

Waupaca Chain O'Lakes Association
Board Meeting Minutes
April 7, 2021
9:00 am, Dayton Town Hall, Waupaca

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order by President Sharon Peterson at 9:07 a.m.

Present: Board Members Present - Susan Gaastra, John Hebring, Lorraine Koeper, John Miller, Carl Nelson, Phil Peterson, Sharon Peterson, and Rose Spaar.

Guest(s) in Attendance - Caroline Murphy, Town of Farmington Chair; Bob Ellis, Lake District Board; Members Kay Blair, Dan and Fawn Johnson, and Lindsey Lewitzke.

Approve or Amend the Agenda: Motion made by John Hebring to approve and seconded by Carl Nelson. Motion carried.

Approve or Amend the Minutes of January 6, 2021 Board Meeting: Motion made by Carl Nelson and seconded by John Hebring to approve minutes. Motion carried.

Lake District Report: Bob Ellis stated that the Comprehensive Plan developed by the consultant, Onterra, is about finalized. He said that two new Lake District Board members have been appointed to replace two retiring members and will be voted upon at the next meeting. Mr. Ellis indicated that the Chain 'O Lakes treatment plan is still under review but they have experienced good success with the whole lake system and it appears to be working out well despite some initial concerns. He stated that there is no plan as yet for which lakes will be treated in the coming season. Mr. Ellis stated that people who are interested in being on the Lake District Board should make known their interest to him as he has authority to appoint members as chairman.

a. Treasurer's Report: Susan Gaastra stated that the Association continues to be in great shape. She indicated that net funds available to the Association on March 31, 2021 are \$23,607. Ms. Gaastra will send out the proposed budget prior to the May Board meeting.

Executive Secretary's Report: Lorraine Koeper said that the annual newsletter was delivered to all Chain property owners around March 6, 2021. She stated that she has received positive feedback on the newsletter and thanked all contributors and reported that memberships and charitable contributions continue to be received at a positive rate. Ms. Koeper said that the Parks and Recreation Committee had received over 200 calls and emails in opposition to the proposed parking area in Oakwood Park and formation of a Waupaca County Chain O'Lakes Equitable Use Committee. She stated that the Association had received several emails regarding safety issues observed on the Chain, some of which included photos.

Director Nominations and Executive Secretary Replacement for Election:

a. Director Nominations: Due to an oversight at the January meeting Rose Spaar's name had inadvertently been left off the directors up for re-election this year. Ms. Koeper made a motion to nominate Ms. Spaar for reelection at the June meeting for the 2021–2024 term along with Jan Behnke, Bob Underberg, and Sharon Peterson who had been previously nominated. John Hebring seconded the motion and it carried. Ms. Koeper said that the Association received interest from Barry Gill and Lindsey Lewitzke to join the Board. Since the Association's By-Laws require a classified Board with one-third of the directors' terms expiring each year, Mr. Gill and Ms. Lewitzke will run for the open positions for the 2020-2023 term at the annual meeting in order to allow additional members to join the Board rather than have a contested election. Ms. Peterson made the motion to nominate Mr. Gill and Ms. Lewitzke to run for election for the 2020-2023 term at the June annual meeting and John Hebring seconded. Motion carried.

- b. Executive Secretary Position: Ms. Koeper said that the Association had received a few expressions of interest in the position and after following up on them, Peggy Jesion-McCartney was interviewed by Ms. Peterson and Ms. Koeper and references checked. Ms. Koeper said that Ms. Jesion-McCartney's skill set and past experience make her very qualified for the position and she recommends that Ms. Jesion-McCartney be introduced at the annual meeting in June and be appointed at the Board meeting immediately following. Ms. Koeper indicated she would work through the summer to assist in the transition.

Committee Reports:

- a. Neighborhood Chairpersons: Lorraine Koeper stated that in light of the continuing pandemic there will not be an in-person meeting this year and distribution of the Who's Hoo will be similar to last year from her home. She said she had notified the neighborhood chairpersons of this by email.
- b. Safety and Water Quality: Carl Nelson stated that there will not be in-person classes for boater safety so it must be completed online. After discussion of the requirement to carry a boater safety certificate for those born after 1/1/89, Mr. Nelson indicated he would contact the marinas to see how that requirement is enforced for persons renting boats. John Miller stated that, in light of the public feedback, the Parks and Recreation Committee opted not to pursue creation of a Waupaca County Chain O'Lakes Equitable Use Committee. The Committee did not specifically address parking at Oakwood Park at its meeting yesterday but it appears to have been tabled for now. Ms. Koeper added that any statement that the DNR has no parking standard for the Chain is false and, although NR 1.91 was not binding upon the County in this situation as it was not seeking DNR funding or a permit for the proposed parking, Scott Koehnke of the DNR confirmed to the Association that the maximum public access standard established under NR1.91 for the upper and lower Chain combined is 33 car-trailer parking units.
- c. Safety Committee: Mr. Miller said that the Towns of Dayton and Farmington held a meeting in regard to the water patrol. He stated that Dayton has only committed to fund the boats and participate in the Memorandum of Understanding with the Sheriff's Department for the 2021 season and two of the Dayton Board members are averse to funding it beyond that date. Caroline Murphy expressed Farmington's view as to the need for the MOU in order to ensure sufficient patrol hours for the safety of the Chain going forward. The Safety Committee will continue to monitor this issue, including the related DNR grant funding.
- d. History Committee: Sharon Peterson said that the Board had agreed to a membership to the Waupaca County Historical Society in memory of former president, Mary Ann Wells.
- e. Update on Waupaca High School Scholarship - Sharon Peterson stated she had contacted Waupaca High School in regard to the \$1000.00 annual scholarship to which \$100.00 has been added for this year in memory of Dick Conover and the selection will be made on May 5, 2021.

New Business:

- a. Agenda for the Annual Meeting: Ms. Koeper said that the Veteran's Home is unavailable for the annual meeting so it will now be held at Camp Cleghorn. The Board discussed the format in light of the pandemic and determined there would be limited speakers and no snacks provided.

Member Input: Kay Blair thanked Ms. Peterson and the Board for the time and effort spent keeping members informed and representing the Chain, especially due to the activities in the last few months.

Next Meeting Date: Since there will not be a Neighborhood Chairpersons meeting, the next Board meeting date has been changed to May 19, 2021 at Farmington Town Hall.

Mr. Nelson moved and Mr. Miller seconded to adjourn the meeting at 10:59 a.m. Motion carried.

Rose Spaar
Secretary