

Lake Washington Improvement Association Board Meeting July 2, 2020

Board Members Present: Mike & Sandy Wosmek, Lyle Walker, Pat Hanson, Ron Bubany, Steve Grotbo, Steve Ullom, David Rathe, Sharon Daniels, Laurie Johnson, Mark Johnson, Brett Rassmusen

Board members please let someone know if you are unable to attend.

Treasurer Report: Invasive Species Fund \$65,578.84 General Fund \$76,210.64

Paid Memberships: 179

- 1) **Call Meeting to Order 7 PM** at Dassel Rod n Gun Club by President Steve Grotbo
- 2) **Secretary's June Board Meeting Report** – Steve U will send out updated June 2 minutes approved for website.
- 3) **Treasurer's June Financial Reports** – Lyle W. reported there was not much activity this month. Income: \$350 (7 memberships), \$50 to invasive species fund, \$39.25 interest, \$50 to DFD (67 people have donated \$1897.00 for the Dassel Fire Dept.). Expenses: \$350 For Piehl, Beckman, Hanson for annual audit and filing state and federal forms. The Board approved a resolution to accept the Charitable Organizational Annual Report, which Lyle will send in.
- 4) **New logo** – Laurie J. designed 10 different logos for the Board to choose from. The Board approved a new logo that has 3 fish on it. There was a discussion about Laurie getting the logo to the company making new signs for the landings on Lake Washington.
- 5) **AIS packets** – Mark J ordered AIS picture cards that he and Laurie put together in packets for Shore Line Captains to give to all property owners this year. Mark reported some picture cards were on back order so at this time they have 10 packets for each Shore Line Captain. Should have all the packets by the end of July and will notify the Captains when these are available. The Captains will decide how they will get these to property owners.
- 6) **Fourth of July Boat Parade** – Steve G reported there were 16 people signed up to be in the parade with 48 others expressing an interest in joining the parade. The campground reported there are at least 2 boats that will join the parade. There was a discussion about the campground people joining the association.

7) **Committee Reports:**

Aquatic Invasive Species:

A. Water Quality Testing – At the time of the meeting Dave R had not received the results from the June water testing of six inlet sites. On July 11 Dave shared the report from RMB labs on the samples pulled June 30th. These results were from sites 303, 308, 310, 311, 313, 312, that Dave R and Mike W collected, (there was no water coming from inlet site 301 so they chose a different site).

We will need to pull the information from the report and add it to our data base, as well as, loading the report onto the web site. One thing I noted that we saw last year was high phosphorus content coming from the inlets compared to the lake water (Site 101). 3.5 to 10 times the amount. I did receive 6 more test kits, so if the conditions are good we could grab more samples from different Sites yet this year. We need a good long & heavy rain.

Updated information from the June 2 Board meeting: Ron B. developed a water quality thread for Dave and Cindy to post water testing results and information. Dave and Laurie will have to decide how to incorporate this into our site. It will then be on the lwiaonline domain, if you want to have a look. The actual menu item will be for Dave and Laurie to define. This thread includes all the data Dave R and Cindy H. have put together to date.

B. Vegetation Survey – Mark J is working on getting a permit for Limnopro to treat 77 acres at a cost of about \$38,000.00. They will be using 2-4D, that has proven to be the most effective treatment method for us. The treatment will be sometime after July 4. The treated area is in 7-10 feet of water in the Southwest quadrant, this is the area Limnopro identified 2 years ago when surveying our lake. The early June survey, by Ron B and Mark J did not find other areas of heavy EWM growth. Ron and Mark will check a few weeks after the treatment, looking for plants that were not affected by the treatments, with the idea of providing samples of these plants to the UM for analysis to see if they are a hybrid variety of milfoil.

C. I-LIDS/Watercraft Inspection- Dave R reported it is working really well and there are about 3,400 videos so far this year. He noted the videos are much clearer since the updates were installed. Meeker AIS is conducting watercraft inspections at the Ellsworth landing on the weekends.

D. Cormorants & Pelicans – Steve G reported the Federal Government Fish and Wildlife Services asked for comments on changing permitting rules for migratory birds, specifically double crested cormorants. We encouraged people to comment on this back in February. There were 1,431 comments, Steve noted about half the comments were opposed to changing the permitting rules. It looks like politicians are pushing for controls, unfortunately Minnesota is one of five states the say currently they have on real problems with DCCOs. They have opened the site at

<http://www.regulations.gov/> for additional comments until July 20, 2020.

E. Zebra Mussels – Steve G reported having contact with the UM regarding Lake Washington having an interest in being part of any zebra mussel research they may be doing. Nick Phelps responded:

Thanks for reaching out, and your support of MAISRC - we really appreciate it!

I agree that we will need to develop a control strategy to mitigate the impacts of ZM. Over the last 5 years, we have evaluated several chemicals and narrowed the focus to a commercially available copper product (Earth Tec QZ). We scaled up that evaluation with a major treatment in Lake Minnetonka last summer (see attached for a summary) and are doing following up monitoring this summer. In addition, we completed the ZM genome last summer - a major breakthrough that will allow us to begin to explore genetic control strategies. Genetic control is still years out from potential in-lake trials, but I'm optimistic we will be able to start lab trials in the next year or two.

We are still in the review process for new projects, but we are excited about a couple of ZM control efforts being proposed. Stay tuned to our newsletter in ~September when those are announced! I will pass along your information to the project team that is currently working on copper-based control strategies. You may want to reach out to [Dr. Diane Waller](#) directly too if you have questions or interest in what they are doing, she is leading this effort right now. I know the project team is currently looking for potential study lakes for the next couple of years... there are many infested lakes, but finding one that is a good study site is more difficult.

A result of Steve G reaching out, Meg Duhr from MAISRC visited Lake Washington on July 7: The following is Ron B. observations. I chose to include this email information at this time but will also suggest it be part of our August Board Agenda.

Board Members: Interview with Meg Duhr, Research Outreach Specialist, U of M, 7/7/2020

Young walleyes feed substantially on plankton. There is "good" plankton and "bad" plankton. A diet of good plankton results in healthy, growing walleyes. A diet of bad plankton results in walleyes with stunted growth, poor health and a generally unhappy life.

Questions: Is the plankton in a lake good or bad? How much is good and how much is bad? If it's bad, why? Do zebra mussels, which also eat plankton, have anything to do with it?

To find answers to these questions, Meg and her team are pulling up plankton samples from different parts of our lake, and other lakes. Plankton is obtained from both - lakes infested with mussels and lakes which are not infested.

Meg's samples are sent to the research analysts who sort out ratios of good and bad plankton chemicals. You can see how the knowledge they obtain would be helpful in developing answers to the questions posed earlier.

Of course It will be some time before we hear results from this exercise. But, when results are obtained Meg will advise us. That's part of Meg's job description. You guys would all like her.

Perhaps there will be information available for the next issue of our newsletter. If so, I'll be sure to publish it.

F. Watershed – Dave R reported the stand-pipe at inlet 302 is plugging up with vegetation, the holes are about 1/4 inch. He is going to make the holes on the pipe larger 3/8/ to 1/2 inch to improve water flow.

Membership / Shoreline Captains – Laurie J will be sending out updated information regarding memberships and information on getting additional AIS picture packets to Shore Line Captains. She has not heard back from all Captains at this time.

Education & Public Relations:

A. Summer Newsletter – Ron B reported the newsletter is going to the printer on Monday.

B. Website, Facebook, and Email Activity – Laurie J reports the new website is up and running. Ron did lose some water quality data during the transfer and Dave R will work with Laurie to get this

updated and set up an explanation of the data. Ron B purchased a product that will do back ups every 2 weeks. All edits Laurie does will be on the new site. Steve G is working on getting the various tags changed so when searching for LWIA site the new website can be easily located.

Social Committee – Mike W reported Notice of no August Pot Luck is in the newsletter and will be sent out on email. See you next year..

Financial – Grants – As part of the AIS Grant Sharon D and Mike W surveyed the 5 landing sites around the lake that we would put up new Welcome to Lake Washington signs. Some sites will need new posts and they have this covered. We will put up one sign at each site. Dave R will look at getting a sticker to replace the logo on the I-LIDS sign at Ellsworth landing.

Laurie J volunteered to design some sample signs. She will share these samples with the Board to get approval for one we can get to Dalen Jones sign maker in Hutchinson.

MCAL - Representatives/meeting dates – Pat Hanson reported next scheduled meeting is July 16

8) Open Discussion – Lyle W asked for clarification regarding who to bill for newsletter ads, Board approved \$200 membership dues for Conservation MN/MN Waters.

There was a discussion about possibly doing some type of fund raiser....a flag with the LWIA logo was talked about. The Board as a group decided with our bank balance and because of possible legal and logistical requirements to not pursue fund raisers at this time.

Next Board Meeting Scheduled for August 11th at Dassel Rod and Gun Club.