

MLRA Annual Meeting Minutes

Saturday, August 6, 2023

4:00-5:30 PM Land O Lakes VFW

Board Members Present: Steve Sunderland, Steve LaPalio, Mike Reiels, Eric Zorr, and Peggy Zorr. Unable to attend were Carol Youmans and Bob Turnquist.

Attendance 20 plus two guests.

Meeting was called to order by President Steve Sunderland at roughly 4:00 pm. Steve welcomed all to the meeting and introduced our guests, Yvonne Clark Watersmeet trustee and Michelle Kanipes our ISCCW educator.

Steve mentioned that this year marked the 30th anniversary of the Moon Lake Riparian Association. In addition, our first MLRA President, Sheila McConaghy, was in attendance.

Treasurer's Report was given by Eric Zorr. The balances in our MLRA accounts are as follows: Checking, \$2,710.12 ; Regular Savings \$2,611.93; and Invasive Species Savings \$4,898.26. Out going expenses so far for 2023: MI Lakes & Stream Annual Dues \$100; Web Domain Name \$79.96; Web Hosting \$215.88; Water Testing \$170.00; and Memorials \$100.

Items to be considered for payment yet this year: ISCCW \$100; Watersmeet & Land O Lakes EMTs \$100 each; and Watersmeet & Land O Lakes Volunteer Fire Dept's \$100.00

Secretary's Report and a directory update was given by Peggy Zorr. Paid Membership to date for 2023 is 29 of the 46 members who paid last year have paid this year. Plus, one new member. For a grand total of 30 of 46 regular members.

Two copies of the first draft of the directory is on the tables at the back. Peggy asked members present to check for accuracy. Directory will be sent out Monday, August 7, 2023. Those requesting hard copies will have theirs delivered to them.

Steve LaPalio gave the **Water Quality** report. These were his findings: 2023; water depth on 5/10 = 9.61' (ice out) on 8/3 = 9.48', water clarity (secchi disk) best 22.5', worst 17.0', ave 19.9'

2022; disk ave 19.3', chlorophyll 3.3 ppb, phosphorus 8.5 ppb. water depth on 12/7 = 9.1' (ice over)

Finding snails? Bury or burn them. Fish stocking...we may get some lake trout (which could reproduce) if there is an excess this year.

Our loon ranger, Carol Youmans, had this **Loon Report** to share via Steve Sunderland...2023 we have a baby loon aptly named Pistol Pete. May 5 we had two loons arrive, first set of eggs were abandoned June 3. July 10th was more activity on the nest being more vocal, etc. July 11th was when we first saw the loon baby.

A couple members noted that they had seen Pete dive for the first time. Flying should begin around 11-12 weeks after birth. Parents will leave Pistol Pete and he will need to make the trip southeast without them.

Bob Turnquist is looking into our **Website**. He is looking for a viable place to house the information/ lake data. The website is most often used by persons wishing to get to the web cam. We have the website for another year and will use this time to figure out how best to replace it and what exactly our needs are.

The Lake Camera is broke says Steve LaPalio. A comparable camera was found but it needs to have a converter box which is back ordered. We do not want to have the camera before we know for sure we can get the converter box. This puts everything on hold until they can be purchased together.

The Loon Crier (**Moon Lake's Newsletter**) will come out approximately 3 times a year. If there is not enough material for the newsletter it may not come out as often. Please share your

stories, recipes, upcoming community activities and pictures. Thank you again to **Steve and Carleen** for putting the newsletter together. Wonderful job.

New Business

Mike Reiels shared the following information about the start of the **MLRA 30 years ago**. Our association was begun by **Jim Reiels and John Sick** to make sure the lake was being taken care of properly. The first president was **Sheila McConaghy** at the insistence from her husband, Charlie.

MLRA Directory is set to come out **Monday, August 7, 2023** according to Peggy Zorr. Two copies available at the back to check for accuracy. All copies will be digital unless you have specified a hard copy. These will be delivered personally, if possible. If changes need to be made and there will be mistakes, corrections and updates will be sent out monthly.

The following **board members** were **reelected** after a motion was made, seconded and carried: Bob Turnquist (Lake Cam), Eric Zorr (Treasurer), Steve Sunderland (President) and Steve LaPalio (Water Quality).

Board members who have 1 year to go on their terms are **approved** after a motion was made seconded and carried: Mike Reiels (Vice President), Carol Youmans (Loon Ranger) and Peg Zorr (Secretary).

And a separate vote was made to continue with the current officers: Steve Sunderland, President; Mike Reiels, Vice President; Eric Zorr, Treasurer and Peggy Zorr, Secretary.

Approval for **MLRA dues** to remain at \$25/year was motioned, seconded and carried. This by the way is only a \$5 increase in 30 years.

Open comments from the membership were then made. New member Cindy Kick-Harris has some ideas for making the website more interactive, therefore potentially getting more traffic on it. Cindy is willing to share more of her ideas.

News from **Yvonne Clark** of the **Watersmeet Township**...she is still working to bring high speed internet to the township. There are two other avenues being pursued. First there are some Federal Grants for underserved and unserved communities and second, Sonic Net out of Wisconsin is interested in bringing internet access across the Wisconsin border to Michigan.

We have a new member on the board of trustees...John Oliver.

South Moon Lake Road is to be left alone for the time being. The township opted out of having a dispensary.

And Yvonne suggested writing to our legislators to keep them aware of what is important to their constituents and to help affect change.

Thank you, Yvonne, for sharing and working so diligently for our community.

Yvonne Clark along with **ISCCW educator Michelle Lukas-Kanipes** shared some information about the Wake boats not to be confused with Wake boarding power boats. Wake boats put out a powerful wake that goes down 30 ft and the wake can travel 250-900 ft before flattening out. Plus, these wake boats have water in the ballast at all times which mean they could carry invasive species to ours and other lakes. Current laws/guidelines says no wake within 100 ft of shore.

Michelle also added these dates for the ISCCW: **Annual Meeting, August 12** at 2pm at the Watersmeet Pavilion; **August 15** is the **regular meeting** 10 am at the Watersmeet Township hall; **August 29 Water samples** should be to Land O Lakes Lando center by 10am to be picked up and **August 31** is the **Car Park** 5-6:30 pm **sponsored by the ISCCW**.

After thanking our guests and members for attending Steve Sunderland **adjourned** the meeting at approximately 5:26 pm with the pot luck to begin immediately.

Respectively submitted by
Peggy Zorr, MLRA Secretary