

Waupaca Chain O'Lakes Association
Board Meeting Minutes
January 17, 2024
Farmington Town Hall, Waupaca WI

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order by Acting Vice President Peggy Jesion at 9:00 a.m.

Present: Jan Behnke, Barry Gill, Peggy Jesion, Fawn Johnson, Mark Kunstman, Julie Massoleni, Carl Nelson, Rose Spaar, and Susan Walla. Absent: Sharon Peterson

Guest(s) in Attendance - Dan Johnson, Paul Massoleni, William Morgan, John Miller, Caroline Murphy, Anne Silloway, and Fred Silloway, and Neil Young.

Approve or Amend the Agenda: Motion made by Jan Behnke and seconded by Susan Walla to approve. Motion carried.

Approve or Amend the Minutes of October 4, 2023 Board Meeting: Motion made by Susan Walla and seconded by Fawn Johnson to approve. Motion carried.

Treasurer's Report: Susan Walla reported that the Association's financial status is excellent. She said that the Association has a thirteen month certificate of deposit (CD) that is coming up for renewal and recommended that it be allowed to rollover due to current interest rates. The Board concurred. Ms. Walla said that the Association had \$61,174.59 net funds available as of December 31, 2023.

Executive Secretary's Report: Peggy Jesion stated that there are currently 644 members. She said that the Town of Farmington had approved slow, no wake in the southeast end of Columbia Lake surrounding the sunken island and had restricted wake enhanced activity on Rainbow and Round Lakes. Ms. Jesion stated that two email blasts had gone out, one in October informing members of the Town of Farmington's October 26, 2023 public hearing on enhanced wakes and a summer wrap-up. She said that acknowledgements of donations over \$250.00 had gone as required by the IRS. Ms. Jesion added that she hoped to have the Spring newsletter completed by the first week in February.

Lake District Report: Fred Silloway stated that the 2023 annual report on invasive species from Wisconsin Rivers and Lakes is expected soon and it will also contain recommendations for 2024. Mr. Silloway said that the Lake District Board is currently considering an aquatic invasive plant survey on the Upper Chain. He said that the Townships of Farmington and Dayton have asked the Lake District to update the signs at the boat landings to reflect the new no wake area. Mr. Silloway said that the Clean Boats/Clean Water program will again be at the Taylor Lake boat landing this summer and there is likely to be enhanced data collections as to the type and origin of the boat. He said Art Hallstrom is going to present a plan on February 22, 2024 to the Lake District Board to purchase a flow measuring device to be placed at the mouth of the Crystal River to measure various items.

Nomination of Directors: Ms. Jesion said that the terms of Jan Behnke, Sharon Peterson, Rose Spaar, and her own as well are expiring at the end of the June annual meeting of the members. All agreed to continue to serve and a nomination was put forth by Susan Walla and seconded by Fawn Johnson. Motion carried.

Committee Reports:

- a. Stewardship and Resources: Julie Mazzoleni said her committee published a blog in November, 2023 on the wild rice restoration on the Upper Chain. She said that they are continuing to work on an Adopt a Chain 'O Lakes sign program where someone will agree to take care of the immediate ground around the sign. Caroline Murphy indicated that any signs in the township right away would need township approval for any plantings or other maintenance of the ground. Ms. Mazzoleni indicated that there will be another invasive species education discussion and walk this summer.
- b. Safety and Recreational Use Committee: Rose Spaar said that there will be another boater safety course offered this year with Fawn and Dan Johnson as instructors. She said that there had been a request to see if the Association could donate lights or other alerting device for the Veteran's boat so that other watercraft would be more aware when the boat was out but that is not allowable.
- c. Fish Sustainability: Mark Kunstman said he is hopeful about going forward with the fishstick project this winter and will need to pursue permitting. He reported that he and Jeff Treu will be going to an Angler Education workshop and will be able to teach fishing seminars in conjunction with the fishing derby.
- d. Government and Community Relations: Jan Behnke said that she is postponing the website membership payment by credit card effort. Discussion was held about membership buy-in. She suggested coming up with a lifetime membership option.

New Business: Ms. Jesion said that the Clean Boats/Clean Waters program is not going to be financially supported by the DNR this year. She said a donation of \$2000.00 has already been received and asked the Board to consider contributing that remaining \$2000.00. Rose Spaar made a motion to approve the contribution and Fawn Johnson seconded. Motion approved. Ms. Jesion stated that the Association continues to receive donations and wanted the Board to think about having a separate fund specifically for donations perhaps through the Community Foundation.

Member Input: None.

Next Meeting Dates: Wednesday, April 10, 2024; Wednesday, May 15, 2024; Saturday, May 18, 2024 (Neighborhood Meet and Greet/Chairperson's Breakfast); Saturday, June 22, 2024 (Annual Meeting/Board Meeting); Wednesday, August 7, 2024 and Wednesday, October 2, 2024

Susan Walla moved and Jan Behnke seconded to adjourn the meeting at 10:00 a.m. Motion carried.