

Lake Washington Improvement Association Board Meeting July 1, 2021

Board Members Present: Mike & Sandy Wosmek, Pat Hanson,
Ron Bubany, Bonni Halverson, Steve Grotbo, Steve Ullom, David Rathe,
Sharon Daniels, Laurie Johnson, Brett Rasmussen

Treasurer Report: Invasive Species Fund \$44,195.47 General Fund \$79,004.24

Paid Memberships: 183

1) **Call Meeting to Order 7 PM** by President Steve Grobo

2) **Secretary's June Board Meeting Report** – approved for publication on the website

3) **Treasurer's June Financial Report** – Lyle W not able to complete the June report. He will share this with the July report at the next meeting.

June Financial Report 7/8/21 Income: \$1250 Memberships, Invasive Species donations \$355, DFD donations \$225, Interest \$5.46. Expenses: \$70 Info. Systems, \$25 State MN filing fee, Mugs \$239.50. Total Funds \$123,340.67.

Board will need to approve these expenses at the next meeting.

4) **Committee assignments for LWIA 7/1/2021- 7/1/2022**

1. Aquatic Invasive Species Committee

I-LIDS/Watercraft Inspections – Dave Rathe, Mike Wosmek, Cindy Hewitt, Brett Rasmussen

Water Quality Testing - Dave Rathe, Mike Wosmek, Cindy Hewitt, Brett Rasmussen

Vegetation Survey - Ron Bubany, Mark Johnson, Mike Wosmek

Watershed - Mike Wosmek, Brett Rasmussen Joe Norman – Meeker Co. Soil & Water

Cormorant - Steve Grotbo, Rick Fernstrom, Pat Hanson, Bonni Halverson

Zebra Mussels – Dave Rathe, Mike Wosmek

2. Education / Public Relations / Communications Committee

Ron Bubany (Newsletter), Steve Grotbo, Laurie Johnson, Bonni Halverson (Website, Facebook, Email),
Steve Ullom, Pat Hanson

3. Finance Committee Lyle Walker

4. Grants Committee – Sharon Daniels, Bonni Halverson, Steve Ullom

5. Membership & Shoreline Captains Committee – Ron Bubany (systems),

Sandy & Mike Wosmek, Sharon Daniels, Pat Hanson

Membership Chair and Shoreline Captains – Laurie Johnson

6. Social Committee Sandy & Mike Wosmek, Pat Hanson, Bonni Halverson

MCAL Representative 1. Pat Hanson, 2. Sharon Daniels

5) **Lake Survey** – Laurie J reported 57 surveys have been submitted at this time. If the Shoreline Captains get a hard copy they should go ahead and enter the data. She is willing to help submit surveys if a Captain gets too many.

There was a discussion about people having trouble submitting the survey forms. Laurie was going to look into this.

6) **Culvert replacement** – Steve G reported there is nothing new to report at this time.

7) **Ellsworth landing parking lot**- Striping is supposed to happen sometime this summer, Bonni will check with Parks people and she will share a suggestion the Handicap space be made van accessible.

The garbage can was delivered June 22.

8) **Committee Reports:**

Aquatic Invasive Species:

A. Water Quality Testing – Dave R. reported latest water sample was sent to RMB testing on Tuesday. The current results as of 7/8/21 are: Phosphorus was 16.8 mcg/L, vs historical average 27, Chlorophyll-a – 3 micrograms/liter (average readings in the past over 10). Most recent testing using Secchi disk, readings were in the 3.5 - 4 foot range vs other years at this time of about 4 feet.

B. Vegetation Survey – Mark J reported

Ron B., Mike W. and Mark J performed a vegetation survey on Sunday 6/16. They surveyed 40-50 waypoints that included the area treated last year and other suspect areas. No milfoil was found (eurasian or northern) - mainly curly leaf, clasping and charra. They plan to do another survey in about two weeks.

Mark J sent an email to Dan at LimnoPro inquiring about their availability and cost to perform an AIS Early Detection Survey - same as they did in 2018. Ron and Mark thought it would be a good idea to do this every year. The cost in 2018 was \$1,200. At the June meeting, the Board approved an AIS Early Detection Survey be completed by Limnopro this year at a cost of about \$1500.00. Mark is waiting to hear from them about a date for the survey.

C. I-LIDS/Watercraft Inspection –Dave R reported the I-LIDS seems to be working pretty well. He thinks we may be missing some boats on the far lane of the landing. Also is considering increasing the volume on the unit. Dave R. shared the county has watercraft inspectors at Ellsworth landing every Friday, Saturday, and Sunday. The DNR is rotating weekends at Washington and Stella for the decontamination station. One can choose to go to the lake with the decontamination station to have your watercraft cleaned off even if you are not using that lake. They are using hot water sprayers (with the water heated to 120 degrees.) The emphasis has been on water in the watercraft and drying it out.

D. Cormorants & Pelicans -Steve G talked with Gary Nohrenberg (USDA). He indicated Minnesota is much more difficult compared to other states he has worked in, but all states have bureaucratic issues. His best recommendation is “pistol launched pyros”, which does not sound good. He really feels we need to document impact better and possibly escalate impact to higher ups within DNR (fish count / swimmers itch). Rick F did do graphing of fish populations over several years, he noted the year Newcastle disease went through the flock and significantly reduced the numbers, the DNR fish surveys showed increase in numbers and sizes of fish. We have been told, what we see is normal fluctuations for fish size and populations or AIS is impacting the walleye population in Lake Washington. There were some asking about “why” the increase in the bass population,

E. Zebra Mussels – Nothing new to report at this time.

F. Watershed – Mike W reported the silt was cleaned out of pond FY 13-09 this week. He needs to let the piles dry out before leveling them out. Gary Danielson, Brett Rasmussen, and Dave R have volunteered to help level out the piles. Because it didn’t take as long as projected to clean the pond the cost was \$2096.00 not \$2900.00

Mike W. has been clearing out the helper trees and brush growing in the ditch on the east side of Ellsworth Landing. He used a hay wagon to haul away the brush. He spent several weeks being bounced around between different DNR agencies. He was finally able to connect with Kristi Rice at State Parks Division, only to learn that area is classified as a road and is not DNR property, but rather it is part of Ellsworth Township. The Township Board readily gave permission for cleaning up that area.

Mike is going to check with Ellsworth Township about getting on their ditch spraying schedule. They can spray to prevent trees from growing in this area.

Membership / Shoreline Captains – Laurie reported we have 183 paid memberships at this time which is only 25 less than we had for 2020.

Education & Public Relations:

A. Summer Newsletter – Ron B. was looking for more information to fill out the pages for the July Newsletter. It was decided to wait until after the 4th of July Boat parade, so pictures of this event can be in the newsletter.

B. Website, Facebook, and Email Activity – We have gotten feedback there is not a membership card/option on our webpage. Laurie will download a PDF that people can print out and send in. Ron B will send out an email blast once this function is up and running.

Social Committee – Sandy W reported chops are ordered and she will be ordering the other food from Red Rooster store in Dassel. Her plan is to bake the brownies. 5 pm Social Hour – 6 Dinner – followed by time to answer questions or share concerns by those attending. Mike is arranging for help with grilling the pork chops...thinking he would be starting the grilling process about 4 pm.

Pat H and Laurie will have a table at the front to greet and take memberships.

Financial – Grants – Sharon D. reminded us to please send in any receipts and hours you have put in doing volunteer work for LWIA.

MCAL - Representatives/meeting dates Pat H. shared the next meeting is in July.

9) Open Discussion – Bonni H has gotten some feedback regarding no restaurants or food places on the lake. She was wondering about a Food Truck event on the lake. The Board as a group determined this doesn’t fit with our mission and goals. Other groups, organizations or businesses could certainly sponsor such an event. FYI years ago there were hotels (with food options, many stories about the Sunday Brunches) also was a time we had a store, even a gas pump on the lake.

Steve G reported the next UM Coffee Break scheduled for July 2 includes a discussion on “Freshwater Golden Clams”.

National Night out is the first Tuesday in August so...

Next Board Meeting Scheduled for 7 PM August 10th at Dassel Rod and Gun.