

**Sugar Lake Association Board & Membership Meeting**  
**Thursday June 17, 2021 – 6:30 to 8:30 PM**

1. Call to order – Keith Theisen

2. Roll Call – Secretary Todd Jackson

In Attendance: Steve Kowalczyk, Mike Emerson, Mark Ertl, Dan Salfer, Keith Theisen, Tom Nimmo, Kim Hanson, Trudy Richter, Todd Jackson, Diane Hall, Lisa Salfer and Jim Printup, Mark Snyder and Kevin Welle

Not in attendance: Rob Gusaas, Mark Kraemer and Don Peterson

Guests: Jim & Robin Fox, Jim Schimelpfenig, Mike Zieska and Ron Elsner, Dan Erdmann

Motion to approve minutes May minutes by Mike Emerson, seconded Diane Hall. Motion approved.

3. Chairman's Report – Keith Theisen

- Nominations for board members – Keith reported that the we have 6 new board members to fill in August. The following 5 people have agreed to serve on the board:
  - Jim Schimelpfenig
  - Gary Borell
  - Martha Newel
  - Dan Erdmann
  - Appointment Mark Ertl (assuming changes to by-laws happen)
- Bylaw Changes Communication Plans – plan to address it in next newsletter and put out an email to members with changes approved by BOD ...

4. Treasurer's Report – Tom Nimmo

General fund	\$66,926
Invasive fund	\$160,564
Lake Improvement	<u>\$51,556</u>
Total	<u>\$279,056</u>

Tom reported that our cash balance is up about \$8,800 over last month. We have over \$3,600 in advertising revenue that was unplanned and dues are up \$3,300 over last month. Expenses will start to pick up as we pay for weed control and hold our picnic this year.

5. Old / New Business and Open Mic

A. North Landing Safety Concerns – Chairman Theisen reported that the DNR made some temporary improvements (filled in holes) and will fill in with pavement soon. Longer term DNR plans to work with Wright County to improve grade off of the road and improve signage. DNR doesn't want to close landing.

B. South Landing CD3 Cleaning Station – Chairman Theisen reported that he met with the owner of CD3, the DNR and WCSW regarding adding a CD3 cleaning station to the south landing. WCSW has approved funds to purchase the machine and agreed to take on all maintenance and insurance. SLA will pay for ½ of the CD3 unit and some costs to get the site ready for the equipment. The DNR is going through the process to approve having the unit at the south landing. Hope to have the unit installed by this fall. This will help stop the spread of invasive species in and out of Sugar Lake.

C. Bogs – Jim and Robin Fox brought up what a problem bogs can be that land on a lake owners shore line. To comply with the DNR rules you need to break up the bog and remove it from the lake. This can be expensive. They requested that SLA pay for BOG removal for members. A discussion was had on this subject and it was noted that the board should study this issue in the future.

D. Fish Kill – North End. The foxes reported that there was a significant fish kill on the north end of the lake. Chairman Theisen had done some checking on this and it was primarily caused by the heat wave in June and the sudden warming of the lake. This caused a loss of oxygen in the upper layer of water. Many lakes in the area reported similar fish kills.

E. Algae Blooms - Chairman Theisen reported that the Algae blooms have been caused by the heat wave and clearer water which is causing sunlight to reach greater depths. Farm field and lawn fertilization run off also contribute to algae blooms. The SLA should make sure to remind lake owners to make sure to use phosphorous free lawn fertilizer. In addition, this year we are seeing a bloom of the native rooted plant, buttercup (*Ranunculus*). It is the plant with white flowers at the surface. These plants are cyclical and this year seems to be a large crop. They will choke themselves out during the summer if you let them be or you can get a permit from the DNR to treat for them.

## 6. Review 2021 Calendar of Events / Checklist of tasks

- Virtual Fishing Fun Event Saturday, June 26 (8 am to noon) Virtual Facebook / Email
  - Chairman Theisen and Kevin Welle are in charge of this event.
- Boat parade is Saturday July 10<sup>th</sup>.
  - Jan Tift and Kim Hanson are co-chairing. Kim reported that they were in the need for 5 judges. Todd Jackson, Trudy Richter and Ron Elsner volunteered to be judges.
- Scramble Golf Event Saturday, July 31 Southbrook Golf Course (1 pm Shotgun Start) Greg Selle is chairing.
- 

## 7. Committee Reports

### Water Quality/AIS

- Water Quality Statistics – Dan Erdmann Fisheries – Lake Reading June 8m 2021 at 12:30 PM.
  - Water Clarity 21 ft
  - Water temperature @ 21 ft was 70 degrees
  - Water surface temperature was 78 degrees
  - Air Temperature was 91 degrees

- Bright sun/light winds
- Culver inlet 18"
- Culver outlet 23 ¾"
- Water quality was a 1 on a scale of 1 (good) to 5 (bad)
- Fish Survey –
  - IT was noted that the DNR will be doing its 5-year fish survey this summer. Traps will be placed in the lake shortly and gill traps will be set out later in July. People should not be interfering with the traps.
- Filter Strip –
  - Dan Erdmann reported that the farm filter strip we maintain to protect from farm runoff had to be replanted last year with native plants and it is in need of weed treatment this year. We have received a bid from the company we hired to plant it last year and the estimate totals \$4,000. Chairman Theisen noted we did not budget for this in the current fiscal year. Upon analysis of the bid it was noted it included mowing which SLA had been having the farmer we lease the land from provide. After much discussion Mark Snyder made a motion to approve \$2,400 for weed treatment, seconded by Jim Printup. Motion passed.
- Carp Trap Monitoring -
  - Jim Schimelpfenig reported that the new carp trap works really well. He has been one of the volunteers that monitors it and he noted he hasn't seen any carp in it and the spawn should be done. Will opening the trap back up shortly.

## Membership

- Updates/ Keith / Mailing Raffle
  - Statistics – Keith reported that 275 members had renewed their membership and we had received approximately \$49,000 in dues and donations. It was noted that approximately 380 households are on the lake and traditionally 75% are members of SLA.
- Update Member Directory
  - An email requests for members contact information was sent out.
  - An updated paper directory will be available to members at the picnic.
  - Scott Radtke Family is working on this.
- Electronic Directory: PDF option on request
  - It was decided that no PDF directory will be made available to members in order to better protect people's privacy.
- Advertising sales \$300 Ron Elsner / Dir, newsletter, Facebook
  - Ron Elsner reported that 14 advertising packages had been sold.

## Communications

Newsletter – Keith Theisen: Items to be in the newsletter for June include:

1. Fishing Virtual Fun Event - Pictures
2. By-Law Changes
3. Boat Parade

4. Golf Event

5. Picnic

9. Picnic Update Sally / Jan

- Plan for 600 / Pre Registrations? Drink Tickets? Insurance?
  - Tom Nimo checked with our insurance company and we do have host liquor policy coverage.
  - We will not issue drink tickets...
  - It was noted we ran out of food two years ago so committee planning accordingly.
  - Ron Elsner will bring sound system.
  - Dan Erdmann has garbage boxes for event.
  - Still looking for who has gunny sacks from two years ago for races...
  - Will have a sign at check-in suggesting members make a donation if they have brought more than immediate family to the picnic.
- Invite Wright County Commissioners?
  - Sally will invite our county commissioners to the picnic.
- Volunteers – Sign Up
  - Reviewed open items we still need help with and board members were encouraged to volunteer.
- Raffle Prizes – each board member purchase or secure one prize
  - Each board member is to provide one raffle prize for the picnic.

Motion to Adjourn made by Jim Printup and seconded by Mike Emerson. Motion carried.