

Sugar Lake Association Meeting  
7/20/13  
Corinna Township Hall

*Board Members Present:*

S.Brown, M.Hiscock, T.Pugh, A.Welter, J.Juntunen, M.Mengelkoch, D.Peterson,  
C.Quiggle, P.Ramme, G.Borrell, J.DeGrood, L.Erickson, D.Gustafson,  
P.Gustafson, J.Jonswold, T.Richter (arrived 8:10)

*Members Absent:*

M.Borgeson, T.Nimmo, R.Elsner

**I Meeting called to order at 8:04 A.M.** (chair Peterson)

**II. Attendance/Roll Call** (secretary Welter)

**III. Acceptance of June minutes**

- **Motion-(P.Ramme)**
- **2<sup>nd</sup>-(P.Gustafson)**
- **motion carries**

**IV. Open Mic** (none)

**V. Treasurer's Report** (treasurer Juntunen)

Total Assets	\$174,020
Invasive Species	\$118,694
Lake Improvement	\$36,339
General Fund	\$18,986

- **Motion-(G.Borrell)/2<sup>nd</sup>-(C.Quiggle)/motion passess**
- Discussion-Dale questioned if the amount for the EWM treatment done in the fall is part of this year's numbers. Response-Yes, but since it will likely happen this way each year, it is not a problem.

**VI. Committee Reports**

**A. Membership** (T.Pugh)

- Things have slowed down . Sent 64 email reminders to former members. Only 6 responded. Hoping to pick up the remainder at the picnic.
- Doc prepared a "Why should you join SLA flyer. Edited by Don and Charlotte. Don read it out loud and board agreed it sounded great. Passed around two copies to look at.
- Trudy asked about directory ad numbers. They are currently down
- Sheldon volunteered to look through the directory draft to look for deceased members, etc, before sending off to the printer on Monday.
- Paul commended the tremendous effort and time put into the directory.

**B. Water Quality Statistics** (provided by Dan Erdmann)

Clarity 13 feet

Water temp 83 degrees F

Air temp 74 degrees F

Inlet 17 inches

Outlet 22 inches

Physical condition 2 on a scale of 1(good) to 5(bad)

Loons not present-perhaps seeking refuge elsewhere from strong winds/rough waters

**C. Water Quality** (D.Gustafson)

- Dale distributed color copies of photos taken by the new equipment purchased and data loaded to BioBase. He explained how the data is collected and recorded using a Lowrance HD depthfinder. Dale feels he is already able to pretty accurately identify whether a plant is Eurasian Water Milfoil from the sonar pictures created.
- The polygons on the map are areas that have invasives detected. These are marked and recorded in the system and sent to the DNR who use this info for approving treatment applications.
- Believes this technology is extremely beneficial already and will allow the SLA to spend treatment dollars much more wisely.
- Dale stated that he can not recall the lake ever looking this good particularly during this time of the year.. Water clarity and native plant growth is terrific right now.
- Shared how EWM transfers: wind, fishing line, boats, etc. and would like help from people pulling small patches (by the root) as we can not treat all areas, and this would help prevent these small areas from spreading.
- Dale would also like to borrow a good underwater camera

**D. Vegetation** (D.Gustafson)

- Farm bill decision will affect money available for projects-that's why they are on hold
- We need to get county commissioners to get on board to help protect lakes

**E. Fisheries** (P.Gustafson)

- Joe Stewig from the DNR will be at the picnic
- Carp barrier is still an issue. An individual believes it is causing the lake level to rise and cause property damage. Claims he had to spend \$5000-\$6000 for riprap when the water level was high. They have taken their case to a St. Paul water hydrologist and mentioned the possibility of filing a state lawsuit. He wants the barrier removed.
- On July 21<sup>st</sup> Paul G. will open the carp barrier.
- Charlotte believes he is misinformed and that the real issue is the culvert and not the carp barrier.

- We have been asked by the DNR to fill out a permit. Paul will complete this and send it in. Need to know installation date. Dale believes it was the early 90s and the DNR should have a record.

**F. Picnic** (no rep present)

**i. volunteers needed**

- Charlotte, Gary B., Marilyn H., Tom P., will help work the registration table.

**ii. prizes**

- Mike M. stated that none have been turned in to him yet

**G. Education** (none)

**H. Communications** (none)

**I. Fundraising**

**i. Golf tournament** (C.Quiggle)

- 50+ people registered so far.
- Need an exact count for food in the next day or so
- Still looking for hole sponsors
- \$10,000 hole in 1 prize
- Don will send newsflash

**ii. Wine & Gardens** (T.Richter)

- Saturday, August 24<sup>th</sup> 5-6:30 P.M. at Karen Sutherland's
- Will showcase MN wines and local sausages and cheeses
- \$25 per person
- tour of Karen's gardens and native shoreline restoration

**J. Government Liaison** (none)

**Picnic-Deb Beltrand arrived at 9:30 to discuss picnic**

- Is looking for more help with the games
- Would like to see some new people get involved

**VII. Old Business**

**A. Fireworks**

- Anonymous donor will make up the difference again this year, so the show will go ahead on the night of the picnic (Aug 3<sup>rd</sup>)

**B. Board Nominations**

- As of today have only received two names for certain and two possibles.
- One is a couple that both want to be on at the same time..Discussion about whether bylaws allow this. Determined no.
- Maybe in the future board should look at bylaws and make them clear and possibly suggest some changes.
- Continue to ask neighbors if they are interested.

- Ballots need to be sent out this week. Decision made to close nominations and leave two spots open that can be brought to the floor at the August meeting and voted on by the board per bylaws.
- Will recruit at the picnic
- Trudy pointed out that the bylaws can be changed to lower the number of board members at the annual meeting
- Should we change the constitution to allow more than one family member to be members too? Currently only one membership per property is allowed.
- Discussion about what is an “associate” membership. Decided this is a discussion and decision that should be tabled and brought up by the new board once they are installed.

**C. Beckman 5K** (no rep present)

- Saturday, August 31<sup>st</sup> at Corinna Town Hall
- Registration form and info in the newsletter and online at [sugarlake.org](http://sugarlake.org)

**VIII. New Business**

**A. Newsletter** (D.Peterson)

**B. D&O Insurance** (T.Richter)

- Trudy stated that she did significant research after the last meeting and determined that she has resolved her own personal issues with it after finding she is covered by her homeowners policy that contains a personal umbrella rider.
- Encouraged board members to check with their own insurance.
- General liability typically covers personal and property claims but not financial (crime and fraud)
- Trudy suggested we table the discussion til the Sept meeting where she has invited her agent to come to speak to answer general D&O insurance questions.
- While the general liability insurance we currently have would likely protect us from any claims, it would not cover the cost of the legal fees to fight it. This could potentially drain the funds in the SLA account.
- After significant discussion and many questions, the board decided it would be diligent to pursue this topic to protect the financial interests of the SLA but will leave the decision and the details with the new board.

**IX. Meeting Adjourned at 10:25 A.M.**

- **Motion-L.Erickson/2<sup>nd</sup>-M.Mengelkoch/motion carries**

*Respectfully submitted,  
Andrea Welter  
Secretary*