

Minutes
Ida Lake Association
Board of Directors Meeting
Ida Township Hall Parking Lot
August 22, 2019

Members Present

President – Elaine Greer	Vice President – David Geddes
Treasurer – Mike Kleve	Secretary – Pamela Phillips
District 1 – Jerry McClure	District 10 – Frank Steen, Amy Sunderland
District 2 – Janet Vandendriessche (via Zoom)	District 11 – Bob Reed Dave Murphy (via Zoom)
District 3 – Jim Phillips, Jeffrey Sorum	District 12 – Mary Saarion, Glen VanAmber
District 4 – Tom Loken	District 13 –
District 5 – Mike Shaughnessy	District 14 – Jim Conn
District 6 – Kim Barse	District 15 –
District 7 –	District 16 –
District 8 – Lee Katzmarek, Bud Nielsen	District 17 –
District 9 – Andy Lopez, Dian Lopez	District 18 –
Past President – Dick Sudmeier	

Other non-voting members in attendance – Jeff Johnson (fishing committee), Jim Bond (representing District 18 since their Director could not attend)

President Elaine Greer called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.

Meeting Agenda – Dian Lopez moved to approve the agenda. Kim Barse seconded the motion. Motion approved.

Secretary's Report Jeff Sorum moved to approve the July minutes. Jim Conn seconded the motion. Motion approved.

Treasurer's Report from July (report was received after the meeting due to a computer glitch) – Andy Lopez moved to approve. Amy Sunderland seconded. Approved.

Treasurer's Report as of August 18, 2020.

Total cash assets of \$92,944.16

Membership dues paid so far in 2020: \$9,775.00. We have 433 paid memberships for 2020 (compared to 417 2019 paid memberships for this time frame in 2019) – Of the 433 paid members for 2020, 340 paid in 2020, and 103 paid ahead in previous years. Online payments are up to 40-45.

Paid approved \$1,000 to UMN Foundation for research into wake board (surf) impact on shoreline

2 expenditures paid that need approval:

\$70 to Pamela Phillips to reimburse for Weebly website platform

\$453.49 to Insty Prints for printing the fall Newsletter

Jim Conn moved to approve the Treasurer's August report. Bud Niesen seconded the motion. Motion approved.

Open commitments:

- Fish Stocking \$ 16,000 verbally committed for 2020. \$5,953 received so far – memorial gifts will be added - \$540 so far, for a total of \$6,493 available to date. Dick Sudmeier said we need copy of the permit and invoice and we can then submit it to Viking Sportsmans Club, which normally gives ILA \$500 toward stocking.

Dian Lopez moved to approve the Treasurer's report. Jim Conn seconded the motion. Motion approved.

Lee Katzmarek (D17) asked for more information about our commitment for walleye stocking. Mike Kleve explained the verbal financial commitment with the supplier through 2020.

Bud Nielsen asked that we put a reminder in the Newsletter on the membership form about being able to pay membership dues online with the website page link. We will let the new Newsletter person know for the Spring Newsletter.

We have 752 property owners, some of whom own more than one property. Someone asked whether the Director's report that Mike Kleve prepares can list people who own 2 properties be listed as paid on both to avoid confusion.

Mike Kleve noted the need to do the audit on the books in the Fall. It has to be done before December 31. Glen VanAmber is in charge of the audit committee and will set a time to do it.

Old Business

4th of July Parade – A member felt that the parade should not be political – someone was offended by participants' noted support of a specific political candidate. Discussion ensued, and it was noted that people have a right to express themselves. While ILA Bylaws do not allow ILA to support political things, we only offer the opportunity for people to participate in the parade and express their patriotism, which means different things to people. It was noted that it was likely more noticeable this year because it is an election year. While we could suggest in the future that participants respect each other and not make it political, it would not be ILA's place to police anyone's expression. We are going to table further discussion of this until next Spring as we approach the 2021 parade.

Water Talks Webinars: These are posted on the Legacy of the Lakes Museum website – a couple of people tried to get in but couldn't. The one on September 13th is on AIS. Someone mentioned at this point that the largest non-native species around the lake is Kentucky Bluegrass.

Ditch 23 Grant Update: The grant application was submitted on July 17th. We won't know until Christmas whether the grant is approved.

AIS Report: Nothing from Bob Reed and Dave Geddes. There will be a webinar on August 26th on zebra mussel treatment with low level copper. Mike Kleve said that someone in Cozy Nook works with Douglas County and looks for AIS around the lakes. Mike will find out more. Jim Conn noted anecdotally that the accumulation of zebra mussels the past couple of years appears to have gone down. He has seen more shells coming on shore – not live mussels.

Right now we use PLM for Curly Leaf Pondweed treatment. Two other companies have reached out to us. We will hold on to the names in case we want to put it out for bids.

CLP treatment: On Little Ida Bay, District 1 asked why didn't we treat smaller areas. ILA was told by PLM that either they were too small or too deep to be effectively treated. Larger areas get more bang for the buck with bigger impact. People can do their own treatment - individuals can do 50 feet on shore or 100 feet in water at a cost of about \$500-600 for 2x treatment. Dick Sudmeier mentioned that he believed ILA paid for treatment of the smaller areas in the past, and we should look at doing it again, in spite of the extra cost. Jerry McClure noted boats go into these little areas and then spread it around with the boats. The association should consider treating the smaller areas even though it costs more. David Geddes asked what does successful treatment really look like? Does PLM have examples of other lakes? David may talk with them next year prior to treatment time.

Boat Landing Lighting: Duane was not here to report. Brian Wentworth, Tom Duxbury and Elaine Greer met with the DNR concerning lighting on the north Pilgrim Point landing, which has had some vandalism and other activities unrelated to launching boats. DNR said we could do lighting in accordance with the International Dark Sky association. Motion lighting is one option which could be turned off in winter. They looked at placement and suggested facing the lake on the right hand side of landing. It is a 3 week process for permit. It would cost \$2,000 for the light, charger, and battery. They also suggested going to the highway department for a pole. It would be 10,000 lumens and take only a few hours to charge. The sheriff willing to work with us to help protect that property. Dick Sudmeier asked whether we use the money from dues that all of the members paid to mainly benefit the people who live next to it? We will wait to hear from the committee on what the recommendations are and the final cost proposals.

Fish Survey/Stocking: Jeff Johnson reported that he sat down with Dean Beck's interim replacement with the DNR and it was informative. DNR is leaning toward natural

reproduction in the lake. Results from electrofish testing in shallow water - in the 80's they saw 100 walleyes per hour. In the recent past 4 years they've seen zero. DNR wants to do shocking again this fall (end of August) to see what the numbers are. DNR doesn't want to make a decision until they see the test results. They are concerned about the zebra mussels. Walleye fry get eaten by a lot of things including zebra mussels.

The fishing committee may send a survey to see what the membership wants to do as far as committing to stocking after this year. Drastic measures that could be taken to improve walleye population could include not walleye fishing for 2 years and/or slot limits. So we need a survey for member input. Lake Ida was not originally a walleye lake. It didn't become a walleye lake until the early '80s when we began stocking. DNR really doesn't know if stocking helps. Their recommendation for stocking is dwindling. The Bass population keeps increasing every year. The lake will support only so many pounds of fish per acre.

Jeff feels the fishermen should pay for stocking if that's what they want. Other issues to consider include: how much difference does the creek that runs out make? Is it an issue? Reproduction happens upstream. Should we instead focus on improving reproductive structures/habitat.

Elaine Greer spoke with Stuart Klug of the fishery we purchase from for stocking. We are committed for 1,000 lbs of fingerlings this fall and have a choice of 4-6" or 6-8". We get the permit and then choose which landing we want it done at. People can do the weighing. It is usually done in October. This is the last year of our verbal commitment. So moving forward we have to decide what we're going to do.

Bud Nielsen noted that Lake Ida is becoming more of a recreational lake. So we should have a moratorium on stocking after fall of 2020 until we see the results of the survey and see the committee's recommendations. Bud noted that water quality is the biggest factor in property values (so it's more important to control the CLP and water clarity).

Discussion about stocking decided that we will continue to collect donations for stocking since we are doing stocking this fall and are short of the full amount we need. There was a recommendation to only spend what is collected for stocking in the future and not make up the difference from the general fund. This discussion is tabled until after the final reports.

A motion was made to stock with the 4-6" fingerlings this fall, which is about 30 fish per pound. Motion approved. They will be stocked at the northern Pilgrim Point Landing.

DCLA Report: Dian attended. Nothing major to report. She noted there is a waterless cleaning station at the Lake Osakis CD3 station. Soil & Water is doing their water nitrate test for free on August 25th.

New Business

Property of Gary Grooters: Highway 34 – He was concerned about possible commercial development on land next to his. It is a Non-issue – he spoke with the realtor and it is individuals.

Other Correspondence: Big Horn Cove lighting issues – There have been several complaints about their shore lights which are very bright and always on, even in the winter. There are other issues across the lake as over the last 4-5 years people have moved to LED lighting with strong lumens. Jeff Sorum asked whether ILA can encourage shielding? Jim Bond, the President of the Big Horn Cove Association, was present at the meeting to address the issue. He appreciates what we're saying and said that it's bad for their people too. They are in touch with Rudy's electric trying to make a difference. They are looking to replace the old lights with new LED lights and new fixtures. They are willing to do something. They will turn off some of them in the winter. They will continue to work this issue and were very amenable to being good neighbors. Jim Phillips said that Jim Bond can talk with him about the change the YMCA made with their lighting. They got good energy credits for purchasing the newer more efficient lights, and it has also significantly lowered the cost to operate them.

We suggested maybe having an article in the Spring Newsletter regarding lighting recommendations and the International Dark Sky initiative with recommendations for changes that property owners can make.

Newsletter Editor Position: Sara Hnath has agreed to take over the Newsletter from Deb Hertzog.

Letter of Request District 5: Mike Shaugnessy introduced Rob Auel who had a request for assistance with funding for a runoff issue. He had provided a written report and diagram ahead of time. There are over 100 acres and 4 inlets that come into a creek and then into a gully coming into the lake with silt. Soil & Water has proposed a project for \$40,000 with a 75/25 homeowner split. Rob requested assistance with funding from ILA. Soil & Water met with the landowners on August 10th. The area encompasses 46 acres or so near the intersection of Co Rd 34 and Leaf Lane. When it rains, the water flows across quickly. Carlos Township has done a good job of replacing their culverts and cleaning up their ditches, causing it to really come through on the Ida Township side quickly. Another ditch to the north that comes under Leaf Lane. Another culvert comes from the south. Another comes under Leaf Lane and drains the back lots. The culverts keep the water from running over the road and flooding those homes. The ditch was modified with sewer, and then Leaf Lane was paved, so now there is a big flow in the culvert and the 8' wide ditch has become 30' wide. If you look at outlet side, you can't see it from lake. It looks flat, but the bank is pushed up from the ice. If you walk up creek you can see the banks are washed out. There are 3 homeowners involved – one is across the road in Carlos Township. The plan is to reduce the 30" culvert to 10" to reduce the flow rate, and reduce the sediment. Engineers out of St. Cloud have surveyed the area and reviewed annually and have made a plan. They are waiting on St. Cloud to do one more survey, update the plan, and give a final updated

estimate. They will also apply to the Legacy Fund for additional wing dams on the project. The Township will have to be involved with the road work.

Bottom line – we asked what Rob was asking for, and he said \$2,500. Jim Conn moved to support the project with up to \$2,500 since the sediment impacts the quality of the lake. Discussion ensued. We agreed that any requested funding would only be provided upon completion of the project. The homeowners are hoping the project will get done this fall, but at least by Spring 2021. Bud Nielsen seconded the motion. Motion approved.

Elections Director Vacancies: Even numbered district directors were up for election. All incumbents were voted in. New directors added are Grace Alberg for District 2, and Frank Steen for District 10. Amy Sunderland (D10) and Glen VanAmber (D12) will be stepping down at the end of September 2020. Vice President David Geddes and Treasurer Mike Kleve were also elected to another term. Amy Sunderland moved to approve the slate of elected officers and directors. Dian Lopez seconded the motion. Motion approved.

Other New Business:

Bud Nielsen reported on the Pilgrim Point property. He noted that perhaps there is more interest with current lake values. The county still appears interested in the property for a county park.

Next Directors Board Meeting: Saturday, September 26th, 9:00am. Both new and old officers are included at this meeting as a transition.

Adjourn: Bud Nielsen moved to adjourn the meeting. The meeting was adjourned at 10:47 a.m.

Respectively submitted,
Pamela Phillips, ILA Secretary