

The Association held its annual meeting on June 25th at Camp Cleghorn. If you were unable to attend, this email will provide a summary of the meeting, which lasted about an hour and a half. We would like to thank the folks at Camp Cleghorn for allowing us to hold the meeting in their open-air chapel. Business matters included approving the minutes from the 2021 annual meeting and the election of directors. Current board members Susan Gaastra and Phil Peterson were nominated to serve another term. Julie Mazzoleni was nominated to fill John Miller's board seat as John was recently elected as a Waupaca County Supervisor. The members unanimously voted to elect the new slate of directors.

Treasurer Susan Gaastra reported that the Association continues to maintain a solid financial position, and thanked all members for their dues and donations. Executive Secretary Peggy Jesion reported that the Association has 630 current members out of 850 property owners on the Chain. Neighborhood Chairpersons were thanked for their work distributing the Who's Who directories. Peggy also highlighted the Association's efforts to reach out to the community to work on projects with local organizations who share our vision. The Chamber of Commerce, the Arts Board, the Parks Department, the Waupaca Historical Society, the Sheriff's Office and the township leaders are just a few examples.

After the business portion of the meeting, four speakers shared their knowledge on important topics:

Fred Silloway provided an update on the Lakes District activities including the treatment of invasive species. Ten acres in total covering portions of Lime Kiln, Columbia, Otter, Rainbow and Sunset were treated in June 2022 and will be resurveyed in fall 2022 for results. He pointed out that the DNR revised their treatment plan for 2022. The original plan was to include 20 total acres. Next, Fred emphasized one of the top concerns from other Lake Districts around the state is the impact of enhanced wakes from wake surfing. In addition, he discussed the term "lakes carrying capacity/load;" there are currently 866 motorized boats on 794 acres on the Chain. The next phase will survey how many acres are usable and what actual activities are happening. A report should be available later this fall. Fred finished his talk with an update on the Whispering Pines Park Rehabilitation Project. In collaboration with the Waupaca Historical Society, the project involves trail work, benches and interpretive educational signs.

Dan McFarlane from the Waupaca County Land and Water Conservation Department discussed the Shoreline Habitat Survey he will be conducting this summer as well as the Healthy Lakes Program. His informative handouts from the meeting are available through his department.

Joe Udoni of Udoni and Salan Realty followed up on the report he submitted for the Spring Newsletter and gave members an update on the current strong housing market around the Chain. Inventory is tight, home prices have increased significantly in the past few years and the trend of working from home has allowed more folks to live here full-time.

Steve Kincaid from the Waupaca County Sheriff's Office reported that earlier this season one of the patrol boats was out of the water for a repair, but it is now fixed and both boats are once again available. He also answered member questions about warnings vs. tickets. Steve

stressed that the department tries to educate boaters on the rules and regulations and issues citations only when the circumstances of the stop warrant that action. In May and June of 2022, the water patrol logged 140 hours and issued 20 citations.

Jim Larson, a Sanitary District commissioner, spoke about the new RV ordinance update. The Association sent information specific to that ordinance in an email blast dated July 18, 2022.

Following the speaker presentations, President Sharon Peterson discussed the association's active and upcoming projects. In June, board member Barry Gill and others released about 800 perch fingerlings at the Taylor Lake Boat Landing in an effort to begin to improve the fishery on the Chain. Barry spearheaded this effort and paid for the fingerlings entirely out of donated funds. He and other board members will be working on ideas to get young anglers involved in the sport of fishing. Board member Rose Spaar partnered with Chuck Reynolds earlier this spring on the roadside cleanup effort. The Association hopes to take on a larger role with this initiative next year. Sharon touched on the launch of our new, updated website. Several new features should allow members easy access to information about current activities. Details will be coming in the near future in a separate email blast.

Speakers stayed after the meeting and members were encouraged to discuss their concerns and ask further questions. Many members took advantage of that opportunity.

The annual meeting is a requirement through our bylaws for our organization and the board encourages our members to attend. It is also a great way to see your neighbors after a long winter. The meeting, along with our email blasts and our upcoming new, upgraded website are intended to keep you informed of what the Association does to further our mission of preserving these unique spring-fed lakes and their surrounding environment.

Please note that the annual meeting for the Lakes District is Saturday, August 13, 2022 at 9:00 a.m. at the Town of Farmington Town Hall.

Enjoy the summer weather and our beautiful waters,
Peggy Jesion
Executive Secretary
Waupaca Chain O'Lakes Association, Inc.