

Annual Meeting of Duck Lake Riparian Association Saturday, July 19, 2014

Attendance:

Russ Diethert, President; Doug Peterson, Chairman; Merrilee Redmond, Vice-president; Karen Ghinazzi, Secretary; Jeff Pytlarz, Treasurer; quorum of lake association members

President Russ Diethert called the meeting to order at 9:43 AM

Recording Secretary's Report: Russ Diethert asked for a motion to approve the Recording Secretary's Report of the Duck Lake Riparian Association Board Meeting, , 2014. Austin Dunbar moved to accept, Don Clark seconded, motion carried.

Treasurer's report: Jeff Pytlarz stated that the account balance at the time of the meeting was \$4908.48, noted that the books are balanced. Diane Hornung motioned to accept the treasurer's report as presented. Austin Dunbar seconded, motion carried.

Committee Reports:

- A. **Milfoil Committee**-Joe LoMastro committee chair presented report. Reported 508 total volunteer hours. Committee met January 23rd to finalize treatment plans. Permit obtained from DEQ for 10-20 acres. Buoys put in place in June; Herbicide (Navigate 24-D) applied 6/23 by aquatic biologist. 24-D is a slow release capsule. Treatment map (Slide) shown. Total cost \$14,850.00. ISCCW contributed \$10,000.00 (\$4850.00 for treatment) 3,500 lbs. chemicals were loaded by milfoil volunteers. Kill ratio from the vendor is 80-90%. Balance in the milfoil account \$21,395.00. Noted that property owners were asked for donations in '05 and '09. Grant dollars typically come from ISCCW, National Wildlife Federation and the Federal Govt.

Jim Floriano and Jeff Pytlarz checked the treated areas 3 weeks after treatment and did not find any plants. From this point, plants will be pulled. There were 82 EMF sites noted, 22 dive hours. Divers, application boat, Milfoil Boat, New Motor, Langford and Bass Lake (photo slides). Described Langford treatment efforts Navigate failed went to Fluoride treatment of the whole lake, having water quality issues.

How can you help? (Power point images)

Questions-

Cost of treating Langford/Bass Lake? \$45,000.00/\$16,000.00

- B. **Water Quality**- presented by Ursula Charaf. Multiple power point images:

- results of periodic water quality monitoring
- testing photo; showed sampling locations
- Secchi disk photo-description of measurement process
- Phosphorus measurements
- Chlorophyll measurements
- Carlson's Trophic State Index; Mesotrophic is desired state (38-48), Duck Lake is at 44

Cheryl Pytlarz presented information about the Michigan Inland Lakes and Streams meeting her and Ursula attended. Slides presented. Questions was asked-Was it worthy of attendance? Cheryl affirmed that it was helpful to hear about the updates on water quality laws and ecology as well as a good networking opportunity. The overall # of lakes in Michigan with milfoil is low-as a corridor lake, Duck Lake is important.

Questions:

Would DNR close the boat launch to prevent the spread of milfoil (Merrilee)? Not even temporarily. There was a bill introduced by Senator Casperson to allow lakes to be closed by local authority until milfoil issues are under control. Cheryl did not know where that was in legislature.

Does Septic/Fertilizer affect milfoil (Denny V.)? Ursula explained the impact of septic leaking an fertilizer on algae growth in lakes and reminded everyone that septic's should be pumped every 3-5 years; not annually since septic's require some bacteria growth for breakdown.

- C. **Welcome Committee:** Cate Kaczala welcomed the new family from Sun Prairie; the old Norgal house. She will be contacting the new owners of the Cerk's home. Postcards and lake maps will be available at the lake picnic.
- D. **Fisheries:** Scott Ghinazzi presented. Briefed the audience on the meeting that took place at the Ghinazzi's with George Madison. It is apparent that Duck Lake is critical to the DNR as a corridor lake. Being a corridor lake gives us good leverage for receiving grant dollars to treat milfoil as well as to improve fish habitat Slide presented showing the stocking history of Duck Lake. (See attached)
 Questions:
 How about fish cribs? According to DNR fish cribs are not a good idea. Felling trees from the shore to create a natural habitat is preferred. Duck Lake is low on shore line downed trees.
 What about cleaning up the island? Fred Duerkop is in contact with the island's owner and we hope to have some answers to the island clean up in the future. DNR Biologist did suggest we undertake some clean-up efforts on our own.
- E. **Loon Watch:** Carla Mirick (Loon Ranger program coordinator) presented. There is a base of 5 loons on the lake with 3 distinct territories; 2 north, 2 central, 1 south. There is a nesting pair by Clarks, 2 eggs were laid but eaten during the night, 2 more eggs laid but stolen. They are remaining close to the nest and could be preparing to lie again. 2 buoys were placed on the lake. One by the Pytlarz and Clark properties warning people to stay away from nests. There should be a perimeter of about 500 feet. They are trying to see if the buoy process works rather than initiating the platforms. Loons can potentially become dependent on them.
- F. **ISCCW-**Jeff Pytlarz presented. ISCCW takes a 3 pronged approach; education, prevention, and remediation. Membership applications will be available at the lake association party, membership is \$25.00. Boat washes are assigned to areas that are majorly infected. 3 board members of ISCCW are Duck Lake residents, Joe LoMastro, Jim Floriano, and Jeff Pytlarz. Meeting at Watersmeet Pavilion, August 2, 2:00. Bio-tour of Duck Lake on Thursday, August 2nd.

Presentation

Julie Mathison- background Julie came from the "mitt" of Michigan. She was been active in zoning issues there; became involved in the township in 1995.

Recently focused on "key holing"; non-riparian property owners are given access to lake through an access lot on the water. 2004-2008 revisions to ordinances effected docks, oat houses, building size, etc...

In 2013 the Planning Commission composition changed. Commission membership is comprised of anti-zoning individuals. Proposed revisions include allowing rental of guesthouses; revision of language of key holing provision (proposed language was so loose that it would have allowed back lot use). Planning Commission opted to have the city attorney draft the language. There is some ambiguity in the language but it is an improvement over the original submission from the Planning Commission. The guest house issue has been tabled. Short term rentals-currently requires a special use permit. Septic systems are the determining factor but it is hardtop regulate the # of users. She believes the zoning regulator will be sending notification to know rental properties. Rental owners will be required to show proof of adequate septic size/condition for use as a rental. Example: Clearwater Lake received a request for a rental property with up to 12-14 occupants. 2nd request came through for a rental permit. It failed the permitting process for 12-14 but passed for occupation of up to 4 people.

Julie asked the group to pay attention to zoning issues. She noted that realtor; Roy D'Antonio is current chair of the zoning commission. The committee consists of 9 members and a large percentage of the members are realtors.

Meeting minutes and links to areas of interest can be found at www.watersmeet.us

Unfinished Business

1. 2013 Audit Completed
2. Milfoiler registration completed.
3. Membership, Doug Peterson requested that everyone talk to their neighbors who aren't members and find out why they aren't. Doug reviewed the website.
4. Nominating Committee-slate of candidates presented. Karen Ghinazzi-President, Russ Diethert-Chairman, Merrilee Redmond- Vice-President, Andy Viramontes, Secretary

Joe LoMastro motioned to close the nominations. Cheryl Pytlarz seconded. Motion passed

Diane Horning motioned to accept the slate of officers. John Larsen seconded. Motion passed.

5. Diane Hornung reminded those in attendance that the party starts at the Hornung's at 5:00.
6. Cheryl Pytlarz motioned to form a grant committee. Ursula Charaf seconded. Motion passed.
7. Russ presented the new Michigan Trail System Guide to those in attendance. They will be available at the party; cost is \$10.00. Russ offered to donate proceeds to the lake association.
8. Certificate of Appreciation was presented to Doug.
9. Tentative date of next meeting scheduled for the same week next year.

Joe LoMastro motioned to adjourn. Don Clark seconded. Motion carried.

Meeting of the Board of Directors of the Duck Lake Riparian Association

Via Conference Call

Wednesday, October 22, 2014

Attendance: Russ Diethert, President; Doug Peterson, Chairman; Merrilee Redmond, Vice-president; Karen Ghinazzi, Secretary; Jeff Pytlarz, Treasurer; Joe LoMastro, Milfoil Committee; Scott Ghinazzi, Fisheries and Grants Committees

Call to order Russ Diethert called the meeting at 6:37pm.

Secretary's Report: Karen asked the president for deferment on the report. Reports for July 19th and October 22, 2014 meetings will be submitted for board review no later than October 26, 2014.

Treasurer's Report: presented by Jeff Pytlarz. Jeff noted that the bill from McRoberts seemed steep to him for the services provided. Bill was \$550.00; noted that \$800.00 is budgeted and the bill last year was \$740.00. Doug reviewed the services provided by Esq. McRoberts. Russ suggested inquiring with McRoberts about the services he provides to review the charges. Russ recommended adding an "as of" date to the Treasurer's report. Doug Peterson-motion to accept the Treasurer's report-, Merrilee Redmond-second, motion passed.

Committee Reports

Milfoil Committee: presented by Joe LoMastro. Joe confirmed that all board members had received the milfoil update letter written by Bob Cascarano. It appears that Duck Lake will not need chemical treatment in 2015. Joe described a process perfected by the aquatic biologist for fall application. If milfoil gets out of hand over the summer, Duck Lake could get a quick permit to treat in the fall. There was a high success rate with the spring treatment this year. The board thanks the milfoil committee for their outstanding work.

Doug expressed concern over no chemical treatment. Jeff-no delineated large spots of milfoil so no need to dump chemicals in the lake. Joe L. - outside the treatment areas, 1 or 2 plants are scattered, but not a large area to treat. Question (Merrilee) did the milfoil morph as it went deeper? Joe L.-no. That is in reference to hybrid milfoil which hasn't spread north of the Madison, WI area. Plants become hybrid when the EWM breeds with native northern milfoil. Joe in at ISCCW meeting a question came up regarding liability if someone claims adverse effects from chemical treatment. Jeff liability insurance is for board liability. Russ-he will follow up with liability questions at Meyer Insurance and pick up a copy of the insurance policy.

Fisheries Committee: presented by Scott Ghinazzi. Progress with the fisheries is tied to the success of the grant's committee.

Grant Committee: presented by Scott Ghinazzi. Committee members: Denny and Annie Vandermause, Larry Neal, Scott Ghinazzi. Annie had grant writing experience through her job at Washington State University. She will have a first draft ready within the next few weeks. Committee members will be meeting with George Madison (DNR Biologist) to review the preliminary draft. The committee has looked into creating partnerships with the town of Watersmeet, Notre Dame (shared concerns with Notre Dame owned property on area lakes). Committee will seek a letter of support from the township. Russ expressed concern over doing this at a board meeting-don't want to generate interest in this grant from other lakes. Scott expressed his gratitude to all who have worked to pull things together; acknowledged Doug Peterson for the DLRA History and the work of Denny and Annie Vandermause. Russ asked if the committee needed any funding. Scott declined. Cheryl Pytlarz will let him know about expenses of the loon committee that may be included in the grant request.

Loon Watch: update from Russ. Karla passed the loon committee to Cheryl Pytlarz. Cheryl and Joe LoMastro will be building a nesting platform to launch before ice is out in the spring.

Membership: presented by Doug Peterson (see attached). Question (Merrilee)Any idea why people don't join the DLRA? Russ-perhaps there are residual bad feelings from the old DLRA. Doug will be sending an e-mail to membership with membership application. Russ suggested that Doug attach the history letter to the e-mail. Doug- Russ could send out a year end letter which Russ agreed to do.

Water Quality: Ursula Charaf (see attached). Ursula submitted a request for \$300.00 water quality budget -to be voted on under next year's budget approval.

Welcome Committee: Cate Kaczala (see attached). Russ- Kaczala's donated the remaining postcards to the lake association (approximately 1500 cards)

Old Business

Milfoiler: Russ-pontoon is being winterized and wrapped.

Website: Doug Peterson. \$500.00 budget request to be voted on in 2015 budget approval. He may add a history tab to the web page. Looking for someone who would contribute front page news. Membership access is by using surname and fire #.

New Business

a) **2015 Agenda:** keep as an agenda item. Russ at some point committee members should be asked if they want to continue serving on committees. They aren't intended to be in perpetuity.

b)

2015 MLSA

c)

2014 DLRA Charitable Registration and legal expenses-registration refiled with McRoberts.

d)

2015 Membership App-Doug has prepared the application.

e)

Other new business

Karen-consider setting a set amount to defer the cost of hosting the lake party. Perhaps \$500.00. Discussion followed. A policy will be drafted as a guide for the future.

January or February (Dog sled race) for next board meeting.

Doug Peterson-motion to adjourn. Karen Ghinazzi-second. Motion carried. Meeting ended at 7:30.