

Big Sandy Lake Association Meeting The World Wide Web – 5/9/2020

Called to Order [Via Zoom](#) at 8:42 a.m.

Board Members Present: Dick Beatty, Kathy Beatty, Janet Hill, Christopher Krolak, Ben Gisselman, John Sturner, John Pilney, Margo Gisselman, Ann Rorem

Others Present: Russian hackers, possibly

A. Review and Approve February Meeting Minutes: Ben moved approval, Margo seconded

B. Review February-April Treasurer's Report: Ben moved approval, Margo seconded

Review February-April Membership Report: 2 new lifetime members, Medtronic making a donation in Laurie White's name as part of her retirement

Jeff Backowski, Janet Hill, Jack Johnson, and John Sturner are up for re-election this year. Janet and Jeff have indicated they will not be running again although Janet will remain as a liaison. The BSLA appreciates their contributions over the years.

C. President's Report

- a. Annual Meeting-Group agreed that Annual Meeting can be postponed, discussion regarding the rules and whether they need to be suspended, discussion regarding replacing board members
- b. Jeff Backowski and Janet Hill both leaving the Board, Directors should do what we can to encourage new participation, especially given our lack of in-person meetings presently. Dick discussed some suggestion individuals he had for new Board Members, to particularly include lake property owners who are also business owners. Janet had a thought as well-both Dick and Janet will follow up with these folks and the rest of us will look for others.
- c. With Janet's departure, we need a replacement to assist in gathering newsletter articles to be forwarded to the individual who designs and publishes the newsletter itself. Bruce proposed just leaving Janet on the Board. Ben suggested that he can help fill the gap between Janet's departure and the next new person. We also need a point-person on the pipeline, discussion ensued regard the fact that Janet will stay on as a liaison and given her continued interest in pipeline-related matters, we hope to continue to be educated by her regarding what's happening and how it impacts BSL

D. New Business

- a. The 5k Run for the Lake-Group agreed it likely is not happening although we're unsure of that yet.
- e. Fishing Tournament is happening on Big Sandy, sponsored by Hillcrest, Ben to look into if and when it will occur, and how we can support it and participate
- f. Wild Rice Days-Plan to move ahead as usual-for now.

F. Director's Reports

a. Dick discussed the three possible scholarship candidates for the Brian Herbranson Scholarship.

BSLA will award \$1000 scholarships this year to three McGregor High School seniors. The recipients propose to pursue the following courses of study:

- Student 1 – Attend SD State and major in Natural Resource Law Enforcement.
- Student 2 – Attend UMD and major in Environment and Sustainability.
- Student 3 – Attend UMD and major in Biology with intention of returning to McGregor area and work for DNR.

The scholarship money will be presented to the students after completing the first grading period at college as a full time student and maintaining at least a “C” average. The satisfaction of completion of these requirements must be within 2 years of high school graduation.

The scholarship committee is currently holding \$1000 awarded to a student two years ago but who has not started his studies. They will use this money to fund one of this year's scholarships; BSLA will send the scholarship committee the remaining \$2000 in the October/November time frame.

Bruce added that it started as a \$500 scholarship and now we discuss it as a \$1,000 award. Dick explained that the award was originally established for one student per year to receive \$500.00. No award was made for the first few years because no student met our requirement of entering an environmentally focused field. When a student finally met our requirements several years ago, we decided to make her award \$1000.00. Several years went by again without anyone meeting our requirements until this year when three students qualified. In April, the board voted electronically to award each of the students a \$1000.00 scholarship. John Sturner moved that the award be at \$1,000 for the future and Kathy seconded.

b. Environmental Assessment on the Proposed Rehabilitation Work on the Corps' Big Sandy Lake Dam – After the Public Meeting we had in December, the Corps' project manager agreed to advise Dick when they would release their Environmental Assessment on the project for the required 30-day public review so we could advise people on our Facebook page of its availability. The Corps did not give us this advance notice – the first information of the availability of the EA we received was in an article submitted by the Corps local Facility Manager (Tammy Frauenshuh) for the Spring newsletter. At that point there was only one week left in the 30-day review period. The Corps had met their legal requirement of advising the public of the availability of the document by placing a notice in the Legal Section of the local papers three weeks previous. Dick said it was unfortunate that they had not followed through on advising us before the release of the document which would have allowed us to inform our association members of the availability of the document in a more timely manner.

c. Ben mentioned that the Highway 14 Clean-Up will happen later this summer.

Meeting adjourned at 9:30 a.m.

Next Meeting is on Saturday, June 13th, 2020 at 8:30 a.m. via Zoom.