



Sugar Lake Association Meeting Minutes Via Zoom

May 16.2020

Call to order

A meeting of the Sugar Lake Association was held via Zoom on May 16, 2020

Members in Attendance

Attendees included Scott Radke, Keith Theisen, Jan Tift, Mike Emerson, Mark Snyder, Tom Nimmo, Dan Erdman, Steve Kowalczyk, Dan Salfer, Jim Schimelpfenig, Dave Arnason, Peter Ramme, Nick Hadfield, Rob Gusass

Members not in attendance

Members not in attendance included Mark Kraemer, Doug Miller, Mark Ertl, Diane Hall

Non Members in Attendance: Dale Gustafson, Don Peterson

Open Mic: none

Committee Reports

- A. **Chairman's Report:** Scott said that we need to discuss the Buffer Strip problem, AIS treatment by home owners, social events in the Age of COVID-19
- B. **Membership:** Keith Theisen An email was sent out and put on the Website to request Annual Dues and Donations. We are in good shape. So far there have been 120 responses with \$30,000 collected so far. Keith will mail latters to those who have not responded by the end of May. Dave Arnason suggested we mention that Donations to purchase an Acre can be a partial donation rather than the the full acre at \$300 Keith asked that Board Members get their dues paid.
- C. **Treasurers Report:** Tom Nimmo So far there have only been two expenses this spring: \$4200 for Blue Water Science to do Aquatic Plant surveys and \$21,979 for Ramp inspections. Due to Covid-19 we may need to revise our budget since our social events will need to comply with social distancing and our budget will be affected.
- D. **Governmental Relations.** Since we can have no meetings larger than 10 people Scott inquired with Corrina Township and they will credit our payments for upcoming meetings to use for next year. Perter Ramme also informed us that Bob Gruys purchased the property north of Ramme's and South of Rasmussons where boats gather in the summer heat. The property will be subdivided into three lots.

E. Fisheries: Jim Schimelphenig: The Carp trap will soon be closed and will need to be cleaned daily until around the beginning of July. He is looking for volunteers to take one day of the week to do the cleaning. Dave Arnason volunteered to take Tuesdays. Scott suggested that we put an article in the newsletter about the purpose and management of the Carp Trap and possibly recruit volunteers.

F. Water Quality Stats: Dan Erdmann

Clarity was 10 feet, Water Temperature 56 degrees, Air Temperature 66 degrees

Culvert inlet 16 1/4", Outlet 21 1/2"

Scott noted that with the low water level we need to be watchful for rocks around the late.

F. Vegetation/Water Quality: Dale Gustafson.

- Steve and his son from Bluewater Science will be looking for Stony Starwart and other invasive. We will be treating for Curly Leaf Pondweed early next week in two places: The sunken island and the northwest corner of the lake. It was suggested that we put a map in the newsletter of where we are treating the lake.

G. Communications

- **Newsletter: Don Peterson. Plans for Next Newsletter:**
 - Cover Summary and overview of what's happening
 - Nominations open for Board Members and June Membership meeting
 - Article about homeowner treatments for weeds and how it relates to treatments the SLA is doing
 - Carp Trap Information
 - Put in a map of the areas that we are treating the lake this year.
 - Information on where we can get SLA news; Facebook, Website, Newsflashes, Emails, Nexdoor, etc
 - Event updates: Raffle, Virtual Fishing contest, Golf Tournament, Picnic Alternative Ideas
- **Website: Jan Tift:** Continue to send information to Jan Tift for ideas on updates to the Website
- **Facebook Page:** Westin Miller is available to update/change our Facebook Page. Jan will contact him.

Old business

- We still have a 5 year strategic plan we are in. Scott and Jim will get together with Ron Elsner to discuss updates
- Light pollution: SLA will not take a stand on this issue because we cannot enforce compliance. A general notice needs to be put in the Newsletter about light and sound courtesy in respect of all lakeshore owners.

New business

- The Buffer strip on the Southeast side of the lake (115th St between CR 7 and Gulden) was mistakenly plowed under by the renter of the land. The past 10 years have provided protection from the farm runoffs and will need to be replanted and develop a filtering mechanism. Mike Ziska will be meeting with Soil and Water reps and the owner of the property to develop a plan to reestablish the filter strip and add berms to trap the water. The property owner is supportive of the filter strips and wants to help Sugar Lake. SLA will need to authorize funds for this project and it will need to be done soon. Signage needs to be put in place to avoid this problem again.
- Social Events: We will not be able to have our social events as usual in the age of COVID -19 so we discussed modifications and changes.
 - ◆ Fishing Tournament: We decided to have a Virtual Fishing Tournament on Saturday June 27th. There will be no entry fee and adults and kids will be able to sign up on our Facebook page. We decided to have random prizes awarded because it would be too difficult to distinguish between fish sizes online. Since there will be no food or beverages purchased we will use that money for gift certificates to a local bait shop. Peter Ramme also suggested that we continue to include the traveling trophies that have been passed around in previous years. Jim Schmelpfing is leading a committee to work out the details so for now we just have a date confirmed.
 - ◆ Golf Tournament : Scott will contact Greg Selle to check out the possibility of having a golf tournament that complies with social distancing .
 - ◆ Picnic: We decided to put off the decision about the Picnic until the June meeting when we will hopefully have more information about social distancing restrictions. Possible alternatives that were discussed included having a Boat Parade, Fireworks, a kid centered event (???). We also need to get a venue nailed down if we are to have a picnic.

Adjournment

A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Dan Erdman and was seconded by Rob Gusass

Jan Tift

Secretary