

Muskellunge Lake Association
Board of Directors
Meeting Minutes-May 2, 2015



Call to Order and Welcome: President, Mike Newmeister

Present ✓

President Mike Newmeister	✓	Director John Kurhajec	✓
Vice President Bob Petersen	✓	Director Bill Raboin	✓
Treasurer Roger Johnston	✓	Director Dennis Rydzewski	✓
Secretary Kathleen Pallardy	✓	Director Bob (Huddy) Hodkiewicz	✓
Web Master Jeff Rappold	✓	Director Tom Cerull	✓

Mariam Johnston was also present

The minutes of the last meeting held on January 24, 2015 were approved via email.

Treasurer's Report (Roger Johnston): Balances are as follows:

Financial Statement Q2 2015

Lake Improvement Fund

Beginning Balance	\$131.39
Receipts	\$0
Disbursements	\$459.68
Balance	\$-328.29

Operational Fund

Beginning Balance	\$2,023.35
Receipts	\$0
Disbursements	\$0
Balance	\$2,023.35

MLA Fundraising/Socials

Beginning Balance	\$3,962.44
Receipts	\$0
Disbursements	\$0
Balance	\$3,962.44

Savings Accounts-Balance \$36.58

**Sub-Total Operational
Funds** **\$5,694.08**

Investment Certificates

Beginning Balance	\$10,914.79
Interest	\$0
Balance	\$10,914.79

Total All Funds/Investments **\$16,608.87**

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Lake Study Fund

Beginning Balance	\$1,212.22
Receipts	\$.45
Balance	\$1,212.67

There was discussion on the negative balance in the Lake Improvement Fund. Most of this is due to CBCW which costs \$3020 this year for 200 hours or \$15.10 per hour. Roger suggested transferring \$1,000 in funds from the Social Fund to the Lake Improvement Fund to bring balance up to a positive without affecting the bottom line.

Motion to approve transfer of funds from Social Fund to Lake Improvement Fund. Motion carried.

The MLA currently has 83 paid members.

There was a question as to the typical average the MLA carries at any point in time. Typically, the balance has stayed around \$17,000.

A motion was made to accept the financial report. Motion carried

Committee Reports

Webmaster Report (Jeff Rappold): Jeff sent out emails to the membership requesting an update for contact information. Most people are indicating a preference for continuing to receive communications in paper format. The "Items for Sale" section of the website is drawing some readership. The web activity in general has seen a spike due to the email and other communications driving people to the website. There were 600 individual sessions. Jeff is working to keep the content fresh and current. There was a suggestion to add a section for borrowing items. For instance, placing a notice asking if anyone has a crib to borrow for the weekend?

Boat Landing Report (John Kurhajec): At the last board meeting a suggestion was made to focus inspection around the boat launch area due to the traffic of boats and trailers there. John is asking for suggestions from anyone who would like to provide some guidance as to the best way to coordinate this effort. John will continue to keep in contact with the DNR regarding the CBCW contract. Mike suggested doing a weed inspection this weekend and every six weeks throughout the summer. Carolyn Scholl was announced as the Vilas county Invasive Species coordinator replacing Ted Ritter. There will be CBCW Training conducted on Friday, May 22nd from 1 to 4:00 p.m. Anyone interested please contact Caitlin Koller.

Caitlin Koller
kollerc@uwosh.edu
(920) 424-0763 Koller@uwosh.edu.

Aerator Report (Bob Hodkiewicz): Bob reported that all in all the aerator ran well this year. There were no major issues except for Bob's effort in keeping the pipe from freezing. The original "dip stick" used burned out after a short time as did its replacement. Bob had to torch it out which took about 1.5 hours. Once the aerator got going again Bob switched to a steam-based unit. Instead of putting it inside of the pipe Bob tried wrapping it along the pipe just above the water line. Bob will try this again this fall before the ice freezes, perhaps in the October timeframe. There was also some difficult in collecting the posts, as there were no volunteers to help. There is about 2600 feet of rope. A discussion revolved around using smaller sections of rope, perhaps 100 foot each. This would make it easier to retrieve the rope and posts. There was a question as to whether the aerator needs to be quite so big. There was a reminder that the DNR had made the sizing recommendations several years ago.

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Social Committee (Mimi Johnston):

The Committee cleared \$117.46 for the Winter Social. Mimi turned in a check to secure the Jan 30th at the Eagle River Inn for Winter Social 2016. Super Bowl is the following weekend this year. July 25th at 9:00 a.m. is Annual Meeting at Senior Citizen meeting. The guest speaker will be from the Discovery Center and the topic will be humming birds. There was a suggestion to put the information and link to the Discovery Center out on the MLA to encourage homeowners to attend the annual meeting and hear this interesting speaker. For the 4th of July Boat Parade Jeff Rappold discussed creating a trophy with the MLA logo. The thought is that it would become a moving flag trophy. There is a sign company in Eagle River on 70 who could create it including the art work with the MLA logo for less than \$500. This would provide us with a copy of the logo in digital format which could be used for other purposes. In comparing this proposal with other sign companies it seems to be a competitive price. There was discussion of allowing 2 votes per person. There was also discussion that it would be good to have a place on the lake to park and gather after the parade, however our lake is not conducive to that.

A motion was made to move forward with the board parade trophy. Motion carried

Water Quality (Jeff Rappold): Weed and Algae?

Once a year the DNR takes a look at data accumulated in the water testing. There were four tests taken last year. Jeff noticed that each time the tests were taken it happened to be a breezy day and that it only takes a couple of back to back breezy days for the entire lake to mix. If lake continues to remix itself in windy days there is not much we can do to keep the phosphorus down because mixing it brings up the sediment from the bottom. The DNR has a new request for this year and that is to sample the phosphorus level. Jeff has sent that in.

Fish Committee Report?

There was a 40" Muskie caught on the lake through the ice. There seems to have been more Northern Pike caught this winter than normal.

Old Business

Rock Pile Marking: There was discussion around what the board wants to buoys to say and how to anchor them. The buoys that the board will be purchasing have been designed to stand upright all the time. Each one weighs 105 pounds. After a discussion of options around the labeling it was determined that "Shallow Area" on one and "Rock" for the other would be ideal. Mike has secured the appropriate permit. There was discussion about using a chain to secure it. The manufacturer suggests using 300 pounds of concrete to anchor it. Mike will move forward with purchasing them.

Motion made and carried to purchase the (2) buoys.

MLA Membership signs: Mike had conducted some research on potential MLA signs for members. The signs would cost \$40 per sign and could include an outline of the lake and the MLA logo. There is no volume discount on the cost. Due to the cost consideration was given to bringing this up at the annual meeting. A suggestion was made to have a couple of samples made up to share at the annual meeting. Orders could potentially be taken at the annual meeting. The thought is to have the lake association fund half the cost. Perhaps we could gather input by giving members the opportunity to provide feedback on the election ballot this year. Further discussion ensued regarding what would happen to the sign when a homeowner sold their property or did not pay their dues? There was also discussion about where on the property it could be displayed. After additional discussion about whether or not the signs are a good use of the association funds there was no motion to move forward with the signs at this point in time.

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New Business: Review of the “Newcomers” information packet. Lillis Raboin led a discussion on refreshing the material that is included in the information packet providers to new lake homeowners with the goal of providing the most relevant information. A suggestion was made to add the url for the MLA website. Today the packet includes information such as local ordinances around burning permits and evasive species. A suggestion was made to add more information around the purpose of the current lake association as it has evolved over time from being a social group to being focused on protecting the lake. There was discussion around providing education information on the activities the various MLA committees take part in to protect the lake such as securing grants, lake monitoring to keep evasive species out of the lake, the aerator activates to prevent winter kill. Mike will write a welcome letter which will include this information.

Motion to update the packet material was made and carried.

Election- Will be held at the Annual Meeting in July. Suggestion made to include the date by which the ballots must be returned.

The next board meeting is scheduled for August 29th.

Meeting Adjournment