

Big Sandy Lake Association Meeting
Big Sandy Lodge – 10/8/2016

Called to Order at 8:34

Board Members Present-Bruce Johnson, Ben Gisselman, Kathy Beatty, Jeff Backowski, Christopher Krolak, Russ Thompson, Jack Johnson, Jim Carlson, Micki Berg, Janet Hill

Others Present: Dan Guida, Bob Greifzu, Bill Reed, Brian Napstad

- A. Review and Approve August Minutes-
Janet moved, Jim seconded
- B. Review and Approve Treasurer's Report (see attached)
Jack moved to approve Treasurer's report, Russ seconded
- C. President's Report
 - a. Sportsmen's Dinner-good time had by all last Saturday night, those who attended encourage future attendance, approximately 250 in attendance
 - b. Agenda Items-Bruce encouraged group to send out agenda items in advance for future meetings
- D. Old Business
 - a. Cost of Newsletter
Bruce met with Mike Kruse, as discussed, and after discussing cost (\$1.95 per newsletter) it was decided that we are going to compare the two bids (McGregor Printing and Tidholm Printing in Aitkin) and then move forward accordingly with the most cost-effective bid, considering the value of keeping the business in the community, and then moving forward with the best option with either the November newsletter or not until the January newsletter depending upon timing
- E. New Business
 - a. Kathy Beatty
2 new members joined including a business membership
561 total
\$21,307 in membership dues collected
- F. Director's Reports
 - a. Christopher attended two-day AIS conference in St. Cloud this past week
 - Discussion regarding multiple variations of AIS
 - Decontamination not 100% effective
 - New boat design
 - DNR lack of action on infested waters
 - Dan Guida commented that grant funds are being used by the Sheriff's department for overtime efforts to inspect boats
 - Carrie Hall with DNR
 - More aggressive on quarantine, stiffer penalties

AIS Time=
9
members
times 20
min

AIS Time= 10
members times 45
min

AIS Time= 10
members times 15
min

- Discussion ensued regarding the plan that we will have in place should an infestation come about
 - Brian Napstad discussed idea that enforcement should be more tailored to lakes that are “Super Spreaders” but they are not-all are inappropriately treated the same, and fines are not in line with the consequences of AIS spreading conduct
 - Brian further discussed the inspection program and its success this past fall
- b. Kathy Beatty
- Regarding the website, Kathy emphasized the idea that we all need to ensure that our content is up to date and helpful
- c. Janet Hill
- Regarding the newsletter, articles for November needed-Ben regarding AIS wrap-up, Jim regarding operation Christmas, fisheries update via Bruce, conservation program blurb from Janet, Christopher regarding AIS, Ben regarding dock inspections, due October 25th
 - Regarding pipeline, Line 3 is still a threat, continuing process underway, but project seems impractical considering abandonment of prior line proposal
- d. Christopher regarding placemats, Ben regarding coasters, discussion regarding “swag” give-away items
- G. Guest Speakers
- a. Dan Guida-Deputy Sheriff
- Good summer on lake from a law enforcement perspective, not a lot of legal issues, break-ins, etc., neighbors were good with one another
 - One boat motor was stolen off a boat on a trailer on Bridge Road, 2006 60 horse Mercury
- b. Brian Napstad
- Following up on Dan’s remarks, Brian mentioned that he believes the vacation rental ordinance helped to curb issues on the lakes between neighbors
 - Land preservation in Aitkin County-Brian mentioned that pieces of land in and around lakes and adjacent to the Mississippi can be protected through a State conservation project by virtue of being placed in public protection for public use-an application process exists for these types of properties if anyone has prospects
 - Brian mentioned regarding AIS the notion that has come up regarding outlawing private boat landings-it’s a concept discussed with County Environmental Services-group discussed idea that this could be an option, but considering enforcement issues and problems with law enforcement resources that already exist, this seems like a concept that is difficult to enforce and perhaps not solving the AIS problem that exists
 - County is in process of hiring a new Administrator

c. Bill Reed

- Discussion regarding the County shore land preservation project boat tour last month. The event went well and there was good article written in the Voyageur Press
- ACLARA is having a form of a Summit today discussing how, on a coordinated basis, they will address wake restrictions and closures on various smaller lakes in Aitkin County, not necessarily including Big Sandy. They are addressing a standardized way to look at high water issues-a standard already exists via the Corps for Big Sandy

Motion made by Kathy to adjourn, Janet seconded. Adjourned at 10:34 a.m.

Next Meeting is Saturday November 12, 2016