

**LOBSTER LAKE ASSOCIATION**  
**SPRING BOARD OF DIRECTORS' MEETING**

Brian Van Nevel's home

March 29, 2023 at 4 pm

1. Call to Order: President Brian Van Nevel called the meeting to order at 4 pm. In attendance were Brian Van Nevel, Linda Dolan, Jeff Winter, Don Auel, Chuck Obler, Hardy Huettl, Mona Strege, Amanda Topel & Jennifer DeCramer.
2. Approve Agenda: A motion was made and seconded to approve the agenda. The motion passed unanimously.
3. Secretary's Report: There were a couple of changes made to the Dec. 2022 minutes. Mona Strege made a motion to approve the minutes as amended and Amanda Topel seconded the motion. Motion to approve the Dec. 2022 amended minutes passed unanimously.
4. Treasurer's Report: Diane was not present but provided updated financial information which is attached. We are in good financial standing with \$21,532.09 in our accounts. Hardy made a motion to approve the treasurer's report. Chuck seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously. Diane will be retiring so we will need a new treasurer.

**OLD BUSINESS**

1. VRBO: nothing to report.
2. New directors for Foslien Bay North & Wrolson Cove areas: Brian hasn't been able to find anyone. Don A. will check and see if he can find an area director for Eternity Point. There was a discussion about the possibility of combining areas, but nothing was decided. Brian will research the area and will ask for volunteers at the annual meeting and an ad will be placed in the newsletter.
3. Photo Contest: Brian stated there is nothing new to report.
4. New member-at-large: Jim Barrett has agreed to be our new member-at-large.
5. DNR water level gauge: Brian talked to DNR about a gauge on someone's shoreline. He will call and follow up.
6. New treasurer: Diane Soderstrom is retiring this spring.
7. Speaker for Annual Meeting: Brian will contact the person who spoke at the DCLA meeting on Zebra Mussels to see if they are available.
8. New Printer for LLA: Hardy and Bonnie looked at 3 printing services. One was unimpressive. Palmer Print Creations and Range Printing were mentioned. This information was passed to Mona and Jennifer who will do further checking and make a decision. Hardy had quotes for them to look over. There were locations in Glenwood and Alexandria. Mona said she doesn't mind doing the stamps and labels.
9. Printing Issue with Insty Prints: LLA is supposed to receive a 25% discount on the newsletter printing, but the invoice doesn't reflect the discount. Brian will check into it. We've been having trouble with Insty Prints making errors lately. Next newsletter will come out after the annual meeting. Jennifer needs articles by May 20<sup>th</sup>.
10. Items from the floor: Jennifer will be taking over e-mail lists.

**NEW BUSINESS**

1. 2023 Douglas County application for additional watercraft inspection hours: We have been advised that Douglas County Land & Resources will be providing 175 hours of inspection time and that the MN DNR will be providing an additional 120 hours of inspection time. The cost of all

these hours will be covered 100% by the county and state. With consideration given to what is being done by those agencies, it was decided that with that amount of inspections being done, it should be sufficient, so LLA need not spend for additional hours.

Discussion included topics of the different levels of inspections. Level 1 includes 50 hours of inspections and education. Level 2 is 125 hours that also includes decontamination. If we add hours, we pay ½ of additional fees. Can we pick the days we want them to be at the public access? We can request them but there is no guarantee we would get the days we want.

2. Annual Meeting Planning: The annual meeting is May 6<sup>th</sup> at the Garfield Community Center. Linda has reserved the room from 8am-2pm for a cost of \$100. There is a \$250 damage deposit which will be returned provided we do the proper clean up. Cards to lake residents will be sent out approximately 2 weeks before the meeting. Refreshments will be provided by Melissa Winter. Mona needs any extra directories if anyone has them as she only has 10 remaining for new members. Additional suggestions for a speaker are AIS, National Loon Center and Eagle Center.
3. Items from the floor: Mona asked why can't walleye be stocked at the east end of the Lake? Response was that there is no access to do it. There was a discussion on people using property that doesn't belong to them. Mona stated that Happy's doesn't have trouble with it.

## **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

1. AIS: (Hardy Huettl) Hardy reminded us that he gave us all the information last fall. Zebra Mussels are all over and they are working on the Curly Leaf Pondweed. Just under 6 ½ acres of lake were treated in the summer of 2022. The cost was \$360 after grants. A new survey needs to be done this year. Hardy would like to survey the 5 sites that were treated to see if the treatment was effective. We did not receive a grant from Minnesota this year. Hardy is waiting for permits and final bids from herbicide people. If we receive a grant from the county, it will cover up to 75% of the cost. He'd like to see the results of the survey to determine the effectiveness of the herbicide treatment. We should know in April if we will get the county grant. Chuck likes the idea of hiring a different company to do the survey this year.
2. Water Monitoring: (Hardy Huettl & Rod Johnson) Water is down a couple of feet.
3. Newsletter: (Jennifer DeCramer) Jennifer will be getting bids for a new printing service.
4. Membership: (Mona Strege) Mona reported on yearly membership numbers.  
2021 – 221 members  
2022 – 245 members  
2023 – 190 members as of this meeting with 10 new members  
Linda will put a post on the LLA page regarding the upcoming annual meeting. Postcards will be sent out to all lake owners informing them of the meeting.
5. Fish Habitat/Walleye Stocking: (Kevin Weisel & Chuck Obler) Chuck reported that fish were stocked in September (public access) and again in December 2022 at Merrill's place. Bosek was used in September. They were less expensive but not as professional and hard to get a hold of. Klug was used in December. They are more professional, have quality fish, are timely and cooperative. Their price was \$4 more per pound. Six hundred pounds of walleyes were stocked. This year (2023) the DNR will do the stocking. An article about the fish stocking will be placed in the newsletter about stocking along with a request for donations. A suggestion to place a minnow bucket to collect donations at the annual meeting was made.

6. Water Levels: Harvey Strom is retiring so we need a volunteer for the Lake Captain who has the responsibility to monitor water levels. A hydrologist needs to install a new water gauge. The lake captain reads the water levels a couple times each month.
7. Lobster Wear: (Amanda Topel) Amanda reported that she would place an order for items for the meeting. Hooded sweatshirts are needed. She has a dozen flags available.
8. DCLA: (Rod Johnson) No report. They haven't met since November.
9. Email addresses director: (Jennifer DeCramer) Jennifer is taking over the email address. Jim needs to pass the information to her.
10. Loon Nests: (Chuck Obler) Chuck will send out messages to all the loon nest people before ice out. Nests need to be put out asap after ice out.

Don Auel made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Jennifer DeCramer seconded the motion. The motion passed with the meeting adjourned at 5:16 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Linda Dolan  
LLA Secretary