

**Bay Lake Improvement Association
Annual Meeting Minutes
9:30 A.M., Saturday July 5, 2008
Ruttger's Bay Lake Lodge**

Officers/Directors	Present	Committee Chairs	Present
Jespersen, Patricia – President	X	Albertson, Chuck - Conservation	X
Ruttger, Chris – VP	X	Bye, Jim - Runtilla	X
Gondeck, Chris – Co-Treasurer	X	Erickson, Paul – History	X
Graff, Sylvia - Co-Treasurer	X	Hanson, Ruth - Continuity	X
Ysseldyke, Jim - Secretary	X	Kelly, Mike - Legal	X
Devins, David – Aquatic Plant Mgmt	X	Kraft, Joel – Fishing Contest	X
Ciresi, Dominic – Beach Captains	X	Knutson, Don – Env Fund Assistant	X
Bale, Rick – Environmental Fund		Krueger, Kevin – Water Safety	X
Jessen, Mark	X	Marquardt, Betty - Membership	X
Roloff, Mark - Nominating	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
		Tripp, Tiffin – Shoreline Protection	X

At 9:30 A.M. Patricia Jespersen called the meeting to order. She thanked Ruttgers for use of the room for the meeting and provision of the expanded continental breakfast.

Jerry Hendricks led the BLIA with an opening prayer.

Previous Minutes

Minutes of the 2007 annual meeting were distributed. Patricia Jespersen moved approval and Steve Souder seconded the motion. The 2007 annual meeting minutes were approved.

Treasurer's Report

Chris Gondeck showed the 2007 audit report from the BLIA website. Chris used graphs to show the relationship between revenue and expenses. Pie charts were used to show allocation of expenses. Chris reported a balance of \$151,000. He indicated that financial reports are on the BLIA website.

Chris walked members of the association thru the process of paying dues and donating to the association online.

Paul Erickson made a motion to approve the financial reports and this was seconded by David Devins. The financial reports were approved.

History

Paul Erickson reported on the progress of developing shoreline history reports. He indicated that 5 shorelines have completed their work, and distributed a map showing areas that are in process. He indicated that 15 other shoreline initiatives are, or soon will be, underway. Paul talked about the work of the historical preservation society and indicated that this forms a nice foundation for the work being done by the history committee. He indicated that the history committee is targeting two levels of history: those that came before us (Native Americans, pioneers and homesteaders) and lake people (you and me).

Paul indicated that the history committee has two primary objectives: (1) to build on the foundation by documenting the “history” of our cabins and families, and (2) to enhance our community by working together on our shorelines and increasing the awareness of each other. Paul indicated that the committee is working on development of individual shoreline history books, and eventually a “Bay Lake Book” that takes a more macro view of the community, likely covering pioneers, resorts, boats, schools, and associations.

Paul encouraged people to check the list of volunteers and to fill gaps or to help those who are coordinating the development of the shoreline histories. He encouraged people to contribute stories to the history project. Paul asked the group to keep in mind that Bay Lake is a community and talked about the necessity of creating a legacy.

Access Monitoring

Sylvia Graff reported on access monitoring by volunteers and by the Deerwood Lions. She reported that 724 monitoring hours were completed and that 85 of the boats checked had come from lakes known to be infested with zebra mussels. Materials on zebra mussels and other invasive species were distributed at the access by the monitors. Sylvia reported that 91 people have been trained as access monitors within the past three years and she encouraged more Bay Lake people to volunteer to monitor. She announced the availability of a sign up sheet for training and also indicated that those who have been trained need to sign up for a time to monitor

Aquatic Plant Management.

David Devins reported on efforts to fight EWM and zebra mussels. He indicated that we now have been fighting EWM in Bay Lake for 17 seasons now. Not a lot has changed; our plan is basically the same as it has been for several years. We have Buddy Divers survey the lake in the spring and again in the fall with Lake Restoration doing chemical treatments.

David reported that last year was a tough year for EWM in Bay Lake. Conditions were perfect for EWM growth. Little snow cover the winter before, early ice out, low and warm water conditions with lots of sun. He reported that we treated a total of 200 acres at a cost of \$173,000. Normally we would treat 152 total acres but because conditions were so difficult we used a variance written into our Lake Vegetation Management plan to treat the 200 acres. David stated that for the first time he believes that we had no choice but to be as aggressive as possible in our treatments of EWM. Thankfully we had the money in our reserve to pay for this extra treatment. From the divers’ reports the fall treatments appear to have been successful as anticipated with some differences. The density of the plants per acre the last two seasons is something we had never seen. We had such dense areas of EWM in some case the treatments were only able to thin them out not have mass die off, other areas the treatments were very effective.

David reported that the divers’ survey this spring was encouraging in that with the snow cover this past winter, the late ice out and cool wet conditions this spring and early summer the EWM was over a month behind where it’s been the last 3 or 4 years. David reported that we did treat 44 acres on June 23rd and we will get as aggressive as we need to with treatments this fall while the weather is on our side.

David reported that we have changed our mapping and have gone to a GPS mapping system that overlays the sites and treatment areas on a visible satellite photo all based on GPS. He indicated that maps were available at the meeting that show the survey treatment areas from last fall with the new survey information included. We hope to be more accurate with our mapping and over time saving money by knowing the probable areas for survey. David provided aerial photos showing areas of milfoil before and after treatment.

David indicated that we will be surveying again in early September and treating later that month. I fully anticipate that we will be treating our allotment of 152 acres plus extra if warranted as we did last year. We identify the areas of EWM and prioritize the sites by density and where it is then treat the appropriate areas. He reported that we try to keep the sites small and keep moving them around so we encourage native plant re growth. Some people asked David last year if we were wasting our time and money. He indicated “My answer was absolutely not! We are not because we are controlling it. What we saw last year were probably the best EWM growing conditions we have seen in 17 seasons. What you saw on the surface last year was about 50-60 acres of matted EWM.”

David further indicated he believes that if we were not controlling it in a year like last we would see 500 acres or more of matted EWM in Bay Lake. He indicated that he flew over the lake last July with Scott Shekels and could visibly see the effects of our treatment. He could see the weed lines around the lake and that the EWM is broken up and not solid around the lake. The native weed line is solid around the lake as well as large areas off shore and without our program he could see

where EWM would fill in probably 90% of the shoreline with anywhere from 15 ft to hundreds of yards of solid matted EWM making the lake not very useable as we know it.

David indicated that we have a long term Aquatic Plant Management Plan with the DNR. It gives us the freedom and flexibility to work on the aquatic plant management of Bay Lake and provide a long term road map for the association to follow. Under this plan we are allowed to do some innovative things such as the successful treatment of EWM in the bulrushes between Malkersons' and Bird Island again last fall. This plan also has a variance written into it that we used to treat over our normal allotment.

By DNR rule and our lake plan we are required to get signatures for authorization to treat along individual shorelines. We have signatures for over 95 percent of the shoreline. David indicated that he had a map available at the meeting showing where we have signatures and where we don't. He encouraged members to take a look and they see that their neighbors have not authorized EWM treatments help by asking them to please sign the authorization form.

David indicated that in August of this year he will be sending out EWM ID cards and asking homeowners to inspect their shorelines then return the post card with what they found.

David indicated that another threat to Bay Lake is Zebra Mussels. They are now in 3 lakes and rivers in the Brainerd area including Mille Lacs Lake with Zebra mussels. Zebra mussels are a very serious threat and there is no fix for them other than to keep them out. David indicated that Sylvia Graff is doing an outstanding job running the public access monitoring program along with paid DNR hours.

This public access monitoring program is critical if we are to have a chance to keep Zebra Mussels out of Bay Lake. We have to continue to push for an aggressive Public access monitoring program.

David indicated that we spent \$173,000 last year and will spend about the same this season. Unfortunately the last couple of seasons we have spent more than we have received in contributions and our reserves have been depleted to a point where we need your support. He indicated that any extra support people can give would be appreciated.

Church Island

Brenda Olsen reported on the progress of the Bay Lake Camp construction. She expressed special thanks to Norson Builders, to the many individuals who provided volunteer labor, and to the residents of Brighton Point for putting up with the noise and dirt during construction. Brenda reported that the camp will move to a Board of Directors structure. She further indicated that the Grand Re-opening service will be held on Sunday July 6. The Twin City Gospel Choir with Robert Robinson will participate in the church service and also provide a concert following the service. Brenda indicated that a lottery is being conducted by the camp and that the drawing will be on Labor Day.

Minnow Camp

Mina Gallagher reported on the success of Minnow Camp. She asked for support from BLIA members, especially in creative suggestions. She indicated that about 50 children attend Minnow Camp each summer.

Membership Report

Betty Marquardt thanked those who have paid membership dues and indicated that as of the meeting we have 365 members and that our goal is 500 members. She encouraged multiple memberships from individual properties. Betty also clarified the distinction between the Environmental fund contributions and BLIA dues. The dues go for Association expenses.

Government

Jerry Poland described Property Owners Protecting Useful Lake Access Rights (POPULAR) and actions the group is taking on government regulations regarding dock sizes. Jerry distributed information about dock size regulations.

Jerry introduced County Commissioner Doug Houge. Commissioner Houge indicated that it does not appear that Highway 10 work on the East side of Bay Lake will begin before Spring 2009. A water quality issue was raised, and the view expressed that we need to come up with a better way to deal with water quality than pass costs on to individual lakes. The need to push for a statewide approach was discussed. Commissioner Houge addressed the issue of dock regulations and reported that Crow Wing County has not taken any action on dock size enforcement.

Recycling Program

Meredith Poland addressed the start of a recycling program for the township. She indicated that current plans call for placement of a dumpster or bin at the town hall with 24/7 availability. She indicated that the program probably would start in January 2009.

Youth Recruitment

Dominic Ciresi and Josh Goulsbee reported on work to get the youth of Bay Lake involved in the Association. They announced that on the day of the meeting (July 5, 1-3 pm) there would have an event at Lonesome Pine for the purpose of informing the youth of the lake how they may become involved in the work of the Association.

Golf Scramble

George Reynolds spoke about the golf scramble and BBQ picnic to be held on August 9. He reported that last year the event resulted in a contribution of \$4500-5000 to the environmental fund.

Tori announced that efforts are underway to establish a weekend recycling program.

Guest Speaker

Patricia Jespersen introduced Tiffin Tripp who in turn introduced Bobby Jensen. Bobby Jensen then provided a stimulating presentation on Rain Gardens. He described the purposes of rain gardens, how rain gardens stop runoff from polluting lakes, and how they protect lakes from oil, grease, salts, fertilizer, and pesticide residues.

New Business

Mark Roloff, on behalf of the Nominations Committee, presented a roster of individuals for election to the Board of Directors for renewed three year terms :

Dominic Ciresi
Patricia Jespersen
Mark Roloff
Steve Souder

A motion was made and seconded to approve the nominations by acclamation. The slate was elected by acclamation.

Everyone joined in to sing "America the Beautiful", led by Bobbie Keller.

Motion to adjourn was seconded and passed at 11:00.

Respectfully Submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Jim Ysseldyke".

Jim Ysseldyke
Secretary