

Big Sandy Lake Association Meeting
Big Sandy Lodge – 10/12/19

Called to Order at 8:35 a.m.

Board Members Present: Bruce Johnson, Christopher Krolak, Ben Gisselman, Jack Johnson, Dick Beatty, Margo Gisselman, Stu Mortrude, Kathy Beatty, Jeff Backowski

Others Present: Bob Greifzu, Township Supervisor Ron Smith

A. Review and Approve September Meeting Minutes, Stu moved, Kathy seconded

B. Review September Membership Report, 588 members (last year at this time 591), 35 business memberships

Review and Approve September Treasurer's Report, Ben moved, Stu seconded

Discussion regarding prorating new member application rate at Wild Rice Days.

C. President's Report

a. Attendance for Winter Months

Discussion regarding canceling winter meetings. In the past we have canceled March-group agreed that planning to not have a March 2020 meeting is appropriate. Kathy moved, Dick seconded.

b. Suggestions for Guest Speakers for future meetings.

Possibly Aitkin County Assessor Mike Dangers, County Commissioner Bill Pratt. Discussion regarding sending Amanda Stachowicz at Talon a thank-you card-Kathy to send.

c. Bruce mentioned meeting with McGregor Mayor Dake Olson on October 22, 2019-some of the group will attend including Dick, Jack, Bruce, John Pilney

d. Janet Hill suggested (via email) that we donate \$1,000 to Friends of the Headwaters- Lengthy discussion regarding whether or not the BSLA will continue to oppose the pipeline project now that the route has changed, some of the group felt that the issue still lingers and we should continue to pursue it, others in the group felt that since we already succeeded in having a route change that now we can back away from it. Further discussion that we should hear more from Janet on this issue and ensure we clarify our position on our support regarding the pipeline existence/route moving forward. Stu moved we make the \$1,000 donation, Dick seconded, all in support.

D. Old Business

a. Update on Love Your Lake Event

Margo laid out the various concepts discussed in the past for the subject of this event. Group agreed that real estate as a subject would be good to include: tax assessor, realtor, and shoreline development specialist/water quality presentation and how those things affect property value. Bob G. mentioned report from Central Lakes College on how water quality affects property value and perhaps turning to that person as a speaker.

b. Wash Stations

Ben will continue to look into, will update group early spring 2020

c. Newsletter Articles

Deadline for upcoming newsletter is October 25, 2019

E. New Business

- a. Review 2020 Budget
Treasurer Kathy walked us through the proposed 2020 Budget (attached)
Various adjustments discussed, Kathy will clean up some of the final numbers as we round out this year and put out a final version.

F. Director's Reports

- a. Dick-regarding flowering rush removal, DNR started with a test area (40x60 foot area near the lagoon on the northwest side of Wabun Bay) and removed entire area to assess regeneration next year in planning for future eradication plans. Plan is to continually pull it every several years as opposed to an herbicide which would kill it, but the DNR is hesitant to use an herbicide in the water.
- b. Laurie-Regarding the wakeboard wake conversation, Laurie wasn't present but Kathy mentioned a copy of a letter she received from the Sheriff's Office that they received from a property owner regarding alleged wake-caused shoreline erosion that Kathy will forward on to Laurie for future discussion.
- c. Ann-Mentioned idea of BSLA contributing towards benches at boat launches sponsored/donated by the Lake Association.
- d. Kathy-Regarding creating a list for charitable donations and how this ties into our discussion on the budget, Kathy specifically mentioned a contribution towards the Angels ("Area Neighbors Giving to Elderly-Living Seniors"). Margo moved that we contribute \$100 on an annual basis to the Angels, Kathy seconded. Bruce discussed donating to causes like Wild Rice Days and the Lions, perhaps by adding to their drawings at events like the Corn Feed, etc via gift certificates. Margo added the Don Sather ALS race and the fireworks.

H. Guest Speakers

- a. Ron Smith-the fall township cleanup day had 20% more loads brought in than in past years. They were a bit short on help at the site. 2 hot tubs came in that they are planning to begin charging a fee for. Also, many televisions of much larger size may change rules for fees on those kinds of things. Leaf site is being turned over soon for burning and compost. Ron proposed the idea that someone from the BSLA could consider being on the committee with Katie Nelson that is helping with the drafting of a proposed grant regarding funding for the township/assistance with obtaining more land.

Other Items for Discussion

- a. Dick reminded group about different meeting date next month with the Corps speaking after our meeting for an hour or so beginning at 10:30. The topic is possible future construction at the dam that can affect lake water level. BSLA will provide refreshments. Corps will put out official notices in the local papers, and we will put out a notice on Facebook (Kathy). Signage for posting will also be put together.

Meeting adjourned at 10:19

Stu moved, Ann seconded

Next Board meeting is on Saturday November 2, 2019 at 8:30 a.m., at the Big Sandy Lodge, with a public meeting with the Army Corps of Engineers following at 10:30 a.m.