

Minutes
Ida Lake Association
General/Annual Meeting
Ida Township Hall
September 24, 2024

Vice President David Geddes called the meeting to order at 9:03 a.m.

Lee Gustafson unavailable today, so David Geddes is presiding.

Secretary's Report (Pamela Phillips filling in for Jana Berndt) – Minutes of the May 2024 general meeting are posted on the website, as are the Directors meeting minutes from May. The June minutes were just approved this morning as there was no July meeting. Those will be posted soon.

Newsletter update. There were some unforeseen problems getting the August Newsletter printed in time to be mailed before the August meeting. So rather than send it with outdated information, it was decided to wait and update the Newsletter with current information and mail it in September. The Directors have decided to send a postcard in May with membership dues information/status and a reminder for the May general meeting. The Newsletter in the future will be printed and mailed once in the middle of the summer.

Treasurer's Report (Mike Kleve filling in for Julie Speck) - as of July 31, 2024.

Total cash assets of \$110,444.

ILA spent \$6500 on AIS treatment. ILA received a \$5500 grant from the County and DNR, so we got 85% of what we spent back, resulting in a cost of only \$1000 to ILA.

Cash flow is strong. The investment fund is up over 5%.

Membership dues paid so far in 2024: \$9,111.

Old Business

Pilgrim Point update – A tree has fallen over. The directors will have more discussion in September on ways to protect the shoreline at the park. The County does plan some tree planning in the fall. But ILA may need to take a more direct approach with the DNR to get more done for the shoreline.

Elaine Greer asked whether ILA may want to donate a bench and a plaque at the Park. She noted that there are some benches, and they are being used frequently. The consensus was that it would be something to look into. She will investigate what the costs are and will bring the information to the directors to consider at the September meeting.

Ditch 23 -Plans were approved for the Upstream project and bids are being received. That project will be completed this fall. The County on our behalf is submitting excavation notice to the DNR to get the ditch cleaned out to improve the flow in the ditch. The County has

laws that allow it to clean ditches, so the DNR can't really deny it. This will improve flow so that the water doesn't sit in the wetlands as long picking up phosphorus. We hope to have more information on this to include in the Newsletter.

ILA hopes to use part of a \$100,000 grant to help with Little Ida drainage issue.

Future water quality issues will be discussed at the Directors meeting in September. We asked all members to look at areas around the lake where drainage and runoff into the lake may be an issue..

We will possibly set up a project to monitor the water flow from Lake Miltona into Lake Ida to identify if there are any problems.

Fish Survey/Stocking: Mike Klevve noted that ILA is in the 3rd year of 3-year stocking commitment with our fingerling provider. We will have a gap year next year before committing to a new 3-year plan to get the fund healthy again. We are short about \$1700 in the stocking fund to meet this year's \$11,000 commitment. We will try to obtain some year end donations that we often obtain, but they are not guaranteed. So any additional donations to the fund would be appreciated.

AIS Report: David Geddes reported that the treatment was done at the end of May/early June. He will work with the treatment company to get the plan in place for next year. The survey and treatment cost was \$6470. ILA received a grant of \$3250 from the County and \$2250 from the DNR. The net cost to ILA was \$970.

New Business

Election of Vice President – Dave Murphy volunteered to be considered for the position. Artie Malecsi moved to approve Dave Murphy as Vice President for a 2-year position. Dian Lopez seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously and Dave Murphy was voted in as Vice President for 2025-2026.

Election of Treasurer – Julie Speck had been approved by the Directors last year as interim Treasurer. Barbara Peterson moved to approve Julie Speck as Treasurer for a 2-year position. Dick Sudmeier seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously and Julie Speck was voted in as Treasurer for 2025-2026.

Highway Cleanup: - We introduced Grace Lambert and Catherine Scholer Kliewer who will be coordinating the cleanup on September 21st. Grace advised that trash bags, poker sticks, and safety vests will be provided. It was recommended that people wear shoes that can get wet and gloves. An email requesting volunteers to help with meeting place/time will be sent out a couple of weeks prior.

Frank Steen noted that we should be recognizing what has gone really well for the lake. He specifically noted the ALASD (Alexandria Lakes Area Sanitary District) work for sewer system around the lake, and how compared to 20 years ago when the water was murky because of failing septic systems, that the sewer has had a positive impact on the lake.

David Geddes mentioned some MPR articles about lake quality that could possibly be highlighted in the Newsletter. They talk about development and how that creates pressure on the lake.

Someone raised the question about whether people have seen the county sheriffs on the lake this summer. Several have mentioned that they have, including on a jet ski. Positive encounters just checking fishing licenses, etc.

Another question was raised whether there is any update on Zebra mussels. There isn't.

Next General Membership Meeting: Saturday May 24, 2025, 9:00am.

Adjourn Dick Sudmeier moved to adjourn the meeting. Tony Moore seconded the motion. Motion passed and the meeting was adjourned at 9:39 a.m.

Even district director elections- Following the meeting, members from even-numbered districts were asked to gather by the signs for their districts to select their two directors. Those results will be ratified by the directors at their September meeting.

Respectively submitted,
Pamela Phillips, Acting ILA Secretary