

**LAKE WAUSAU ASSOCIATION
ANNUAL MEETING
SEPTEMBER 27, 2011**

The annual meeting of the Lake Wausau Association members was held at Gulliver's Landing in Wausau, Wisconsin, on September 27, 2011 at 6:30 pm.

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order and presided over by Bill Goetz, President of the Board. The following Directors were present: Bill Goetz, Nathan Birchler, Theresa Graveen, Russ Graveen, Rick Parkin, Holly Kohl, and Dave Dalum. The following Directors were absent: Kathy Beatty and Travis Wistrom. Other members present were Russ Arneson, Diane Arneson, Norb Arnoldi, Marlys Arnoldi, Don Brekke, Seth Calonder, James Campbell, Gary Christianson, Harry Colcord, Virgil Landretti, Sue Landretti, Ralph Merwin, Maureen Noteboom, Mark Peter, Sue Peter, Jim VanEyck, Diane VanEyck, Jim Wagner, Sherri Wagner, Wendy Waraska, and Dale Waraska.

Approval of Minutes

Bill Goetz asked for a motion to approve the Special Member Meeting Minutes from March 22, 2011, which were provided as a handout to members who were present. Motion was made and seconded; motion carried.

Communications

Members were reminded to use our website (www.lakewausau.org) and email address (lakewausau@gmail.com) whenever possible. Everyone is encouraged to browse the website to stay informed of events, news, lake information, and other important matters pertaining to the Association.

We have a few LWA T-Shirts available at \$6.00 per shirt. Other merchandise will be available in the future. Type of clothing, colors, and suggestions for other merchandise can be requested by members. Merchandise is ordered by LWA from Webco, but is not available for purchase directly from Webco by members. The sale of merchandise is intended to be a fundraiser for the Association.

We encourage members to help us grow membership. Membership forms can be found on our website and are available at all our meetings. We are still seeking volunteers for our committees and encourage members to become involved in those committees.

The member picnic held on July 31st was a success. Thoughts for 2012 were to hold the picnic earlier in the Spring or later in the Fall to avoid the busy summer months, during which many people were unable to participate this year. Suggestions from members as to the best time of year for the annual picnic are welcomed. We are looking for volunteers to serve on the 2012 Picnic Planning Committee. Members who signed up for the Picnic Planning Committee during the annual meeting were Jim Wagner, Sherri Wagner, Wendy Waraska, Mark Peter and Sue Peter. Any other interested members are welcome to serve on this committee.

Annual Financial Report

Theresa Graveen reported the Association had a beginning balance of \$1,111, total income of \$2,609, total expenses of \$818, and an ending balance of \$2,902. Motion was made and seconded to approve the financial report; motion carried.

Committee Reports

Finance Committee - Nate Birchler, Chair of the Finance Committee, reported the finance committee was working on a budget for 2012 and beginning to brainstorm fundraising efforts and events to fund Association lake study costs. A 50/50 raffle (i.e., selling \$5/\$10 tickets with a goal to sell \$5,000 worth of tickets for a \$2,500 profit for the Association) was suggested and feedback from members was this would be something members would be willing to help with.

Another fundraiser to consider is taking out docks around the lake; however, this fundraiser would take quite a bit of effort. It was suggested local high school students be used for this project. It was suggested we have attorney Jim Low advise us as to any liability the Association would have for these students if we went that route.

The picnic was a successful fundraiser which brought in approximately \$300 of income. We would like to increase this in 2012.

Consideration should be given to creating a laminated map of the lake that could be sold to lake users at boat landings. Ad space could be sold to local businesses to help fund the expense of creating the map.

The local municipalities should also be approached since their budgets have funds available where projects are tied into tourism (Town of Rib Mountain).

Fundraising needs to happen quickly so the necessary funds are in place to obtain grants for the lake study.

Membership Committee – In Kathy Beatty's absence, Chair of the Membership Committee, Nate Birchler announced there are currently 64 family memberships and 33 single memberships and we'd like to grow membership in 2012. The Association relies on membership dues and donations as a significant source of funding. Membership and donation income in 2011 was \$2,126. The membership committee has a list of all the current members. Holly Kohl will post the member listing on the Association's website so others can identify those who are participating, which may encourage others to join. The Association obtained riparian owner listing and did a mailing to solicit members back in February/March of 2011. There are a number of riparian owners on that list who are not current members. If each member could invite (5) of these people (or others) to become members we could increase membership substantially. This would be a more effective approach than sending mailings.

Weed & Algae Control Committee - Rick Parkin, Chair of the Weed & Algae Control Committee, noted that Scott Provost attended our last committee meeting on September 22nd and presented on Aquatic Plant Management, as well as showed a Wisconsin River Flyover video that illustrates where the phosphorus is coming from. Scott's presentation and the flyover video will be posted on the website in the next couple of weeks. Rick and Holly Kohl (Co-Chair of the Weed & Algae Control Committee) are in the process of coordinating another meeting with Scott Provost and his colleague, Buzz Sorge of the DNR from Eau Claire, which will entail a tour of the lake to point out problem areas. The meeting is expected to occur within the next couple of weeks. The next grant deadline is February 2012, and Buzz approves the grants, so Scott suggested we meet with him as soon as we can. We need an aquatic vegetation study, which is an approximate \$20,000 study. The DNR will contribute 66% of this cost and the Association has to fund the other 33% (or approximately \$7,000). So we need to focus on fundraising efforts to raise that money. There are many methods to treat the weeds in the lake (chemical, mechanical, harvesting, etc.); however, the study needs to be done to determine which method is the best approach since some methods are more effective than others depending on the type of weeds that are present. Scott Provost also noted land owners can clear a 30 foot window of weeds

on their personal property, but it must be done manually (no machinery of any kind can be used). There is no boundary as to how far out the clearing can be done (so 30 feet all the way across the lake can be cleared). It is important that we all work together toward improving this body of water.

A member commented they heard there were plans to shut down the Domtar Paper Mill dam to draw down the lake. Rick announced he had addressed this rumor back in April by approaching his boss at Domtar who is in charge of the dam and obtained a statement from them regarding any plans to draw down the lake. Domtar has the right to draw down the lake for the safety of the residents below the dam in the case of an emergency, but they have no plans which they are aware of to draw down the lake. This statement was posted on our website Home page back in April. Domtar is spending approximately \$30,000 a month surveying the dam, and it is solid and in good shape. There is only normal repairs and maintenance work being done on the dam, which they do on an annual basis.

Old Business

The Association is still in need of volunteers for its various committees. The Weed & Algae Control Committee is the most active committee and has the most committee members, but other committees are in need of members to serve as committee members. Sign-up sheets were available at the meeting; however, there were no additional volunteers (other than the 2012 Picnic Planning Committee volunteers previously mentioned).

The Association has obtained a raffle license which will be used for our fundraising efforts.

New Business

Our current focus is seeking grants from the DNR for the aquatic studies.

The time table for noticing improvements to the lake are expected to take place by late summer of 2012 or early 2013. The start up process has been slow, but now that we have certain formalities in place, things should begin to happen more quickly. The DNR is eager to work with us and help us with funding.

Election of Directors

Three positions were up for election. The Board presented a ballot to all members in attendance with the following nominees: Jim Nauta, Dave Dalum, and Theresa Graveen. Bill Goetz asked for floor nominations and there were none. Having no floor nominations, Bill Goetz asked for a motion for a unanimous vote for the 3 nominees. Motion was made and seconded; motion carried.

Next Meeting

The next meeting is unscheduled. The by-laws call for an annual meeting to occur in September. The membership was interested in having another informative meeting sometime in the Spring.

Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 7:30 pm.

H. Kohl, Board Member