



**Big Sand Lake Association
Minutes of Officer's meeting, Mar 18, 2017**

President Dennis Loots called the meeting to order at 1:00pm. Present were Dennis Loots, Jim Cobb, Ginny Patnaude, Don Button, and Jerry Tjader.

Jerry Tjader gave a snapshot report of our Finances.

Balance as of 02/28/17 7,860.39

Dues/donations not deposited 50.00

Expenses:

Total Expenses None

Total Funds 02/28/17 \$ 7,910.39

Election of Officers – In even numbered years the president, vice president and two directors. are to be elected. In odd years, we need to elect the Secretary, treasurer, and one director, So, those are the positions to be elected this year and the vacant Vice President Slot requires filling. Mr. Tjader will not be running for secretary. Ms. Patnaude will continue as a director.

Professor Button suggested that the vacant VP slot be filled with a lake management savvy person to strengthen attention to improving lake health by our board. President Loots indicated deferment.

Ms. Patnaude mentioned that there had been several new property owners on the south side of the lake who probably have not been made aware of BSLA. A mailing to all lake residents was suggested, or a brochure to be developed and delivered to each lake residence. We decided on a hand-delivered brochure. Dennis will write the straw horse, and pass it by the other officers for our input.

Our annual meeting will be held June 17 at 10:00 am. Sarah Boles, owner of Northern Native Plantscapes will be the featured speaker on lakeshore restoration. Dennis will speak to Dave Ferris to see if he will come to speak about Burnett County financial incentives to do restoration. Professor Button will attempt to schedule the meeting room at the government center.

Regarding fish sticks, we decided not to pursue this project.

Property owners on Sand Lake Road, Dongola and Basswood Drive have received a survey to determine the level of interest in putting in natural gas. The line would be installed at no cost

to the homeowner provided home is within 100 feet of the road. Natural gas versus propane is about 50% less in cost

We discussed the BSLA logo and elected to use the one that Jim sent out.

Mr. Cobb suggested getting a "No Wake" buoy for the Southeast bay. Loons nest in there, and the concern is that people with personal watercraft are making waves that disturb the nest. It was agreed that Mr. Cobb should pursue the approval from appropriate authorities and price out the cost of a buoy.

Professor Button took us through an updated draft of our lake stewardship plan and indicated revision of a future presentation to clarify how the new method in water chemistry might impact Big Sand.

Professor Button has wanted to do a sediment core analysis on Big Sand Lake. At a recent meeting, he started a relationship with a Polish Norwegian center on water pollution chemistry who indicated an interest in performing the sediment analysis at no cost to BSLA .

Further the issue of current bloom toxicity was raised. Three blooms were identified, all caused by potentially toxic species of cyanobacteria. An antibody test of the first was negative but our test kit had expired. Future blooms should be reported to Button who will identify and send out for chemical analysis if toxic species are apparent. Perhaps a new test kit should be purchased. The first significant populations of diatoms (good fish food) were located early this winter