

Big Sandy Lake Association Meeting
Big Sandy Lodge – 9/10/2016

Called to Order at 8:33

Board Members Present-Bruce Johnson, Ben Gisselman, Kathy Beatty, Jeff Backowski, John Pilney, John Sturner, Christopher Krolak, Russ Thompson, Jack Johnson

Others Present: Ron Smith, Bill Reed, Bob Greifzu, Brian Napstad

- A. Review and Approve August Minutes-
Kathy moved, Ben seconded
- B. Review and Approve Treasurer's Report (see attached)
John moved to approve Treasurer's report, Jack seconded
- C. President's Report
 - a. Wild Rice Days
 - Group agreed that it was good to have our presence and our booth, many folks we spoke with had good feedback and were already members
 - b. AIS Time Reporting
 - Micki Berg creating new timesheets for inclusion of AIS specific time
 - c. Newsletter Preparation/Vendor
 - Vendor in Aitkin can do it for less expense, Janet will explore new vendor's quality of product and discuss this with McGregor Printing before any changes are made
- D. Old Business
 - a. Kathy regarding Foundation Meeting
 - Attended by 40 people, beautiful day
 - Raised almost \$10,000 which was just short of the goal
 - b. Christopher regarding AIS comments on Facebook page
 - Have system set up for referrals to entities that would have the correct answer/advice
 - Group decided that Christopher will be our AIS point person
- E. New Business
 - a. Township Cleanup
Saturday September 24, 2016 from 9am-2pm
Jack at 8:30am
Bruce at 10:30
 - b. Board Meetings in Winter Months
 - Discussion regarding not having some winter-month meetings
 - Quorum is 8
 - Discussion had regarding lack of member attendance at meeting despite change to Saturdays

AIS Time=
9
members
times 20
min

AIS Time= 9
members times 30
min

- Announcements of future meetings on Facebook page
- Jack to contact church regarding the posting of our meetings on the outdoor sign in front of Grace Lutheran
- c. Ben regarding request from Connect Ecology
 - Connect Ecology/Mark Apfelbacher is interested in having BSLA partner with his group regarding a pilot program involving a wash-down station developed for placement at boat launches. The group needs 5 partners and they already have four. The funding commitment is \$18,000 which can come from sources such as Aitkin County/State grant funds. At this point they just need our commitment to partner with them, which does not obligate us in anyway financially
 - Brian Napstad mentioned that we do have three area wash-down stations
 - Group was interested but wanted to hear from Mark directly
 - Brian suggested the idea of him coming to their Board to present this proposal initially, and then they could encourage the partnership with us as a Lake Association. He should contact Steve Hughes to get on the agenda for AIS Committee Meeting
- d. Bill Reed
 - ACLARA:
Bill discussed the Saturday date change and Gordon Pritchard said they can't do it
 - BSLWMP Boat Tour of Lake Restoration Projects:
This Wednesday, September 14, 2016 2-4pm, the Floe Craft will be taking folks out and perhaps one more pontoon is needed
- F. Director's Reports
 - a. Kathy
 - Will be sending out tax deduction statements to all who have contributed \$50 or more to BSLA
 - b. John Pilney
 - Water testing has been underway
 - Being sent to PACE in Duluth and results from most recent tests are forthcoming
 - c. Jack Johnson
 - Discussion regarding fish netting. Further discussion involving Russ Thompson regarding their request for some of the fish for the community meals the Tamarack Sportsmen's Club provides
 - d. Christopher Krolak
 - Updated group regarding Facebook administration and screening posts
 - 600 members now on Facebook page
- G. Guest Speakers
 - a. Ron Smith, Township Supervisor-

- Township Cleanup is 9/24 from 9-2
 - Town Board Meeting, 10/13 at 1pm
Kennecott and Mobile Mobility will be presenting at that meeting
 - County has been putting down about 900 yards per month this year to address the roads and washout problems from all of the rain. They have been adding crushed asphalt this year due to having better binding than crushed concrete
 - The Ballfield at Sandy Lake is nearly complete, Ron mentioned that they are looking for a partner to fund the dugout benches
 - Discussion regarding upcoming elections
 - Ron mentioned ongoing problems with grape vines needing to be trimmed on Bridge Road
- b. Brian Napstad
- Discussion regarding AIS led to Brian suggesting that we have some good identifying materials and pictures on our website
 - Zebra mussels confirmed in Round Lake near Garrison, it started with a report that someone found some floating mussels and despite hope that this was an isolated incident, there turned out to be an infestation. This led to the AIS “protocol” with the DNR which is intended to involve immediate funding for eradication efforts but instead, the DNR is very slow to act and so we should be prepared for the idea that our own protocol may be the best immediate help in the event of an emergency/infestation
 - Brian attended a presentation on Starry Stonewort and what he learned is that it has the capability of literally “carpeting” a lake and that some folks fear it more than zebra mussels
 - The conclusion is that it is only prudent to maintain our focus on local emergency options in the ongoing effort to deal with an infestation should it arise
 - Thirty Lakes Watershed District, which is a taxing authority, was the subject of a public hearing regarding dissolution due to residents objecting to being taxed for county wide efforts and in creating funding that is not being used or that is necessary. Brian mentioned that public support was unanimously in favor of dissolution. No decision has been made yet.

Motion made by Kathy to adjourn, Jack seconded. Adjourned at 10:40 a.m.

Next Meeting is Saturday October 8, 2016