

MLRA Annual Meeting Minutes

Saturday, August 20, 2022

4:00-5:00 PM Land O Lakes VFW

Meeting was called to order by President Steve Sunderland at roughly 4:10pm. Steve welcomed all to the meeting and introduced our guests , Yvonne Clark Watersmeet trustee and Michelle Kanipes our ISCCW educator.

Steve also notes that our 3 missions per our bylaws as an organization are to be charitable, educational, and scientific.

In **attendance** at the beginning of the annual meeting we had 15 attendees, 2 guests and 7 board members for a total of 24 persons.

Treasurer's Report combined with the Secretary's report of membership was given by Eric Zorr. Checking account balance in 2021 was \$2,234.29 and today is \$2,400.96. Checks were written for the following: Web Hosting \$148, Water Testing Supplies, \$142; ISCCW Membership, \$125; Camera Cable, \$58.25; MI Lakes and Streams Membership, \$100. Savings account balances: Invasive Species Fund, \$4,646.84 last year, currently \$4,669.18 now, and general savings, last year \$ 2,517.15; currently \$2,594.00

Paid Membership for 2022: 32 households out of 49 current households. Annual dues are due at the beginning of the calendar year.

Steve LaPalio gave the **Water Quality Report** stating that our depth was 9.45 ft on May 6, 2022 and 9.67 ft on August 14, 2022. Water Clarity is an average of 18.3 ft with 22ft being the maximum and 17 ft the minimum. Phosphorus is 7-8 parts per billion up from a 20 year average of 6.7 and 6.2 parts per billion. Chlorophyll 1.1 to 4.1 with 2.4 is the median. All this data will be available in the next newsletter. Also, Steve spoke to George Madison the fish stocking guru. Our 6 years of fish stocking is over. However, we may be able to get some fish stocked in the future. If the hatchery has an excess of lake trout we may be able to get some of these. The lake trout will reproduce and grow quickly.

Carol Youmans will provide the **Loon Report** in the next newsletter. Our association agreed that we should not have the camera on the nest next spring (a 1 year experiment) to see if that may be a factor in our not having a hatching.

Website update was given by Bob Turnquist. We have one but it is mostly used for persons seeking historical data on the lake. We may be able to find a different format this winter.

Loon Cam report was also given by board member Bob Turnquist. Some varment has damaged the camera's power cable. When it is dark out the camera turns on lighting and the damaged power cable causes problems with Bob's internet connection. To prevent problems the camera is turned off during non-daylight hours. Thank you, Bob, for maintaining the camera and website.

Newsletter update given by President Steve Sunderland. Loon Crier comes out 3 times a year: spring, winter and early fall. Thank you, Carleen Sunderland, for all of your efforts in getting the newsletter put together and out. Remember, members may provide stories, recipes, and photos for the newsletter.

New Business: Proposed changes for 4 bylaws were sent out to members about 4 weeks before our annual meeting. These were voted on and approved by the membership. These were as follows:

ARTICLE IV – Membership

Section 1. Voting Membership shall be open to any owners who hold property within the boundary, heretofore defined, upon payment in advance of one year's dues. Each household shall be entitled to one vote.

Section 2. Non-Voting Membership shall be open to any household who do not live within the boundary, heretofore defined, upon payment in advance of one year's dues. Each household shall not be entitled to a vote.

Section 3. Membership will be solicited by board members throughout the year.

Motion made by Steve LaPalio seconded by Bob Turnquist and approved.

ARTICLE V – Dues

Section 1. Dues shall be paid per household per calendar year. The amount of dues shall be reviewed annually by the Board of Directors. Change in the amount of dues shall be based on the planned activities of the Association.

Section 2. Contributions to the Association may be made at any time in any amount for general or specific purposes, subject to the approval of the Board of Directors.

Motion made by Eric Zorr seconded by Marty LaPalio, approved

ARTICLE VI – Board of Directors

Section 1. The Board of Directors shall number seven members and shall include the immediate past president and the current officers of the Association.

Section 2. The administration of the affairs of the Association shall be vested in the Board of Directors who are authorized to act within the purposes, objectives and bylaws of the Association, subject to the following limitations:

1. The Board of Directors is authorized to committee the Association to expenditures of Association funds of no more than \$1000.00 for any one purpose except as approved by the majority of Voting Member households.

Motioned made by Carol Youmans, seconded by Mike Reiels and approved.

ARTICLE X – Voting

Section 1. A majority of Voting Member households, whose dues are paid, shall rule as otherwise provided in these bylaws.

Section 2. Each Voting Member household will have one vote on any matter under consideration by the Association.

Section 3. Voting Member households are entitled to pay dues prior to the call to order of any Association meeting in order to be eligible to vote at such meeting.

Motion made by Eric Zorr, seconded by Bob Turnquist and approved.

Other new business... Steve Sunderland gave a brief synopsis of the **Shoreline Tour** given with the ISCCW and two MSU extension Lake Conservation experts. It was noted that we have over 30 years of data which is extremely helpful. Two of their suggestions for property owners were to have a 35 ft barrier between the shore line and our lawns, smaller to medium stones are better to have than a sea wall. Our tour guides thought our lake to be beautiful, healthy and reminded us not to take this for granted. Other information from the tour may be found in the coming newsletter.

Election of Board Members: Mike Reiels (Vice President), Carol Youmans (Loon Ranger), and Peg Zorr (Secretary) are at the end of their terms. All have agreed to continue with their assignments if MLRA approves them. Motioned made by Brian Reiels, seconded by Carleen Sunderland and approved for all three to continue.

Motion made by Marty LaPalio, seconded by Carol Youmans to **vote for this year's officers:** Steve Sunderland (President), Mile Reels (Vice President), Eric Zorr (Treasurer), and Peggy Zorr (Secretary).

Approval for dues to continue to be \$25 annually . Motion made by Marty LaPalio seconded by Eric Zorr, approved.

Next year's meeting date will be Saturday, August 19, 2023 at the VFW.

Members comments: Prudy Caudill stated how blessed we all are to live on such a beautiful clear lake. Carleen Sunderland will send out form for fire numbers on email. Fire number order had to match the township road sign. Motion was made by Steve Sunderland, seconded by Steve LaPalio and approved to order road signs giving the range of numbers on south north and west Moon Lake Roads.

Yvonne Clark a Watersmeet township trustee gave some updates on the Highland internet services talked about last year. No news there. The company overpromised and underserved their promises. They have been asked for refunds for the upfront monies given to them but no response. As for our ambulance service, paying more for less service. The fire department responds to more medical calls than fire calls. Township has currently opted out of manufacturing and retail of marijuana products. However, that may be one vote away from changing. Yvonne encouraged persons to attend the town meetings and for us to let our voices be heard. Plus, we can write letters and call. Two names were given out...Mike Rodgers and Paul Kemppain. Some zoning changes that have been made: trailers can be on property for one year while building and lot dimensions. 911 is still the best bet to get 1st responders on the scene. One can request Land O Lakes but but you may not get your request. There is a push to get legislation for Gogebic and Vilas county to work together.

Michelle Kanipes our **ISCCW educator**. Set up a display and encourages anyone interested to take the Intro to Lakes course offered by MSU extension. Teach grandkids, friends, relatives to respect the lake to help preserve what we have.

Adjournment was motioned by Eric Zorr, seconded by Marty LaPalio and approved.

Minutes respectively submitted by Peggy Zorr, Secretary MLRA