

FOREST COUNTY ASSOCIATION OF LAKES, INC.
ANNUAL MEETING, OCTOBER 24, 2024
at Ed's on Main Street in Argonne

Call to Order: President Pam Schroeder called the annual meeting to order at 3:05 pm and declared a quorum was met.

Board of Directors & Liaisons Present: Pam Schroeder (Little Long Lake), Greg Schmitz (Camp 6), Larry Sommer (Lake Lucerne), Clair Carty (Bear Lake), Pat Schultz (Jungle Lake), Mike Henderson (Lily Lake), Vi & Lee Lamers (Roberts), Bob Ebben (Arbutus), Mark Smith (Lost Lake), Derek Thorne (FLOW), and, Kathy Babcock (Butternut-Franklin Lakes).

Board of Directors Excused: none.

Members & Guests Present: Winnie & Ron Krueger (Ground Hemlock), Alan Schroeder (Little Long Lake), Sue Henderson (Lily Lake), Dale Schupe (St. John's Lake), Lorel Canaday (St. John's Lake), Stan Phelps & Cindy Phelps (St. John's Lake), John Phelps (St. John's Lake), Stacy **Prolowitz ?** (Little Long Lake), Kate Gressler (Little Long Lake), Terry & Ann Kloehn (Pine Lake), Eric Anderson (Lake Lucerne), Debbie O'Connell (Butternut Lake), LaNora Kleerup (Butternut Lake), Diane Smith (Lost Lake), Kay Brown (Lake Julia), Jay R. Franke (Lake Julia), Lisa & David Vida (Trump Lake), Robert & Alice Veit (St. John's Lake), Chris & Mary Meixner (St. John's Lake), Dan & Sherry Fleagles (**? Lake**).

INTRODUCTIONS – Members introduced themselves.

SECRETARY'S REPORT -- Secretary Kathy Babcock reviewed the minutes from the last Annual Meeting of October 10, 2023. Motion to accept the minutes from the 2023 annual meeting was made by Mark Smith and seconded by Stan Phelps. Motion passed unanimously.

TREASURER'S REPORT - Treasurer Bob Ebben reviewed the following: "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 10/21/2023". Bob will continue to apply for local grants. He thanked Mole Lake Sokaogon Chippewa for their generous donation. Mike Henderson made a motion to accept the Treasurer's Report as presented, seconded by Lee Lamers. Motion passed unanimously.

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

- 1) Wisconsin Lakes Convention – Pam Schroeder and Derek Thorne attended. They brought back ideas, literature, and information to disseminate to our members.
- 2) 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. We receive our mailing list from the county. Kayla Littleton, Forest County Land and Water Conservation Dept., is working on improving this list as some members did not receive newsletters this past year.
- 3) Six-County Land & Water Conference -- Members from FCAL attended this year's Six-County Land and Water Conference at Nicolet College this past July – Wake Boats were again the hot topic.
- 4) Kentuck Days – Our booth at Kentuck Days was a success with our beautiful canopies and display boards. Derek Thorn (FLOW-AIS Coordinator) and a volunteer from Wild Rivers Invasive Species Coalition (WRISC) donated their time as did some FCAL members. Mark Smith donated maple syrup for those who became new members that day. Bags of lead-free sinkers, among other things, were distributed.
- 5) Fall Forum – Jim Zach organized this year's Fall Forum. Forest County lake leaders shared their concerns about issues facing their lake associations, especially regarding water quality issues including the effects of wake boats on lakes and shorelines. John Richter (Wisconsin Lakes & Last Wilderness Alliance), Jeannie Fannin (Forest County Zoning), and Kayla Littleton (Forest County Land & Water Conservation) were the presenters. FCAL thanks Lake Lucerne's Advancement Association for the use of its Pavilion. Next year's Fall Forum is tentatively scheduled for **August ?, 2025** at the Lake Lucerne Pavilion off of County Road W. Add it to your calendar!

- 6) Essay Contest – Clair Carty organized our essay contest for 5th and 6th graders from schools in Crandon, Laona, and Wabeno. This year's essay topic required students to interview area residents about the changes they have seen in lake ecology and the surrounding area. Teachers, especially appreciated this year's topic. FCAL members judged the essays, and Clair presented the awards at each school's awards day. The authors of the winning essays were awarded cash prizes, had their essays published in the local newspaper and placed on display at the FCAL Kentuck Days booth. A recommendation to publish them on the FCAL webpage was made.
- 7) Environmental Day – Kayla Littleton and Lee Lamers helped organize this event for area high school students. The event was held on Lake Metonga. There were eight workshops through which the students rotated. Some of the learning stations included fish shocking, aquatic invasive species, raising bees, "a bucket of muck", the use of drones, etc. The students had a great day learning about issues facing our area lakes. Our thanks go out to our wonderful presenters!
- 8) Fishing Line Receptacles – Mark Smith and Greg Schmitz designed and built fishing line. FCAL Member Lake Associations are eligible to receive one for posting at their boat landings. Most of these lake associations have already received one. Contact Pam Schroeder or Greg Smith if your lake association has not received one and would like one.
- 9) Webpage – Clair Carty, Vi Lamers, Diane Smith, and Kathy Babcock redesigned and augmented FCAL's webpage. It lists many resources for lake property owners, etc. The web address is <fcawis.org>.
- 10). Business Memberships – We are working on growing our business memberships. Greg Schmitz has completed a mailing campaign to area businesses. Some new members include The Corner Store (Armstrong Creek), Green Shack Bar (Armstrong Creek), Hometown Trolley (Crandon). Diane Smith has designed a membership plaque for business members to post. Thank you, Greg and Diane!

Election of Board Members–

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

Jim Zach, second term (Lake Lucerne)
Mark Orlovsky, first term (Lake Lucerne)
Lisa Vida, first term (Trump Lake)
Diane Smith, first term (Lost Lake)

She also requested nominations from the floor– none were made.

A motion to elect the above five board members for the 2025-2027 term was made by Lee Lamers and seconded by Kate Gressler. Motion passed unanimously.

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

Adjournment -- Motion to Adjourn was made by Mike Henderson, seconded by Mark Smith. Motion passed. Meeting adjourned at 4:15 pm and was followed by cocktails, dinner and a presentation on Wildlife Rehabilitation by Mark Naniot of Wild Instincts.

Next BOD meeting will occur on Friday, November 15 at 9:30 am at the Associated Bank in Crandon. At this meeting, Quinn Rowe will be presenting on Energy Conservation Implementation Rebates. Any and all FCAL members are welcome to attend our monthly meetings. If wishing to attend via ZOOM, contact Pam Schroeder in advance.

Respectfully submitted,
Kathy Babcock
Secretary

