

SUGAR LAKE ASSOCIATION ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING MINUTES

8.18.18

Call to Order

A board meeting of the Sugar Lake Association was held on August 18, 2018 at Corinna Town Hall. It began at 8:08 AM and was presided over by Ron Elsner, with Andrea Welter as secretary.

Attendees

Voting members in attendance: Paul Gustafson, Don Peterson, Marsha Shrupp, Kathy Suddendorf, Keith Theisen, Gary Borrell, Sheldon Brown, Ron Elsner, Dan Erdmann, Andrea Welter, Dave Arnason, Scott Radtke, Jim Schimelfenig, Jan Tift.

Members not in attendance: Doug Miller, Larry Jude, Peter Ramme, Sally Quinn-Phenow.

Open Mic

None

Board Member Election/Appointment of Election Judges to count ballots

- Keith Theisen & Don Peterson

Approval of Previous Minutes

Motion to approve July 2018 minutes by P. Gustafson, seconded by K. Suddendorf. Motion carries.

Annual Report to Membership (R. Elsner)

Highlights of the previous year include:

- Creation of rapid response plan in the event of an invasive species infestation
- Automation in the areas of banking, membership dues/donations, communications, website updates, Stripe app, collection/input of data of property owners to increase membership opportunities.
- Wright county inspection project. (We were a part of the discussion and expressed interest in joining).
- Signage at North landing.
- Movement of treatment permission to online "opt out" policy vs. prior mailing with required signatures.

Plans for 2019 include:

- Refine rapid response plan. We are looking at the Ramsey county electronic model for possible adoption.
- Water quality improvement projects.
- Initiate a strategic financial plan committee to develop a long term (5 year) plan.
- G. Borell asked if there is anything left to automate..K. Theisen's response was the directory. The issue is security.

Treasurer's Report (D. Miller)

Shared that the monthly reports created and shared each month include:

- Monthly balance sheet
- Transactions for the month
- Profit and loss statement

SLA assets currently total \$208K

This fiscal year we have underspent by 14% to date (with one month left to go)

Elvira Hansen passed away on July 1. She was the winner of the raffle \$500 grand prize. The family donated it back to the association.

Motion by P. Gustafson to accept the treasurer's report, seconded by K. Suddendorf. Motion carries.

Committee Reports

A. Chairman's Report (R. Elsner)

- Starry stonewort discovered in Pleasant Lake. They are a part of the pilot inspection program. It was discovered near the county ramp. There are 2 large growths and @12 others. They were treated and handpulled.

B. Membership (K. Theisen)

- Keith is willing to help mentor Cindi Peterson as she takes over the bookkeeping aspects of it. but we still need a board member to chair the committee and oversee it.

C. Government Relations (S. Brown)

- No report

D. Fisheries (P. Gustafson)

- Carp barrier has been cleaned 14x since the last meeting-little accumulation of weeds/debris.

E. Water Quality Statistics (D. Erdmann) for 8.10.18

Water Clarity	8 feet
Water Temperature	80 degrees F
Culvert Inlet	12.25 inches
Culvert Outlet	17.75 inches
Overall condition	3 (1=good to 5=poor) due to algae bloom

There are major disputes among property owners regarding optimal lake level. The historical high water level is 15.5 inches as measured in the culvert inlet

F. Water Quality/AIS (Bob Peltier)

i. Zebra mussel watch/inspections

- Bob Peltier keeps the contract with the DNR regarding watercraft inspections at the 2 public landings.
- 1023 watercraft were inspected in July
- Sugar Lake and Lake Sylvia are the 2 most heavily trafficked lakes in the county.

ii. Vegetation/Water Quality (Dale Gustafson)

- This year we are not going to treat for Eurasian Water Milfoil (EWM) because there isn't enough of it in large enough areas to treat according to the DNR. The amount does not meet the threshold of nuisance level in their opinion.
- U of M is studying a milfoil hybrid and took samples from Sugar Lake.
- Steve McComas plant survey this summer taken from 200 different locations collected 2 Eurasian Water Milfoil (EWM) samples, 43 Northern milfoil, and 0 hybrid samples.
- Bad news is that Starry Stonewort has been discovered in nearby Pleasant Lake. Dale recommends we have Blue Water Science do an intense search at both landings immediately.
- **Motion by G. Borrell, and seconded by Jan Tift, to have Steve McComas (Blue Water Science) do annual checks at the North and South landings at the optimum time for identification, and add Starry Stonewort inspections as a recurring annual expense and separate line item in the budget. Motion carries.**
- Lake Sylvia treated again last week and have not found any biomass. Have done 2 or 3 treatments so far this year and expect to do 5 for a total cost of @\$25,000.
- Lake Koronis, which is 3200 acres has 500 acres of Starry.
- Discussion about public but not monitored accesses (property that has been previously owned/managed by the govt but has been abandoned and passed on to private owners)

- This highlights the controversial prevention/treatment debate.

iii. Wright Regional Inspection Program (G. Borrell)

- August 23 is a county budget work session closed to the public

G. Communications

i. Newsletter (D. Peterson)

- Don in need of names of raffle winners, Diane's Lights info, Catholic mass info, golf tourney pics. Ron will send copy of the report to the membership to post.

ii. Website (Jan Tift)

- asked secretary to send minutes in PDF format in the future.

Old Business

A. North Landing (J. Schimelfenig)

- County installed an intersection sign and improved visibility.

B. Strategic Plan Development (R. Elsner)

Motion by G. Borrell, and seconded by K. Theisen, to form a committee, to be chaired by the treasurer, to develop a long term financial plan for the financial stability of the association. Motion carries.

New Business

A. Report of Board Member Election Results

- 38 verified ballots cast
- 2 members elected by ballot:
 - Dan Salfer
 - Mark Ertl
- 4 members by appointment:
 - Mark Snyder
 - Mike Emerson
 - Diane Hall
 - Michael Rosenburger

Adjournment

Motion made by P. Gustafson that the meeting be adjourned and was seconded by K. Suddendorf. This was agreed upon at 9:57 AM

SECRETARY APPROVAL:

Andrea M. Welter
