

FOREST COUNTY ASSOCIATION OF LAKES, INC.
ANNUAL MEETING
OCTOBER 22, 2022

Call to Order: President Pam Schroeder called the annual meeting to order at 4:10 pm and declared a quorum was met.

Board of Directors Present: Pam Schroeder (President & Little Long), Bob Ebben (Treasurer & Arbutus), Clair Carty (Essay Contest Liaison & Bear), Greg Schmitz (Camp Six), Pat Schultz (Jungle), Larry Sommer (Lucerne & Lumberjack RC&D Liaison), Vi Lamers (Newsletter & Roberts), Mike Henderson (Lily), and Kathy Babcock (Secretary & Butternut/Franklin).

Board of Directors Excused: Lee Lamers.

Members & Guests Present: Sherry Pethers (Bear); Judy & Bill Hoffman (Roberts); Mary & Tim Maertz (Little Long); Kate, Franz, & Will Gerber (Clear Lake & Essay Contest Winner); Dana Ruff (Little Long), Tara Jaeger & Michael Yaeger (Essay Contest Winner); M. J. & Eric Andersen (Lucerne); Allen Schroeder (Little Long); Stacy Prillwitz (St. John's); Carol & Bruce Court (Lost); Jay & Holly Barta (Little Rice); Bob & Alice Veit (St. John's); Ellie, Sara, and Auron Garrow (Mole & Rice & Essay Contest Winner); Sue Henderson (Lily); Clem & Sandy Walentowski (Little Sand); Paul Kuske (Ground Hemlock); Ted Isow (Guest of Essay Contest Winner); Melissa & Ava Hanmann (Upper Wapata); Kathy & Keith Hahlbeck (Butternut-Franklin); LaNora Kleerup (Butternut-Franklin); Winnie & Ron Krueger (Ground Hemlock); Mary Sangrey (Ed's); and, Stan Yankowski (Ed's).

INTRODUCTIONS – Members introduced themselves. Pam Schroeder thanked our business partners for their continued support:

Laona State Bank
Associated Bank
Johnny's Resort on Lake Wabikon
Schaefer's
Charlie's on Lake Metonga

SECRETARY REPORT -- Kathy Babcock reviewed the minutes from the last Annual Meeting of October 15, 2022. Motion to accept the minutes from the 2022 annual meeting was made by Dana Ruff and seconded by Kathy Hahlbeck. Motion passed unanimously.

TREASURER'S REPORT - Treasurer Bob Ebben reviewed the following : "2022 Income & Expenses", "2023 Proposed Budget", "Itemized Categories – Year to Date" (shows a summary of what has been taken in and spent to date), and "Net Worth as of 10/22/2022".

Discussion ensued including the following ideas:

- 1) We could set a goal of adding 15 more business members in the coming year. Our current business members were thanked and include the following:
Laona State Bank
Associated Bank
Johnny's Resort on Lake Wabikon
Schaefer's
Charlie's on Lake Metonga
- 2) We currently list our business members in the FCAL newsletter. Perhaps we could encourage more business members by offering to add a link on our website to theirs, so they get more exposure. Another idea is to print placemats and distribute to local restaurants that feature FCAL and these businesses;
- 3) Two banks are currently business members. Perhaps they would waive bank fees.
- 4) Larry Sommer suggested that we volunteer at the Annual Brush Run for a monetary donation. He noted that the Lion's Club has done this in the past.
- 5) We could consider setting up a Pay Pal account or some other electronic transfer system to make it easier for people to pay their annual membership dues.

Allen Schroeder made a motion to accept the treasurer's report as presented, seconded by Kathy Hahlbeck. Motion carried unanimously.

Essay Contest Winners -- Pam Schroeder introduced this year's and last year's essay contest winners and invited them to read their essays aloud. The following students were recognized for their outstanding writing:

Ava Hanmann
Michael Yaeger
Will Gerber
Auron Garrow

President's Report -- Pam Schroeder reported on the following activities and thanked all the volunteers that made them happen:

- 1) FCAL Newsletter – Vi Lamers does an excellent job editing, designing, and distributing the FCAL newsletter. Anyone interested in submitting articles or photos should do so by mid-May, so the newsletter can be ready to go out in early June.
- 2) Mole Lake Fish Hatchery Tour – Larry Sommer arranged for FCAL members to tour the fish hatchery. The tour was led by Mike Pruel and attended by nearly 30 FCAL members from quite a few Forest County lakes.
- 3) Kentuck Days – Our booth at Kentuck Days was a success. Derek Thorn (FLOW-AIS Coordinator) and a volunteer from Wild Rivers Invasive Species Coalition (WRISC) donated their time as did some FCAL members including Greg Schmitz, Clair Carty, Mark Smith, and Kathy Babcock. Bags of lead-free sinkers were distributed.
- 4) Fall Forum – Jim Zach organized this year's Fall Forum. Forest County lake leaders shared their concerns about issues facing their lake associations. Greg Matzke (WDNR – fishery biologist), Derek Thorn (FLOW-AIS coordinator), and Jean Fanin (Zoning Officer for Forest County) presented on issues relevant to our area lakes. FCAL thanks Lake Lucerne's Advancement Association for the use of its Pavilion.
- 5) Essay Contest – Clair Carty organized our essay contest for 5th and 6th graders from schools in Crandon, Laona, and Wabeno. FCAL members judged the essays, and Pam Schroeder and Clair Carty presented the awards at each school's award day. The winning essays were published in local newspapers and each winner, with family, was invited to FCAL's annual dinner.

- 6) Environmental Days – Michelle Gobert and Lee Lamers helped organize this event for area high school students. The event was held at Veterans Park on Lake Metonga. There were thirteen volunteers who managed eight workshops through which the students rotated. Due to a scheduling conflict (Rhinelanders held a Career Day for area high school students on the same day), we had a lower student turn out than usual; however, twenty students attended and had a great day learning about issues facing our area lakes.

Introduction of our Liaisons

FLOW-AIS (Forest, Langlade, Oconto Waterways – Aquatic Invasive Species) – Derek Thorn was introduced as this tri-county aquatic invasive species coalition’s coordinator.

Land And Water Conservation Dept. – Steve Kircher was named as the head of this Forest County department.

Lumberjack RC & D – Larry Sommer was introduced as vice-president for this organization.

NEW BUSINESS

Election of Board Members–

- 1) Pam Schroeder indicated that the following people have been contacted and have agreed to run for another term:

Bob Ebben
Clair Carty
Pat Schultz
Mike Henderson

A motion to reinstate these four board members for the 2023-2025 term was made by Sherry Pethers and seconded by Dana Ruff. Motion passed unanimously.

- 2) We will elect officers at the next board meeting.

Adjournment -- Motion to Adjourn was made by Dana Ruff, seconded by Mary Maertz. Motion passed. Meeting adjourned at 5:15 pm and was followed by a presentation on Wildlife Habitat by Christian Cold and a catered meal by Main Street Ed's.

Next BOD meeting will occur on Friday, November 18 at 9:30 am at the Crandon Public Library and also via ZOOM. Any and all FCAL members are welcome to attend our monthly meetings.

Respectfully submitted,

Kathy Babcock
Secretary