

# SUGAR LAKE ASSOCIATION MEETING MINUTES

5.19.18

## Call to Order

A board meeting of the Sugar Lake Association was held on May 19, 2018 at Corinna Town Hall. It began at 8:03 AM and was presided over by chair Ron Elsner, with Andrea Welter as secretary.

## Attendees

*Voting members in attendance:* Paul Gustafson, Doug Miller, Marsha Shrupp, Kathy Suddendorf, Sheldon Brown, Dan Erdmann, Ron Elsner, Andrea Welter, Dave Arnason, Scott Radtke, Peter Ramme, Jan Tift, Sally Quinn Phenow, Jim Schimelfenig (left at 8:55)

*Members not in attendance:* Don Peterson, Keith Theisen, Gary Borrell, Larry Jude.

## Open Mic

None

## Approval of Previous Minutes

Motion to approve April 2018 minutes by S. Radtke, seconded by S. Quinn-Phenow. Motion carries

Motion to approve November 2017 minutes by P. Gustafson, seconded by S. Brown. Motion carries.

## Treasurer's Report (D. Miller)

- To date have collected @\$7000 in donations through Stripe
- Cost for financial transactions made through Carlson Advisors has totaled @\$155 for the past 3 months. (We had estimated @\$1200)

## Committee Reports

### A. Chair's Report (R. Elsner)

- Nothing new to contribute that won't be covered by the regular agenda items

### B. Membership (R. Elsner-K. Theisen is absent, but shared email with Ron earlier this week)

- Received \$3000 additional donations this month
- Keith has received positive comments about the online membership option
- Currently doing final edits on the prospects package of @130 additional potential members that we will reach out to

### C. Government Relations (S. Brown)

- No report

### D. Fisheries (P. Gustafson)

- The Fisheries committee met right before the general meeting.
- The carp barrier will be closed today (May 16<sup>th</sup>), as the water is above 62 degrees F, and the daily cleanings will begin tomorrow.
- Committee requests \$1000 expenditure to modify the current barrier construction to improve it by reconfiguring it to have a "flip up" design. This should help it improve flow when it is open.
- In 2017 barrier was closed for 32 days, and 114 cleanings were performed.

Motion by P. Gustafson to spend up to \$1000 to modify the current carp barrier, seconded by J. Schimelfenig. Motion carries.

- A big threat to Sugar Lake is silver carp due to our connection to the Mississippi River. S. Radtke inquired if Limestone Lake has an association, and if they are doing anything to address this. No one had a definitive answer.

#### **E. Water Quality Statistics (D. Erdmann) for 5.17.18**

Water Clarity	8 feet
Water Temperature	61 degrees F
Culvert Inlet	16.5 inches
Culvert Outlet	22 inches
Overall condition (1=good to 5=poor) is 3 (cloudy and algae/slime)	

#### **F. Water Quality/AIS (R. Elsner)**

##### ***i. Zebra mussel watch/inspections***

- nothing to report at this time

##### ***ii. Vegetation/Water Quality (D. Gustafson)***

- Public notification process for treatment went off well again. (We use an “opt out” system now that requires notification and requests that people who do not approve must notify us, vs. the old “opt in” system where we had to collect signatures from all property owners).
- The cost to publish in local newspapers is @\$375. Notices are also posted on our website and in newsflashes.
- Dale Gustafson closed the loop with the DNR.
- Scott Radtke is helping with the buoys and markers (gallon jugs) that are placed to mark sensitive vegetation. This hopefully keeps power boats away, or at least minimizes the impact their wake has on the plants.
- One marker is also being used to mark Stoney Point for increased safety.
- Birdhaven bulrushes also being marked. When the native vegetation is stirred up and destroyed, it creates an environment that is conducive for Eurasian Water Milfoil (EWM) to move in and take over.
- The chemical previously used would also kill other plants, so treatment is scheduled for when the water temperature is between 50 and 60 degrees F, before the other plants are growing. Treatment is scheduled for early next week. There are no restrictions for this chemical. If there are small areas, pull them out. Notify Dale if you see a larger area (they look a different color green and have a different texture).
- We get some money from Wright Soil & Water Conservation District, but that amount keeps decreasing.
- In late June, Steve McComas will complete a plant survey (including density). This is to be certain that what we are doing is not adversely affecting our native plants.

##### ***iii. Wright Regional Inspection Program (R. Elsner)***

- Average inspection/cleaning takes around 3.5 minutes
- 120 units have gone through the facility so far this season
- Decontamination is available to ANY Wright County lake user who wants to use it.
- Facility is being run by Anchor Dock & Lift, under the supervision of the Wright Soil & Water Conservation District (WSWCD).
- Even though it is not required on Sugar Lake, suggestion was made to mention in the newsletter that it would be beneficial to encourage visitors to stop by and get decontaminated if they have boats/trailers that move from lake to lake, and ask that if you are renting to outsiders, that you include it as part of your rental agreement.

#### **G. Communications**

##### ***i. Newsletter (R. Elsner)***

- No 5K this year. Participation numbers have declined. Revenues equaled the expenses last year. Will look again next year.
- July 28-Golf outing Southbrook Golf Course

- May newsletter is a hard copy to all SLA members this month, as it also contains the raffle tickets. Don requests help stuffing. If you can help, please contact him.

#### *ii. Website (Jan Tift)*

- S. Radtke suggested that we promote decontamination on our website . "Clean Boat"
- Contacts is now a link, vs. the former list showing names

## **Old Business**

### **A. North Landing Caution Signs** (J. Schimelfenig)

No new progress to report. Still in development with the county and DNR to determine type and placement

### **B. Picnic**

- i. coordinator search continues
- ii. raffle tickets have been printed
- iii. door prizes
  - Mike Mengelkoch is collecting

### **C. Fundraising Opportunity**

Sheree M. has already reached out to Camrilsota (in Maple Lake) regarding online custom apparel.

(unrelated) Discussion started regarding association status of Maple Lake. Sheldon shared that it is a Lake Improvement District (LID) that allows them to set up limited tax assessments to lakeshore, but not backlots, in order to raise funds. They had trouble raising money as a lake association. It slowly gained support and eventually property owners voted for it.

## **New Business**

### **A. Nominating Committee**

- Members are asked to bring names of potential future board members to replace those who are leaving after August

### **B. Strategic Plan Development**

- Board previously agreed to begin the process of developing a 5 year plan. Believe it is best to form a separate committee to meet and discuss. This group would include board members, as well as opening it up to all membership.
- This would be similar to the Lake Management Plan that was developed years ago. This was created to help with the DNR. If we followed the approved plan, we did not have to go ask for permission each time we wanted to treat. We stayed within their guidelines and had evidence to show that our actions were not harming the lake.
- The Strategic plan would also lay out priorities and long range budgets.

## **Adjournment**

Motion made by S. Radtke that the meeting be adjourned and was seconded by Marsha Shrupp. This was agreed upon at 9:26 AM

**SECRETARY APPROVAL:**

Andrea M. Welter

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