

FOREST COUNTY ASSOCIATION OF LAKES, INC.
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
Associated Bank, Crandon
Friday, September 20, 2024

Call to Order: Meeting called to order at 9:35 am by President Pam Schroeder who established a quorum.

Board of Directors & Liaisons Present: Bob Ebben, Greg Schmitz, Pam Schroeder, Kayla Littleton, Pat Schultz, Clair Carty, Mark Smith, Larry Sommer, Curt Haga, and Kathy Babcock.

Board of Directors present via ZOOM (audio only): Jim Zach.

Board of Directors & Liaisons Excused: Derek Thorn, Vi Lamers, and Lee Lamers.

Board of Directors & Liaisons Absent: Mark Truyman, Mike Henderson, Patty Orlovsky, and Dan Verbanec.

Guests (via audio Zoom): Mark Orlovsky.

SECRETARY'S REPORT

Motion to accept the minutes from August 16, 2024 with the addition of “two friends” under “Guests Present” was made by Curt Haga and seconded by Greg Schmitz. Motion passed unanimously.

Kathy is meeting with Steve Watson this afternoon to send our first mass email via Mail Chimp to our membership at-large, which will include an invitation to the Annual Meeting/Dinner and a way to pay online.

TREASURER'S REPORT -- Bob Ebben presented the treasurer's report.

Motion to accept the Treasurer's Report as presented was made by Larry Sommer and seconded by Mark Smith and passed unanimously.

Bob indicated that our checking account balance is running low, so he will transfer some money from our Laona State Bank savings account.

GRANT UPDATES – Bob applied for a grant from Associated Bank. The grant request was denied. He is working with Laura to explore other avenues. Bob will consider applying for a grant from Visit Forest County as we continue to need funds for receptacles and the essay contest, etc.

LIAISON REPORTS

Forest County Land and Water Conservation: Kayla's reported that she has been working with Lee Lamers on Environmental Day (see below).

FLOW/AIS: Derek Thorn was not able to be present, so he sent a report via email.

Lumberjack: Larry reported that. . .

- Lumberjack moved its grant request deadline up from December to the end of September.
- They will be voting on which to award in January.
- Larry believes that we could qualify for a grant depending on our project, e.g., kiosks at boat landings.

WRISC: No report at this time.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Annual Meeting/Dinner – Thursday, October 24 at Ed's on Main Street in Argonne. The annual meeting begins at 3 pm, followed by a presentation by Wild Instincts and then dinner. Dinner will be plated and will include the following: baked chicken, beef tenderloin tips, veggies, potato and a roll, plus dessert. Our cost is \$21/person – we will be charging \$25/person. There will be a cash bar. We need to give Ed's a final count one week before the event. Tentatively, the timing is as follows: 3-4 pm – meeting; 4-5 pm – Wild Instincts; 5-5:30pm – a time for joviality and cocktails (cash bar); 5:30 pm – dinner served.

We will need a quorum (a minimum of twenty members) in order to elect new board members. Each lake association is allowed up to three representatives. If you would like to nominate someone from your lake association or from another lake association not yet represented, contact Pam. Kathy nominated Diane Smith. Pam will try to contact Jerry Duhn from Pine Lake to encourage them to nominate someone from their lake district.

Business Donations & New Membership Forms –No report at this time although it was decided we need to be more aggressive in our outreach to the business community. Greg Schmitz offered to write a letter to be sent to businesses in our county encouraging them to become members.

Environmental Days – Lee and Kayla reported that. . .

- this will occur sometime during the last week of September.
- it will take place at the North Park on Metonga (same place as last year) as it has easier boat access.
- they have 8 stations line up, some of which include the use of drones, fish shocking, muck with invertebrates, glacial soils, WRISC, and FLOW.

- they have about 47 students signed up for the event.

Essay Contest – No report at this time.

Fall Forum – No report at this time.

Kentuck Days – No report at this time.

Newsletter – No report at this time.

Website -- No report at this time.

MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS

Energy Presentation –Quinn Rowe, the Federal Clean Energy Campaign Manager with Wisconsin Conservation Voters, has offered to do a presentation for FCAL (see the email of July 31).

Fundraiser – Discussion ensued about possible fundraisers – no decision was made. Bob confirmed that there would be \$25.00 fee for a fundraising license if we wanted to do a cash raffle.

Monofilament Receptacles – Mark Smith finished assembling the receptacles (thank you, Mark!) and Greg distributed them to board members, so they could take them back to their respective lake associations for installation at boat landings.

Plaques for Business Members -- Discussion ensued – we are leaving the design and framing in Diane Smith's hands. It was approved by consensus that she has the authority to purchase needed materials.

Kiosks – Kayla will look into high school shop classes to see if this is a project they might be interested in.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion to adjourn was made by Greg, seconded by Clair. Motion passed unanimously. Meeting adjourned at 11:00 am.

Note: Our Annual Meeting is at 3pm on Thursday, October 24 at Ed's on Main Street. Our next Board of Directors Meeting is at 9:30 am on Friday, November 15 at Associated Bank in Crandon, live and via Zoom. Please let Pam and Kathy know if you are not able to attend either of these meetings.

Respectfully submitted,

Kathy Babcock
Secretary