Horseshoe Lake Property Association, Inc.
Minutes of Meeting Held July 1, 2023

Call to order at 9:05 am by President Al Angen

Board Members Roll Call:

Present:
Al Angen President, Laurie Johnson-Vice President, Ed Wink-Secretary/Treasurer, Russ Cragin-Board Member, Mike Durand-Absent, Mark Hoffman-Board Member, Dino Pierotti-Board Member, Kurt Schini, Board Member

Roll Call of members Present:
32 members representing 25 properties attended the meeting.

Educational Presentation:

- Dave Blumer gave an educational presentation about Eurasian Water-milfoil (EWM) and reported on its presence in the lake. Last fall he and his daughter removed a large patch of EWM in the east basin near Nickel's dock. Dave and his daughter visited the lake and removed a number of plants primarily in the northeast part of the east basin. On June 16th, Lana Blumer and Sawyer Krah spent 4 ½ hours on the lake surveying and removing EWM plants they found. Association volunteers with either a pontoon or boat will be needed for future diver assisted EWM removal. Dates will be announced. Blumer reported that the lake is in overall good shape despite the persistent presence of EWM. Blumer announced that he will retire at the end of 2023. He is trying to find someone to take over his business, but the prospects are not good.

Old Business:

- Minutes from the 2022 meeting were presented and approved.

Treasurer's report: The checkbook balance as of June 30, 2023, was $ 21,087.65 and the certificates of deposit have a balance of $13,331.34. The amount of the certificates of deposit is a correction from the handout at the meeting which did not include the second certificate of deposit. Revenue for the year ending December 31, 2022, was $14,955.25. Expenses were $10,342.06. Projected revenue for 2023 is expected to be $12,136.50 based on dues of $2,250.00, contributions of $4,125.00, and grant revenue of $5,691.50. Projected expenditures for 2023 are expected to be $11,551.92 which is comprised of the following: $2600.00 for the lake surveys; a contribution to the Lakes Committee of $1,000.00; EWM diver removal of $1,000.00; consultant fees of $3,591.92; reserve for channel dredging of $3,000.00; decontamination station expenses of $100.00; and miscellaneous expenses of $260.00. Since we have a grant, 75% of the lake surveys, consultant fees and diver removal expenses will come from our grant. The remaining 25% expense will be for the Association.

New Business

- Dipping nets for diver removal of EWM
    - Ed Wink informed the members that there are four dipping nets under his dock to be used by volunteers assisting with diver removal of EWM by picking floating fragments from the removal.
- Monitor zebra mussel sampler plates.
    - Zebra Mussels continue to be of high concern with zebra mussels in the McKenzie Lakes chain. We have three monitoring plates for zebra mussels on Horseshoe Lake. Amy Sundland, Kurt Schini and Ed Wink have plates on their docks and are monitoring them.
- Decontamination station for Horseshoe Lake boat landing
    - Mark Witmer reported that usage of the decontamination station at the boat landing has been good based on the usage of the sprayer to spray boats. Don Palm replaced the broken sprayer that has been used for the last two years.

- Update on forming a lake district.
    - Ed Wink met with the Minong Town Board on June 19th to explore the possibility of the Board approving a petition to form a lake district. In his presentation, Wink told the board about the Association and its efforts over the past 12 years to preserve the lake as a resource for the property owners and the public. The Board did not say "yes" nor did it say "no." The Board felt that Washburn County was better positioned to help with the certification process of the lake property owners in the district and the certification of any petition presented by the Association. The Board was willing to have a representative serve as a commissioner on the board of possible lake district.
    - Wink talked to the Washburn County Clerk, Alicia Swearingen, to explore the next steps with the County. She referred him to Lisa Burns, the Washburn County Conservation Officer.
    - Lisa Burns suggested conversations with Eric Olson, UW Extension Director & Lake Specialist; Nicole Tims, Washburn County Treasurer; and Cathie Erickson, President, Washburn County Lakes & Rivers Association.
    - Ed Wink will gather more information and bring it back to the board and membership.
    - Ed Wink said that whether we form a lake district or not, we should have liability insurance and some type of independent financial review of the Association's financial activities each year.
    - Al Angen asked for a show of hands on to determine interest in forming a lake district. All present were in favor of forming a lake district.

- Loon Ranger
    - Jody Durand is the loon ranger. Notify her of loon sightings and unusual happenings with the loons. Her contact information is: Jodydurand@hotmail.com
- Beaver activity on the lake
    - There are a number of beavers on the lake, and they are taking down poplar trees. Hardware cloth covering the trunks of these trees up to a height of 3 feet will protect the trees. More information about dealing with beavers is on the DNR website.
- Minong Town Lakes Committee Contribution
    - The membership approved another contribution of $1,000 for 2023.
- Nomination/Appointment of Officers and Board members of 2023/24
    - The current board has agreed to continue to serve for another year.
- Boat Parade
    - The boat parade next year will be on Sunday, July 3rd at 2:00 pm.
- Next Year's Meeting
    - Members agreed that the annual meeting for 2024 will be Saturday July 6th at 9:00 am.
    - Next year's boat parade will be on Sunday, July 7th.
- Other items
    - Members asked about the slow sign that was near the channel. No one knew what happened to it. Some will be checking to see if they can find it.

Meeting adjourned at 10:26 am a/s/p

Ed Wink, Secretary/Treasurer
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