

Sugar Lake Association Meeting
5/18/13
Corinna Township Hall

Board Members Present:

*S. Brown, M. Hiscock, T. Nimmo, T. Pugh, A. Welter, J. Juntunen, M. Mengelkoch,
D. Peterson,, P. Ramme, J. DeGroot, L. Erickson, D. Gustafson, J. Jonswold, R. Elsner
C. Quiggle (arrived 8:27)*

Members Absent:

M. Borgeson, G. Borrell, T. Richter, P. Gustafson

I. Meeting called to order at 8:04AM (Chair D, Peterson)

II. Attendance//roll call (Secretary Welter)

III. Acceptance of April minutes

motion to accept (S. Brown)/2nd (D. Gustafson)/motion carried

IV. Open Microphone-none

V. Treasurer's Report (Jon Juntunen)

\$197,551	Total assets
\$12,959	General Fund
\$148,700	Invasive Species
\$35,892	Lake Improvement Fund

- Discussion:
- Dale-estimate for grant probably high
- Jon-tax firm completed tax form pro bono
- Fireworks fund is at \$2365 to date
- **motion to accept report (P. Ramme)/2nd (R. Elsner)/motion carried**

VI. Committee Reports

A. Membership (Peterson)

- Numbers up from this time last year
- Donations for purchasing an acre up
- Don still willing to do mailing to nonmembers and write an article to encourage members to ask friends and family to join, but he needs help or it probably won't happen.

B. Water Quality Statistics (Peterson)

- No report from Dan Erdmann as of the meeting-will check with him to see if readings were taken yet for May

C. Water Quality Report (D. Gustafson)

- Did some ice out readings: high phosphorus in bogs (some 150-210 readings) Not sure if this is because the bogs are saturated. Need to determine if the phosphorus is in the sediment. Regardless, we need to try to reduce the amount of phosphorus in the lake. He will do another test at a later date and compare.

-

D. Lake Vegetation (D. Gustafson)

- Still needs a volunteer on the west side of the lake to take daily water temperature readings at 8:00 A.M. to determine ideal time to treat (50-51 degrees).
- New DNR curly leaf and EWM treatment guidelines also require a treatment delineation completed by a company different than the one doing the treatment. Asked Steve McComas but he is unable to due to health reasons, so Dale suggests we hire Eric Fieldseth from AIS to do it for a fee of \$1200.
- In addition he recommends using AIS to manage the data gathered after treatment for \$100, assist the SLA with the data and management this year for a maximum of 5 hours at the rate of \$100/hour, and provide SLA with the late summer full aquatic plant survey for 2013 @\$3100.
- **Motion to allocate funds not to exceed \$4900 to hire AIS to provide aquatic invasive species technological services as determined by the vegetation committee. (D. Gustafson)**
 - Discussion:
 - This decision needs to be made today as we need to treat at a specific temperature, and this is rapidly approaching. We need the delineation so we can find the plants so we can treat.
 - In only two years have we had to treat more than 15%
 - The whole lake/whole bay effort was very successful-since then we have had to treat far less.
- **2nd (C. Quiggle)**
 - Discussion:
 - R. Elsner-it's consistent with our practice
- **Motion passes**
 - Dale shared info about a technology available that would aid the vegetation committee in data collection:
 - BioBase mapping is a complete lake mapping system that records and presents data about vegetation, aquatic density, aquatic bio-density, and lake bottom density. This data is collected with a Lowrance HDS depth-finder and then uploaded to a website where the data is processed and displayed on a private website for viewing. This data can then be extracted in the necessary format to send to the DNR for permits and to the treating company for their use in treating. Advantages include:
 - Accuracy of current technology
 - Multiple people can input information
 - Speed of getting data into format for viewing and extracting (one hour or so)
 - Ease of mapping and recording data about lake vegetation
 - Ability to access and export data and view in multiple year format
 - Record lake bottom data that may prove helpful in locating and treating zebra mussels
 - Cost for equipment is \$1650
 - Annual hosting and unlimited data processing on our website is \$1525
- **Motion: SLA purchase the equipment and first annual technological services to employ the CI/BioBase recording and mapping system invasive species for a cost of \$3199.95 (D. Gustafson)**

- Discussion:
- Will it save us money in the long run? Responses: maybe yes, maybe no. It could potentially cost us more if it locates more plants that we want to treat.
- Ron expressed concern about a third party hosting our data and the possibility of us losing access to data due to corporate mergers, dismantling, etc.
- Jon asked if he was aware of any feedback from other lakes currently using it? (No), but the DNR is accepting it and he hasn't heard any negatives
- Ron-feels it is a tool for invasives which aligns with our approach for a small percentage of our AIS budget.
- Don-urged that we also need to value our volunteer hours more. This tool would greatly help them and reduce the hours they currently put in.
- Sheldon believes if it helps Dale he's for it.
- Laurie E. clarified-we are asking for the money to come out of our current budget for AIS, not to increase the existing budget? (response=yes)
- **2nd (L. Erickson)/motion carries**

E. Lakescapers (Karen Sutherland)

- Plant exchange May 25th 9-11A.M.
- Asked members to distribute flyers
- Grant from Hasty will be bringing his plants over Friday night
- *sidenote regarding website-asked if ok to include links to phone numbers on website, including the Wright county sheriff's office. Don stated he also includes numbers in the newsletters.

F. Picnic (no rep here today)

G. Education (R. Elsner)

- Since there was a motion to move the scholarship money back into the education fund, he asked what we want our direction to be. Response-educate all, not just children.

H. Communications (D. Peterson)

- Magnets completed, but had an error on it-reordered and will be sent with raffle mailing
- **Motion to spend and additional \$53 on magnets (M. Mengelkoch)/**
- **2nd (C. Quiggle)/motion carries**
- Directory-Ron sent out 75 letters to area businesses . Received 13 replies-of those only 8 are returning Karen S. stated that in the past when she did it, she had to make personal visits.

I. Fundraising (D. Peterson)

A. Raffle tickets-(August 3rd) have been ordered and need to be picked up on May 21st.

Sheldon Brown said he would have someone from his office take care of it.

B. Endowment fund (R. Elsner)

Shared white paper Q & A

Believes the question before us is not whether it is something worthwhile that we should pursue, but is now the right time? This is a large undertaking that

has stricter and numerous fiduciary duties/rules and requires third party management.

Charlotte asked what thought make him question if now is the right time?

Response –competing priorities and considering the extensive time it takes,

Wonders are we prepared for it now? Is it practical?

Jon asked if our type of organization typically have an endowment fund.

Response; some

Jeff Jonswoold feels there is never going to be a “right time” we just need to jump in and do it.

Board asked to look over the white paper before the next meeting and decide if they would like to be a part of the process

J. Government Liaison

- Clearwater Township-(no rep present)
- Corinna Township (C. Quiggle)-variance season has started as people are updating their homes

VII. Old Business

A. Windsock (J. Juntunen)

- Prior vendor has moved to China
- Please help do research to find a company who can silkscreen a windsock for us (@75)

B. Fireworks

- Need \$2500 more by ??? (no deadline available yet)
- Don will send a newsflash urging people to contribute ASAP

C. Directors for 2013/2014 election (D. Peterson)

- June is membership meeting and when nominations should be closed however, historically we extend it. Talk to neighbors and encourage them to run

VIII. New Business

A. Newsletter (D. Peterson)

- Request from member to remind fisherman to be courteous especially when near people’s docks and canopies
- Annandale Farmers Market info
- Fireworks plea
- Curly Leaf delineation map
- List of contributors beyond dues and indicate buy and acre contributors with an asterick

J. DeGrood spoke about bricks for spotting zebra mussels. Asked they send data to Dale. Doc Williams is spearheading and will distribute the bricks (donated by her)

IX. Meeting adjourned at 10:25 AM. Motion-(C. Quiggle)/2nd-(M. Mengelkoch)/
Motion carried

Respectfully submitted,
Andrea Welter,
Secretary