

Elk –Skegemog Lakes Association

Board Meeting

July 21, 2016

Board Members Present: Ruth Bay, Bob Kingon, Joan Richardson, Kathi Gober, Sue McCraven, Ron Gurdak, Jim Sak, Pete DiMercurio, Phil Spangenberg, Dave Hauser, Ken Krentz, Dale Claudepierre, Don Bonato, Andy Hogarth, Pat Pierce, Dave Lawicki, Dolores Hibbard, Dean Ginther, Brenda Miller

Members Absent: Steve Fletcher, Mary Beth Kazanski, Scott Lizenby, Tim Wheeler

Guest: Bryce Davis, ESLA Summer Intern

Proceedings:

ESLA President Ruth Bay called the meeting to order at 10:00 AM and introduced Bryce Davis.

The minutes of May 19, 2016 were accepted as written. Another motion to approve the Annual Meeting minutes of June 18, 2016 was seconded and passed after name corrections (spelling for Pat Pierce, adding Dale Claudepierre and Dean Ginther to Zone B) were noted.

Treasurer Phil Spangenberg distributed his report to the board and reviewed receipts and disbursements ending June 30, 2016 compared with December 31, 2015. A motion to approve the Treasurer's report was carried and the report is attached. The Standing List of Dues and Grants was also distributed for review and explanation to new board members. The List was accepted and is attached.

Administrative Assistant Brenda Miller reported paid memberships year-to-date at 476, down from 559 at the end of last year. Brenda suggested that reminders be sent to members who have not yet renewed membership for 2016, which was approved by the Board. She also explained how she identifies potential new members and those no longer riparians by keeping track of property transfers through tax records. Increasing membership was discussed, including revising and distributing ESLA packets of information to new property owners.

Old Business:

Brenda Miller reported on Annual Meeting attendance at approximately 100, which is 20 less than last year. Positive feedback was received for the speaker, the location and the evening in general. Total cost for the event is reported at \$2, 380, comparable to last year.

Joan Richardson stated that the 2016 Photo Contest winners were sent their awards. We received 11 photos. Due to apparent lack of interest, the contest will not continue as it stands. If a new chairperson steps up to take over, it could be revived.

Bob Kingon reported on his attendance of the June 20 Lake Association Summit. Topics included Pipeline 5 and Tip of the Mitt's septic report which is on their website.

Torch Lake Sandbar had a meeting June 25, which no one in attendance today attended. Their work resulted in the increased and active presence of sheriff and DNR patrols on the Fourth of July weekend. It was noted that there was less trash and fewer revelers this year.

ERCOL-WHIP meeting was attended by Ruth and the Septic System Report was discussed which is on Tip of the Mitt's website.

Dave Lawicki has spoken to several people regarding Rugg Pond but there is nothing new to report.

New Business:

Ron Gurdak attended a meeting of the White Birch Condo Association to address the issue of a few residents wanting to clear out their shoreline vegetation, which is mostly natural growth. Erosion and phosphorous issues that could result from clearing were discussed. At this time, the association will take no actions or changes.

Bryce Davis gave a comprehensive and well delivered account of his Swimmer's Itch research and activities in connection with ESLA's participation in the Oakland University Swimmer's Itch Survey and Study. His full report will be posted on the ESLA website. Bryce received \$300 as our summer intern.

ERCOL Watershed Management Plan will be tabled to the September board meeting.

Bob Kingon reported that ongoing development of Kewadin Waterfront Park is moving, but slowly. They will hear about their application for a grant to the Natural Resources Trust Fund to make improvements to the property by December. They have what they need to establish a kayak launch by next spring, and are working to establish parking across the highway with appropriate signage to make it safe to cross to the park. He also stated that the acquisition of Camp Maplehurst by Antrim Township is moving along. They will learn of that grant funding in December.

Ken Krentz attended Tip of the Mitt meetings on educating boaters in our four county area on aquatic invasive species that can travel on watercraft when moving from one body of water to another. TV ads, written information, and launch site signage have and will be developed to educate boaters. He anticipates we will be asked to help put up signage and do a small financial contribution this Spring. Ken distributed folding pocket information cards to board members and is seeking ideas on how to distribute these. Ideas were generated (bait shops, manned launch sites) but any others can be emailed to Ken.

Natural Shoreline Champions website is now up and there will be a newsletter in August per Bob Kingon and Pete DiMercurio.

Joan Richardson announced the upcoming It's a Shore Thing informational presentation (Friday, July 22) with Jory Jonas on Remnant Trout. On August 26th the gathering will be at Samels Farm in Williamsburg. The September 23rd meeting will

be at Twisted Fish Gallery featuring the results of the Tip of the Mitt Shoreline Survey. The presentations have been successful and we plan to do them again next year from April through September. Any ideas for upcoming presentations are welcome.

Committee Reports:

Membership and Communications - The committee is looking into finding the best way to do website maintenance. Dean Ginther mentioned that there is already someone who is able to do this and will give us his name. Sue McCraven volunteered to research and write up articles for the website when needed.

Environmental Protection - Bob Kingon noted that they are looking at purple loosestrife locations around the lakes and plan to inform the homeowners that this invasive species is on their property. Andy Hogarth reported on meetings to look at extending the municipal sewer system to the Kewadin area. The costs are being evaluated and ways to communicate the advantages to property owners are being developed.

Finance – Pete DiMercurio submitted an audit of ESLA accounts for the period of 2015 through April 2016 to Ruth Bay. There were no discrepancies.

Government Relations - Dave Hauser discussed perceived changes to the water levels with Mark Stone, drain commissioner. Water levels are tracked at the Elk Rapids dam, and is a complex issue due to sustained winds, shifting sands/silt. He also submitted a report from the Grand Traverse sheriff department on patrol activities, which were down this year. The report is attached. Dave hopes to contact the sheriff department regarding equipment needs and get someone from the department come in September to talk to us.

Safety and Recreation – No new information to report that was not addressed previously.

Because of the Water – Jim Sak reports that lighting will be installed in the future.

The next Board meeting will be on Thursday, September 15, 2016.

A motion was made to adjourn the meeting at 12:01 p.m. and was passed.

Submitted by Recording Secretary, Joan Richardson