	X
Malek, Gary – Fishing Resources	X	Parrish, John	X
Souder, Steve – Conservation and Runtilla	X	Peterson, Tori – Shoreline Protection	X
		Poland, Jerry - Government	X
		Shekels, Scott - Website	X
		Souder, Tiffin – Shoreline Protection	X

At 9:30 A.M. Mark Roloff called the meeting to order.

Jerry Hendricks led the BLIA with an opening prayer.

Bobbie Keller led the group in singing America the Beautiful.

**Previous Minutes**

Minutes of the 2005 annual meeting were distributed. Paul Erickson moved approval and Patricia Jespersen seconded the motion. The 2005 annual meeting minutes were approved.

**Treasurer's Report**

A combined Environmental Fund and BLIA Association statement was distributed. Heidi Thompson reported for Chris Gondeck. She provided copies of audited financial statements and gave an overview of sources of income and areas of expenses. Heidi reported that donations for 2005 totaled \$151,000, and indicated that the largest area of expenditures (83%) is for water quality (milfoil treatment). She showed expenditures for mailing, database management, fireworks, insurance, water quality, program and social, professional services, and miscellaneous. A motion was made and seconded to approve the 2005 financials. Treasurer's report approved.

**Membership Report**

Betty Marquardt thanked those who have paid membership dues and talked briefly about the P.O. Box mix-up. She indicated that as of the meeting we have a little over 300 members and that our goal is 500 members.

**Church Island**

Gary Malek introduced Chris Berthelsen, Pastor of First Lutheran Church in St Paul. He also introduced Brenda Olsen, Camp Director who reported on progress of the Church Island Fund Raising Project. She reported on complications

regarding easement and indicated that working with multiple government agencies had slowed down the progress of the valuation of the island. Brenda reported that the fundraising effort is at a little over 1.5 million and that by Labor Day an additional \$250,000 in donations is needed. She indicated that pledges could be extended for three years beginning in 2007, that in-kind contributions would be acceptable, and that an offer of an interest free loan had been made and would be one of the alternatives that would have to be evaluated..

Brenda reported that First Lutheran Church remains committed to the camp and the fund raising effort.

Chuck Malkerson spoke briefly on behalf of the Minnesota Land Trust, and indicated that the fund raising group has received 300 gifts and pledges from people who live on the Lake.

Gary Malek thanked Frank Tonnemaker, Chuck Malkerson, Bud Finberg, Paul Erickson, Jerry Hendricks, and Don Hales for their effort on behalf of the fund raising drive.

### **Aquatic Plant Management Report**

David Devins addressed the group. He reported that this is our 15<sup>th</sup> season of treating milfoil. David reported on the partnership with Buddy Divers and Lake Restoration for the milfoil control program. David indicated that we are seeing increased weeds and milfoil this year, largely as a result of the warm winter, thin ice layer, and black ice since January. He indicated that in Spring 2006 we treated 60 sites totaling 35 acres, and that we will treat the remainder of our 152 acre allotment in the Fall. David also reported on the effectiveness of a trial treatment of the milfoil site in the bulrushes between Malkerson Island and Bird Island.

David indicated that we have an Aquatic Plan Management Plan with both the local and state DNR. He indicated that our intended program of replanting with native species has been put on hold because the native species appear to be filling in treated areas on their own.

David indicated that that the signature program has been going well, that we only need signatures every three years, and that next year will be the year we again need signatures from residents in order to treat the areas in front of their property.

David also described the threat of zebra mussels and the public access monitoring program that we are instituting. He encouraged people to attend a DNR training session and to volunteer to monitor the access. Tiffin Souder is coordinating the volunteer program.

David stressed the importance of responding to the survey of residents regarding shoreline milfoil sites. He indicated that we will spend approximately \$130,00 on treatments this year. David encouraged residents not to treat weeds on their own, and he encouraged support of the Environmental Fund.

### **Environmental Fund**

Rick Bale thanked people for involvement in the Environmental Fund. He thanked Allison and Heidi Thompson for work on a volunteer basis in keeping financial records for the fund. Rick reported that fund raising resulted in \$111,000 for 2004 and \$126,000 for 2005. He indicated that our projected expenses for 2006 will exceed the amounts we took in in 2004 and 2005.

Rick indicated that the committee is now sending acknowledgment letters for all contributions. He reported on the development of a fund-raising plan and on work to expand the universe of potential donors. Rick asked for assistance in identifying a volunteer for designing brochures.

Rick reported that there are three things we can do: contribute to the Environmental Fund, work to draw a donation from at least one other person, and participate in fund-raising events.

### **Minnow Camp**

Mina Gallagher talked about Minnow Camp, thanked Joyce Koenen for her work on the 2006 childrens' party, and asked for volunteers for 2007.

### **Tributes and Acknowledgements**

Mark Roloff acknowledged the passing of Lee Johnson and Rita Pappas. Mark Roloff thanked Don Knutson and Liza Dopp for their years of service on the BLIA Board.

Mark thanked Chris Ruttger and the Ruttger family for providing the lodge for the annual meeting.

### **Guest Speaker**

Paula West from Minnesota Waters addressed the group. Minnesota Waters is the name of a new organization formed by the merger of Minnesota Lakes Association and Minnesota Rivers Council. Paula reported that the focus of Minnesota Waters is on citizen protection of lakes and rivers. The work on public policy to protect lakes, and are working on cleaning up 2000 waters on the "impaired waters" list.

Paula West reported on work of the group on aquatic species invasion and on efforts to increase state funding for treatment of invasive species. She indicated that the group is proposing a \$10 increase on boat license fees, and that 80% of the income from such a fee would be directed to treatment of aquatic invasive species.

Paula talked about alternative shoreline rules. She indicated that Crow Wing County has already adopted these rules. She indicated that there are many false rumors about new rules, and addressed some of these. She reported that there is a new grant program to assist with shoreline management, and encouraged BLIA to be active in seeking grant support. Paula encouraged planting of shoreline buffers and encouraged maintenance of septic systems.

### **Shoreline Preservation**

Tori Peterson introduced Heather Baird, shoreline preservation specialist from the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources. Heather reported on how the shoreline preservation program works in providing technical advice to people on shoreline planting. She also mentioned the grant program, and indicated that \$350,000 is available statewide for habitat improvement. Heather recommended replanting of shorelines to provide a buffer of 25 feet.

### **New Business**

Paul Erickson, Chairman of the Nominations Committee presented a roster of :

Chris Gondeck, incumbent  
David Devins, incumbent  
Rick Bale, new  
Mark Jessen, new

A motion was made and seconded to accept the nominations. The motion passed. A second motion was made to elect the nominated Directors. The motion passed

Patricia Jespersen, Vice President, made a plea for volunteers for committee work.

Everyone joined in to sing "There's a Spot, a Beautiful Spot in Minnesota", led by Bobbie Keller.

Motion to adjourn was seconded and passed at 11:30.

Respectfully Submitted,



Jim Ysseldyke  
Secretary