

Board Meeting
October 8, 2021

Present with actual presence or conference call: Chuck Pettipiece, Jim Luttrell, Jerry Finnerty, Linda Berglund, Leo Offerman, Pam Nordahl, Patrice Bogart and Tom Stremski

Absent: Gwen Geithman

Meeting was held at Chuck Pettipiece's house at 10:00 am.

Jerry Finnerty presented a treasury report. The current balance as of 9-30-21 is \$8,286.00. We have 92 paid members which is a record number. So far this year we have \$1880.00 in income and \$2308.00 in expenditures. Last year we had 2300 in income. There was no anonymous \$500 donation this year. We spent \$400 less this year. We had two one time costs this year: \$300 for the fundraiser for Joe Banks and \$275 for the application for non profit status certification. We also spent approximately \$300 for prizes for the annual picnic, rather than soliciting prizes from local businesses, and approximately \$450.00 for the spring newsletter and mailing. Eleven people paid their dues with Paypal and 78 paid by check. There is a \$1.19 fee if paid by Paypal .enmo would be free after a 3 day lapse. Leo will check with Teresa to see if that can be used.

The treasurers report was approved as presented. The motion passed unanimously.

Leo reported that Ross Lake Township acquired a new defibrillator at a cost of \$2500.00. A donor gave \$2500.00.

Picnic recap: There were approximately 45 adults and 5 kids present. Land O'Lakes donated a prize for our picnic, and we approved approximately \$300 for an additional 7 prizes.

The by-laws, as amended by Chuck Pettipiece, were approved.

There were 3 new officers elected:

Jerry Finnerty for treasurer

Linda Berglund for secretary

Tom Stremski to fill Joe Bank's term as director

It was suggested that we buy less sloppy joe meat , as there was a lot leftover. We bought 20 lbs, and thought we would try 15 lbs next year,

The speaker, Jon Mobeck, from the National Loon Center, was very much enjoyed.

Was suggested to not solicit prizes from local businesses again next year, They have taken quite a hit during the pandemic. We will purchase a Yeti cooler and highlight that in our newsletter. Was suggested that we occasionally highlight a local business, but we do list businesses on our website.

Was suggested that we sit in a semicircle at the picnic, to be more closely a part of the meeting and to be better heard. Was suggested that we use a Blue tooth speaker.

There have not been so many kids at our picnic, so was suggested that we cut down on our games, We would keep the minnow races.

There was 50 lbs of food donated and \$50 in cash donated for the Emily Food shelf.

Was suggested that we change the fishing contest to a 24 hour contest. The digital recordings of fish caught went well. Was said that we should have more social time at end of contest, possibly serving hot dogs.

There were 14 boats who participated in the boat parade. Was stated there were more people watching on shore. Was suggested that candy could be thrown at the kids on shore. Jerry Finnerty's treats at the end of the parade are always a hit and appreciated.

All of these suggestions will be taken up in the spring.

2021 activities:

Mud Brook cleanup: Needs to be done this year. There are a lot of logs that need to be taken out. The water was very shallow this year and made for tough navigation. A date will be decided, and put in the spring newsletter for cleanup.

Calendars will be given to every lake resident family. It will be a 13 month calendar, July to July, showing photos submitted from lake residents, on our website. So far 7 people have submitted about 10 pictures. It will cost the Association \$3.00 apiece. They will be given out at our annual picnic, and distributed to others not attending. We will highlight this as an incentive to come to the meeting. We still have flashlights from this year that can be given at our next picnic.

Non profit status:

A notice was given that it needs more development. We don't need to do anything, It just means it may take a bit longer. We are all set with the state of Minnesota.

Fall newsletter:

Leo and Pam will be featured. Linda will submit article about what lake residents can do to keep our lakes clean.

Leo will write about the new ATV trail. This will be a big attraction in our area.

Leo stated that the Ross Lake Township board approved a change to have The Emily Fire Dept as our first response fire team, rather than Aitkin Fire Dept. This would be effective as of the first of the year, Emily is more expensive. \$10,000.00 was negotiated to go with Emily. Taxes might possibly go up about \$15.00 a year per family, The shorter distance would be more advantageous in case of fire, and should lower homeowners insurance. This would also mean water rescue would come from Emily. This plan will serve Island Lake, Mud Lake, and Rogers Lake. Many thanks to Leo for the hard work he has done to make this change. He stated that in the past, Emily was our first response, but a petition was signed in 2007 to change from Emily to Aitkin. This was probably a cost savings, but hurts us much more in the event of fire or need for water rescue, in the significantly more time it takes to get here. The rough distance from Emily is 10.8 miles, while from Aitkin it is 20.5 miles.

The 2021-2022 activities will remain the same. The ownership list will be updated, and new home

owner signs will be made. Leo states that he feels the Association is the healthiest it has ever been. It was suggested that an additional activity sign be put up on East Mud Lake. There are new residents there. Tom Stremski suggested that he could donate signs at a cost of about \$150,00. This was tabled for now.

The public access has several fallen trees . There would be a \$35 wood removal permit needed. Tom Stremski said he would personally want the wood and will take care of it himself.

Mark Casper is now handling the pontoon trailer. Diana Banks has said we can still store it on her land. A spare tire was donated for the trailer.

Next year elections: Gwen Geithman is up as well as Patrice Bogart. Jim Luttrell will move to President. Chuck is willing to serve in some capacity.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:20 am.

Respectfully submitted,

Linda Berglund, secretary+