

Pike Lake Chain Lakes Association, Inc.
08MAY2023
Unapproved - Board of Directors Meeting Minutes
Pike Lake Fire Department Hall

Meeting called to order at

6pm by Dick Mace - President

Statement of Quorum

Board members present 10-people

Dick Mace - President, Russ Schroeder - V. President, Ann Sloane - Secretary Lynne Clemens - Treasurer, Ed Hunter, Jack Wierzba, Everret Sammis, Jim Clemmons, Steve AvéLallemand, Mike Ida

Absent

Thor Gunderson, Derek Dieringer (Web Administrator)

Guests

Nick Burndt, Bill Felch, Dave Ebert, Tim Henke

Update on Fishway Project (DNR & USFS Staff)

Nick Burndt - Park Falls West Fish Biologist, moving forward he is responsible for Logging Dam/Fish Passage questions and/or concerns.

Nick Burndt submitted a request for \$200,000 for funding which was denied for the Logging Dam/Fish Passage. The money went towards salmon fish passage in another area of Wisconsin. If the PLCLA wants to apply for future grant monies, grant funding would be more successful if there's a partnership. This doesn't mean shared costs, but rather a shared interest. Next application deadline is December 2023.

At this time Nick Burndt needs board and community approval to move forward with a fish ladder at the Logging Dam. DNR, Forest Service, Army Corps of Engineers are willing to begin work on the project. The benefits of adding a Fish Ladder to the chain's ecosystem that would outweigh any negatives. Time is of the essence in moving forward on a project of this nature; there's currently money available that may not be available in the future.

The Logging Dam would not be affected with the exception of the sheet piling under the dam. The lake levels would absolutely not change by creating a fish ladder. The Fish Ladder would lessen the net loss of the fish in our chain. The current situation at the Logging Dam has disturbed the natural order of fish retention; fish cannot get over the current levels.

08MAY2023

Mike Ida and Russ Schroeder noted concerns of water levels, and potential for invasives to enter the chain.

Lynne Clemens, Steve AveLallement and Mike Ida would like to have a listening session to gauge community support or interest in putting a Fish Ladder at the current Logging Dam.

Dick Mace suggested consideration to have Nick Burndt, Jim Mineau, Dan Eklund, and Jeff Schier do an introductory presentation to reintroduce the topic of a Fish Ladder along the Logging Dam at the Pike Lake Chain Annual Meeting on Saturday, June 10th at 10am.

Nick Burndt has agreed to have a short introductory presentation at the PLCLA Annual meeting.

Jim Clemmon and Mike Ida suggest having a more indepth informational meeting later in the summer or fall of 2023; tentative date of Saturday, August 12th, 10am at Pike Lake.

Ann Sloane will reserve Pike Lake Firehall.

Secretary's Report

Ann Sloane:

The Board minutes of 23JAN2023 were reviewed: Motion to approve by Steve AveLallement, Jim Clemmons, (2nd), carried unanimously.

Treasurer's Report

Lynne Clemens:

Motion to approve by Mike Ida, Jack Wierzba, (2nd), carried unanimously.

Public Comments

Guests' comments will be limited to ten minutes. After the public comment, the regular agenda will resume and attendees may speak only if recognized by the President.

Dave Ebert - Would like to be a point person for improving fisheries on the chain. He's looked into the management at Butternut and Schnerr Lakes. He would like to leverage the lake management reports from area lakes. Clear Lake is currently considered a lake of concern that could possibly help our chain.

Discussion of Chain Lake Fish Stocking proposal from public comment at 24OCT2022 mtg

- Steve AveLallement looked at various studies of fish growth in Escanaba. Question is: Have fish communities changed the fish population? Will changes fluctuate whether it is walleyes, bass, etc.?

08MAY2023

- Angling success was also studied; there was no correlation to numbers caught.
- Stocking walleyes per DNR, don't throw up red flags due to one bad year; counts need to be taken over several years to see consistent decline.
- Round lake is the better producing lake; that's to say it's reproducing at an average rate.
- Cribs can aid in fishing habitat for adult fish.

Committee Reports

Fisheries:

- Russ Schroeder feels the fish numbers are naturally situational and not due to overfishing or spearing.
- Steve AveLallement believes the fish numbers have to do with how many are caught rather than time of year the fish are caught.

Aquatic Invasive Species

Steve Ave'Lallement: Nothing to mention at this time.

Water (Testing) Quality

Jack Wierzba: Plan is to go out Wednesday, May 10th to due testing.

Newsletter/Facebook/Website

Derek Dieringer (Web Administrator): Nothing at this time.

Trail maintenance report

Jack Wierzba: Stated a group of volunteers will be going out Thursday, May 11th at 9:30am meeting at the Logging Dam to take a walking tour of the trail system around Round Lake.

Presentation of Proposed 2024 Budget

Lynne Clemens: 2023 Proposed Budget was submitted.

Lynne Clemens suggested a pilot program for Shore & Restoration Projects. Members of the PLCLA could apply to receive a rebate for demonstration projects on their personal shorelines.

Move to accept preliminary budget as presented Jim Clemmons, Russ Schroeder (2nd), carried unanimously.

Update and Report regarding 'Buoy' & 'No Wake' concerns (Town Ord. 23 & 99)

21MAR2023 Minutes from Town of Fifiel:

DNR – PIKE LAKE CHAIN BUOYS: Robin Miller the DNR Recreational Officer attended the meeting to inform the Town Board of the process for placing additional buoys. There was 16 buoys placed and only 10 are on the current ordinance dated March, 2015. The process should be to request the Town Board to approve an update to the existing ordinance, then a permit would have to be applied for

08MAY2023

through the DNR for a waterway marker. Then the Town Board would actually approve a revised ordinance to be posted and sent to Price County for enforcement. This process was not done for the additional buoys that were recommended from the DNR erosion study presented to the Town Board in August 2021 by the Pike Lake Association, as well as previous buoy approvals. There is an additional buoy placed by the dam, it was mentioned that the Town was told by the Federal to place that one. There was additional discussion regarding exactly how many buoys have been approved since 2015 as well as discussion regarding if residents have been potentially moving the buoys throughout the season. The Board will look further into this situation, working with the DNR representative.

A MOTION was made by J. Smith and A. Sloane to place the original 10 buoys at this time, with consideration for the previous mentioned buoys for the future.

06APR2023 Email: Robin Miller (DNR Recreational Officer):

I am attaching the guidelines for boating ordinances and waterway markers (buoys). This is the helpful guide I spoke of at the Town of Fifield meeting. All control buoys (an example is a Slow No Wake buoy) are required to have a backing ordinance and an approved waterway marker permit. Lake Associations do not have the authority to create the required ordinance or obtain a waterway marker permit, but will often work with townships and citizens towards a mutual goal.

07MAY2023

Ann Sloane sent DNR guidelines to all Board Members.

Lynne Clemens suggests having a public forum to be held this upcoming Fall to discuss replacing the 6 buoys in the lake. TBD

Proposed Project “Kids Don’t Float”:

Mike Ida is waiting for approval for the project at the Federal Boat Landing; still waiting for lifejacket funding. Seth Adler is certain the project will be approved.

Info on request to provide fish stocking from 23JAN2023 meeting

Nothing new to add

Nominations for Board of Directors at Annual Meeting:

President Dick Mace: I am not seeking re-election to President so you need to be thinking about who would be willing to assume that position as well as nominations for Vice President and 4 at large Board Members.

Those members whose term expires in 2023 (odd years) are incumbents: Steve, Mike, interim: Thor and Jennifer. Even year members which are not under this year’s consideration include Ann(secretary), Lynne(treasurer), Jack, Ed, Jim, and Everett. The bylaws provide for 2 year terms. Thor & Jennifer were appointed to assume a member who resigned during their term.

08MAY2023

- President Nominations:
 - Mike Ida
 - _____

- Vice President Nominations:
 - Incumbent Russ Schroeder
 - _____

- 4 At-Large Members Nominations:
 - Incumbent Steve Ave'Lallement
 - Interim Thor Gunderson
 - Dave Ebert
 - Jeff Witon
 - _____

Motion to approve nominations made by Jim Clemmons, Lynne Clemens (2nd), carried unanimously.

Confirmation of Annual Meeting:

10JUN2023 at 10am, Pike Lake Fire & Rescue Annex

- Nick Burndt, Jim Mineau, Dan Eklund, and Jeff Schier have tentatively agreed to have a short introductory presentation at the PLCLA Annual meeting.
- DNR Conservation Warden Thomas Heisler has been invited and confirmed.
- Price County Sheriff Brian Schmidt and Price County Recreation Deputy Seth Dabler have been invited.
- Pike Lake Fire Chief Warren Johnson has been invited and confirmed.

2024 Annual Meeting Date:

Saturday, June 10 @10am

Next Board Meeting:

Monday, June 26th @6pm

Any other items requiring Board action:

DNR listening session

Saturday, August 10th @10am

Buoy listening session

TBD

Adjournment:

08MAY2023

Motion to adjourn made my Lynne Clemens, Ed Hunter (2nd), carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted by,
Ann Sloane

08MAY2023