



# Sugar Lake Association Meeting Minutes

September 2019

## Call to order

A meeting of the Sugar Lake Association was held at [Corinna Township Hall](#) on September 21, 2019

## Members in Attendance

Attendees included Scott Radke, Keith Theisen, Doug Miller, Jan Tift, Mike Emerson, Diane Hall, Mark Ertl,, Mark Snyder, Nick Hadfield, Rob Gusass, Tom Nimmo, Dan Erdman, Steve Kowalczyk

## Members not in attendance

Members not in attendance included Jim Schimelpfenig, Dave Arnason, Peter Ramme, Dan Salfer, Mark Snyder, Mark Kraemer,

**Non Members in Attendance:** Andrea Welter, Dale Gustafson, Don Peterson, Joe Hall

**Open Mic:** none

## Approval of minutes

Motion to accept the August Minutes by Rob Gusass and seconded by Mike Emerson. Motion carries

## Officers Reports

Treasurers Report: Doug Miller gave the report. Tom Nimmo stepped up to be the new treasurer. Everything is electronic and he will be given access to the banking information. Financials were sent out on 8/31/19 by Tera Cichon to all committee members. Our current balance is \$235,485.31.

## Committee Reports

A. Chairman's Report: Scott Radke brought amended bylaws for all to review and review the purpose of our organization. Everyone introduced themselves, how long they were on the lake and their favorite vacation spot.

B. Membership: Keith Theisen

We have a little more than 300 members. We took in about \$15,000 in dues and an additional \$33,000 in donations this year. Majority of dues are being paid electronically. We have email addresses for everyone except for about 25 members. We need additional members on the membership committee.

C. Governmental Relations

- Corrina Township Update-no report

D. Fisheries

- Carp Trap Status-Paul Gustafson has stepped down

#### E. Water Quality Stats: Dan Erdmann

9/20/19 the clarity was 12.5 ft, Water temp 74°, Air Temp 80° Culvert Inlet 19.5", Culvert Outlet 24.5". Scott suggested that we put an article in the newsletter with the history of the water levels. Zebra mussels will keep the water clarity high and therefore more sunlight can reach the submerged weeds which may allow them to thrive.

#### F. Water Quality/AIS

- Zebra Mussel Inspections: There is research on Zebra Mussels being done on Lake Minnetonka that may bring a glimmer of hope for control. We need to continue to report on Zebra Mussels and send in reports to [zebra@sugarlake.org](mailto:zebra@sugarlake.org). Report the address, density and quantity. The documentation is important for future research and treatment. Dale Gustafson is keeping the data to document the emergence of Zebra Mussels
- Vegetation/Water Quality: Dale Gustafson. There are areas of the lake that need attention. We treated curly leaf where it was found the year before. There was more on the east side this year. We found Eurasian Milfoil but not enough to treat it. A larger area needs to be treated in order to get the best effect. We will probably treat Curly Leaf Pond Weed and Milfoil next year. (Along the shorelines is the responsibility of the home owner. A permit is required to treat. Chemicals are available to purchase without a permit.) We hire to have it treated with liquid chemical. We will be hiring Blue Water Science to do a search for Starry Stonewort in October when it grows the fastest. They grow into massive pillows that float. Sylvia had it and treated it successfully. Koronis has it widespread. Dale Gustafson, Diane Hall, Ron Elsner and Jan Tift attended the Minnesota Aquatic Invasive Species Conference on September 18. Board members are encouraged to attend this conference this year and the SLA will pay the conference fee. Cedar Lake Conservation Club has put together a great page with Good Weed / Bad Weed ID. We should consider putting together something similar and share it with our members.
- Wright Regional Inspection Program

#### G. Communications

- Newsletter: Don Peterson. We only mail about 20 newsletters and so mailing costs are minimal. We will consider going paperless in the near future. Items for the upcoming newsletter: Zebra Mussel watch, committee descriptions and call to be on a committee without being on the board and a list of the board members.
- Website: Jan Tift: Doug Miller suggested that we create a login for members to get a directory of members that would include their information that could be updated and a link to location on the lake. This would save money that we currently spend on printing the directory. We need to look at a way to keep communication current and easily available. There is a need for members on the communications committee to explore the best option to reach our membership with current and updated information. (Facebook, Twitter, other??)

## Old business

- Strategic Plan Development: Ron Elsner is interested in working on the strategic 5-7 year plan and wants to get a committee together.

## New business

- Vote on Treasurer- Motion to elect Tom Nimmo was made by Mike Emerson and seconded by Dan Erdman. Motion passes
- Appointment of new Board Members: Doug Miller to a two year term replacing Michael Rosenberger who moved off the lake and Steve Kowalczyk to an open vacancy for a three year term ending in 2022
- 2019-2020 SLA Budget Proposal was presented. Keith started a discussion regarding the effectiveness of the Access Monitoring was had because we are basically only looking for Starry Stonewort. Should we be spending the \$25,000 in another way? Dan pointed out that keeping the exit inspections is positive for the community in not spreading our Zebra Mussels, Milfoil and Curly leaf to other lakes. We need to revisit this expenditure and consider getting membership feedback through a survey on how we should be spending our money. (it is currently one third of our budget). This discussion needs to be part of our Strategic Plan.
- Committee Assignments: A list of committee descriptions was passed out and all on the board and anyone who is not on the board is welcome and encouraged to sign up for these committees.

## Adjournment

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

Jan Tift

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Secretary