

Big Sandy Lake Association Meeting
Big Sandy Lodge – 12/09/2017

Called to Order at 8:30 a.m.

Board Members Present: Bruce Johnson, Christopher Krolak, John Sturner, Kathy Beatty, Stu Mortrude, Ann Rorem, John Pilney, Jack Johnson, Ben Gisselman, Janet Hill, Dick Beatty, Margo Gisselman, Jim Carlson

Others Present: Ron Smith (Township Supervisor)

- A. Review and Approve November Minutes
Janet moved, Kathy seconded
- B. Review and Approve Treasurer's Report
 - John S. moved to approve Treasurer's report, Janet seconded
- C. Membership Report
559 members total paid (includes 32 business memberships)
 - Individual membership similar to last year but with more business members (increased by 30%)
- D. President's Report
 - a. Attendance for winter meetings-group agreed that we will have a quorum, Ben to potentially run the March meeting
 - b. Mysterious spill reported to Bruce by local member
- E. Old Business
 - a. Placemats-Example distributed
Comments received: Zoom in on BS, bigger logo, add AIS message, fish ID?, label events by "second Sat of the month", mission statement, maybe accentuate membership number, website address, QR code, don't list specific business members, water depth
 - b. State Rules for Charitable Organizations
Registration and reporting requirements do not apply to organizations which do not exceed 25,000 during any accounting year whose functions include fundraising by unpaid members. Based upon this, we will not be filing our state registration based upon §309.515 exemption
 - c. Spring Educational Program-Ann and Margo working on spring educational seminar for a topic such as lakeshore management, improvement, vegetation
-Group agreed that getting out good community education advertising well ahead of event will be helpful, including in the newsletter, and board members should dedicate themselves if possible to getting people there
 - d. Discussion regarding donation to Friends of the Headwaters-our review of 501c3 rules suggests that this form of "lobbying" is allowed as long as it does not become a substantial part of our business, John S. moved, Janet seconded motion to approve \$1,000 donation for the purpose of furthering our opposition to the particular pipeline

AIS Time = 20 min x 10 members = 200 min

route that Enbridge is supporting and that FOH is opposing, concern voiced regarding our verification of other organizations legal or illegal status from a tax-exempt status-we agree it is good to be informed but we won't necessarily trouble ourselves with the status of other organizations

F. New Business

a. 2018 Member Invoices

Kathy suggested notion of idea of polling our membership regarding priorities

Kathy ordering envelopes and preparing for invoices to go out mid-January

Not sending stickers this year, but we will have them at annual meeting and in the welcome bags

Invoice sending operation and volunteers to be discussed at next meeting

b. Guest Speakers at Future Meetings-all are encouraged to come up with invitees on relevant future topics at our regular meetings

G. Director's Reports

- Ann Rorem

-Requested that we turn in our hours for AIS reporting purposes

- John Pilney

-He's been asked why have the dissolved phosphorous numbers dropped? John suggested that further monitoring/expanding the data points this summer may help to answer that question

H. Guest Speakers

- Ron Smith

-New website is up and running, includes minutes and other operational information

-Markers placed by homeowners on Bridge Road are too close to roadway and will be non-existent after the first snow plowing

-Freezing happened quickly this season and with rough roads, township doing best to fix those areas but not much can be done in some cases

-New truck has not arrived yet, sold some used vehicles to make way

- Bob Greifzu (Liaison)

-Mentioned that new smart phone app is underway that will automatically activate messaging when boaters enter the 400 launches in Aitkin County ("geo-fencing). System will provide info to boaters and also collect information for those implementing AIS prevention programs and strategies

-Bait dealers being provided informational bags for proper bait water handling

-10,600 inspections conducted at access' in 2017-only 2-3 total turned away/rejected

-County AIS monthly meeting is 1pm 3rd Thursday of the month in the Aitkin County Commissioners meeting room

-Christopher mentioned that our annual AIS grant application is due in early March this year instead of December

Motion made by Stu to adjourn, Margo seconded. Meeting adjourned at 10:23 a.m.

- I. Next meeting will be on Saturday, January 13, 2018 at 8:30 am at the Lodge.