

Lake Washington Improvement Association Board Meeting March 7, 2024

Board Members Present: Mike & Sandy Wosmek, Lyle Walker, Pat Hanson, Steve Grotbo, David Rathe, Sharon Daniels via Zoom, Mark Johnson, Ray Brueggemeier via Zoom

Visitor present: Dave Broll

Treasurer Report: Invasive Species Fund - \$63,303.99

General Fund - \$70,437.42

Paid Memberships: 2024 - 0

- 1) Call Meeting to Order 7 PM
- 2) Secretary's February Board Meeting Report: Meeting minutes for February 6th when out on February 14th followed by corrections on February 17th. Minutes were approved.
- 3) Treasurer's February Financial Report: Financial Report for February when out March 4th. February transactions – Income \$5.51 interest and Expense \$100.00 PO Box yearly fee. Total funds as of February 29th \$133,741.41. MN Lakes and Rivers increased their fee from \$200.00 to \$250.00. Financial Report and new MN Lakes and Rivers fee was approved. All LWIA financial information is provided by Lyle W. to the auditing accountant including bank statements. Audit cost is \$400.00.
- 4) Board member elections – (Need new board members)
 - Board member 3-year terms expiring May 2024: Mike (Sandy) Wosmek, Brett Rasmussen, Bonni Halverson, Lyle Walker, Steve Ullom. All have chosen to have their names on the voting ballot except Bonni H who is not seeking reelection. Additional ballot names will be accepted up to and at the membership meeting May 4.
 - President, Steve Grotbo is moving, two years left on his term.
 - Laurie constructed email that Ron B. sent out asking for lake members to join the board and to be on the voting ballot May 4. Steve G. posted similar on Facebook. No responses yet. Steve G. asked if there were other ideas to get people interested. No ideas were proposed.
- 5) Lake Steward
 - Meeting was held March 1st by Lily Carr (Minnesota Lakes and Rivers). She followed up with link to meeting recording and a new survey for this season. No one attended from Washington. Perhaps one of the new board members will want to take on this project. Lake Steward books are available through Amazon.
- 6) Potential Ellsworth Landing Improvement - Dave sent out a report on September 10th regarding findings from a study done in Western U.S. Listed below are the study findings and board comments.
 - AIS signage – Ellsworth Landing has AIS signage, but additional signage could be added to other landings on the lake.
 - Cleaning Station with tools – Board felt chance of theft too high considering other thefts at Ellsworth.
 - Inspectors Monday thru Thursday – Since LWIA would incur the cost of the inspectors and the low boat traffic during these days this was not recommended at this time.
 - Signage showing location of decontamination unit when not at Ellsworth – This was thought to be a good idea. Steve G. with talk to Kristy Rice from DNR.
 - Signage showing location of AIS in the halo of lakes near Lake Washington – This also was thought to be a good idea. Steve G. with also discuss with DNR.
 - AIS Educational approved Grant monies could cover the cost of signage.
- 7) Committee Reports:
 - Aquatic Invasive Species:
 - A. Water Quality Testing – Five water sample tests are planned for this summer, no cost information from RMB labs yet. We have 6 inlet test kits available for this summer too, Sites 301, 302, & 312 are higher priority.
 - B. Vegetation Survey – Our first survey is planned for June. Mark J. is working to input our past surveys into the U of M database. Limnopro said only a few small spots of EWM were found last summer, however, they do not look at the extent of the infestation.

Steve G reached out to Lake Restoration in regards to lake owners wanting shoreline treatment. A price sheet was sent out for 2024. Base price went up by \$11, so \$22 more for the season. This was sent out via email and Facebook. No one has signed up yet. There is no deadline to sign up and to get a permit for treatment, but permit fee increases after April 1st.

- C. I-LIDS/Watercraft Inspection – I-LIDS will be installed prior to fish opener. This is the last year on our DNR Special Use Permit for I-LIDS. Plan to renew next year. Dave R. requested and obtained approval to purchase a flag to protect the LIDS base from snowplow damage during the winter months. Purchase was approved for up to \$50.00.
- D. Cormorants & Pelicans – Official word came on February 27th from Marc Bacigalupi (DNR - NW Regional Fisheries Manager of the Fish and Wildlife Division). Basically, walleye population is good for 2023 season, so nothing happening. As Lake Washington fish survey also shows acceptable walleye population, not much can be done at this point. On the plus side, those handful of people along 233rd street Steve G. talked to about ice fishing said the walleye fishing was great. Steve G. is now on the official DNR email copy list for this issue.
- E. Zebra Mussels – Hotels will go out on Memorial Day same as last summer.
- F. Watershed – Steve G. will be asking for ideas for inlet improvements at the membership Pork Chop meeting May 4. Site 302 will need to be evaluated since a new drain tile was installed last summer to verify functionality of prior improvements. Any potential improvements to inlets should have a baseline water test prior to changes.

Membership / Shoreline Captains

- Shoreline Captains meeting is planned for 10 AM May 4, the same day as the Pork Chop Dinner. Laurie J. will post on our web site.

Education & Public Relations:

- A. Spring Newsletters – Input due to Ron B. on or before March 25th.
- B. Website, Facebook, and Email Activity – Very little activity in February, most discussion was on ice-out date, which has not happened yet, as there are several areas that have ice.

Social Committee

- Pork Chop Dinner (Membership Meeting) planned for May 4th, 5 PM Social hour, 6 PM Meal, 7 PM Meeting and potential speaker. Mark J. will ask if Dan from Limnopro would speak.
- B&B Sports is paying for the pork chops again this year. Benny's Meat Market is providing the chops and Red Rooster is providing other food items.
- Starry Stonewort video could be shown at the Pork Chop Meeting.
- 4th of July boat parade is planned for this summer

Financial – Grants

- Mark J. and Sharon D. discussed the final grant application process and will send an email to Ariana of Meeker County for clarification.
- The grant application process is specific to Meeker County ruling; is not state wide.
- Grant final application for AIS is April 15th. Will hold off doing final AIS application until response is received from Ariana and further discussion at the April Board meeting.

MCAL - Representatives/meeting dates – Next meeting April 18th at 7:00 PM.

8) Open Discussion – No items were discussed.

Next Board Meeting Scheduled for April 2nd at Dassel Rod and Gun Club.