

FOREST COUNTY ASSOCIATION OF LAKES, INC.
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
Crandon Public Library only
Friday, June 16, 2023

Call to Order: 9:40 am by President Pam Schroeder who declared a quorum.

Board of Directors & Liaisons Present: Pam Schroeder, Bob Ebben, Curt Haga, Lee Lamers, Mark Truymen, Mark Smith, Steve Kircher, Pat Schultz, Mike Henderson, Larry Sommer, and Kathy Babcock.

Board of Directors present via ZOOM: Jim Zach.

Board of Directors Excused: Vi Lamers, Greg Schmitz,

Board of Directors Absent: Jim Wiesner, Patty Orlovsky, and Dan Verbanec.

Guest: Tyler Norris, WRISC Aquatic Species Specialist

SECRETARY'S REPORT

Motion to accept the minutes from 05/19/23 with minor spelling corrections was made by Larry Sommer and seconded by Lee Lamers. Motion passed unanimously.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Treasurer Bob Ebben distributed and reviewed the register report, net worth, and budget.

A motion was made by Lee Lamers, seconded by Curt Haga to accept the treasurer's report as presented. Motion passed unanimously.

Bob reported that he sent out 29 membership dues reminders to those who paid last year but haven't yet paid for this year.

Bob and Pam will be going to Co-Vantage today to set up a savings account as Co-Vantage accepted the paperwork that Bob had previously submitted proving our 501 3c status.

Bob received the renewal notice for our liability insurance due 6/25 from Auto Owners Insurance.

Mark Truymen made a motion, seconded by Curt Haga, that we request quotes for general liability and broader coverage for past and current directors and officers. Motion passed unanimously.

Mark T. and Bob will work together on gathering quotes for both types of coverage. Some companies from which they might request bids include, but are not limited to, Wisconsin Lakes Association (probably through Horton Group), Northwoods Insurance, and Auto Insurance. In the meantime, Bob will pay the current bill as he can request a refund if we later decide to cancel that policy.

GRANT UPDATES

Potawatomi Grant is currently on hold -- Pam and Curt will work on writing a grant for next year. Steve Kircher will likely submit a grant to Lumberjack for boat landing kiosks (see Steve's report below). Kathy will send thank you notes to Co-Vantage and Mole Lake for the grants we have received this year.

LIAISON REPORTS

Forest County Land and Water Conservation: Steve Kircher reported that. . .

- Lake Metonga is seeking information on contractors who can create a plan and complete construction to combat shoreline destruction using monies from a grant written by Al Murray.
- Silver Lake is working on forming a Lake District. Approximately 60% of landowners are in favor of doing so. Eric Olson from UW Extension Lakes and Water, will be moderating an open meeting.
- Steve will be submitting a grant to Lumberjack for the building of kiosks at boat landings in order to reduce "sign pollution". He will include the cost of materials for building receptacles for fishing line.

Lumberjack : Larry Sommer reported that Lumberjack will be maintaining and monitoring \$50,000 (\$25,000 for each of two years) of grant money for Enbridge, a Canadian company that owns Superior Petroleum. He and others from Lumberjack were invited to tour Superior Petroleum's headquarters. All of Wisconsin's oil comes from their network, and they provide oil to Illinois, Ohio and three other states.

WRISC: Steve, Pam, Larry, and Kathy attended WRISC's Annual Meeting. Larry and Steve were re-elected to serve on the WRISC Board of Directors; Steve is the secretary. The meeting, as always, was impressive and full of information. The amount of work they accomplish with a small number of employees is notable.

Tyler Norris, WRISC's Aquatics Project Manager, presented a plant identification program he is creating for Forest County that will probably occur in the first or second week of August. He is currently looking at doing this program on Lake Metonga. It will be geared toward adults. He hopes to cover some of the following: invasive vs. native plants, infestation vs. natural growing populations, specialty native species, etc. He and Paul Savinski (WDNR) ran a similar program on White Potato Lake in Oconto County – about 30 people attended. FCAL will help disseminate information about the Forest County program.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Annual Meeting – We will reserve Wabeno Legion Hall for our October 21st event.

Business Donation & New Membership Forms – Larry distributed forms – each of us are asked to try to get 5 new members. We give the new member the top form, and the bottom copy is given to Bob Ebben with the new member's payment or kept by us for follow-up purposes. Thank you, Larry, for donating these forms to FCAL!

We should reconsider how we acknowledge our business partners in our newsletter. Curt suggested that we could make our supporters' list look more like a church bulletin including contact information (address, phone, website). Kathy indicated that the Website committee was planning on providing links to all of our business supporters' websites.

Environmental Days – no report at this time.

Essay Contest: Clair Carty reported that. . .

- this year's topic was about being a Superhero Conservationist helping to eradicate invasive species – some of the stories were fictional; others were non-fiction.
- Wabeno did not participate due to teacher turn-over and email issues.
- Pioneer Press published photos without a story; Forest Republican published both photos and an article.

- for this coming school year, Clair and others will be going into the classrooms to educate and present the essay contest. Steve volunteered to help Clair with this.
- we currently have 12 responses from the families of the current essay contest winners to attend our Annual Dinner.

Fall Forum (Friday, August 18) – Jim Zach reported that . . .

- Greg Matzke will be speaking on the state’s Walleye Initiative regarding stocking, etc.
- he hasn’t heard back from Wayne La Bine. Steve agreed to be a backup if Wayne La Bine cannot make it. Steve can speak on the Great Lakes & Invasives.
- we are responsible for cleaning up after the Forum.
- if the Pavilion at Lake Lucerne is available on Friday, August 16, 2024, he will reserve it for next year’s Fall Forum.

Kentuck Days & Displays – This is shaping up in large part to the efforts of Greg Schmitz and Mark Smith. WRISC and FLOW will be working the booth with us. Mark, Larry, Clair, Greg, Pam and Kathy have volunteered to work or set up the booth.

The second tabletop display board just arrived yesterday.

Mark Smith will contact Greg about a practice set up the new tents, etc. We also need to figure out what to do with the old stuff.

Newsletter – Wow! Kudos to Vi Lamers for producing our best-ever newsletter.

Website – no report at this time - the subcommittee will be meeting this afternoon.

MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS

FCAL’s Courtesy Code:

Kathy and Steve reported Jeanie Fannin was included in the process of rewriting the Courtesy Code.

Feedback regarding the preliminary Courtesy Code included the following:

- too wordy – if there is not enough white space, people will not read it;
- change the word “forbidden” to “prohibited”;
- get rid of the first two sentences about fireworks.

Kathy made a motion that the preliminary Courtesy Code be accepted for 2023 and revised for future printings. Steve seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

As was decided at a previous meeting, 25 copies will be laminated for posting at boat landings. 150 non-laminated copies will be distributed at Kentuck Days.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion to adjourn was made by Curt Haga, seconded by Mark Truymen. Motion passed unanimously. Meeting adjourned at 11:40 am.

Note: Our next Board of Directors Meeting is Friday, July 14, 2023 in Room LC-222 at Nicolet College in Rhinelander. There will be no ZOOM access. Please let Pam and Kathy know if you are not able to attend.

Respectfully submitted,

Kathy Babcock
Secretary