



BSLA Board meeting minutes
4/17/2018

Attendees:

- Don Button
- Jim Anderson
- Dennis Loots
- Jeanne Young

Meeting held at home of Don Button.

Topics discussed:

Set date for annual meeting. Per the by-laws the meeting is to be held on the second Saturday in June which would be June 9th. The attendees agreed to recommend to membership a change in the by-laws that the annual meeting was to be held in June but not date specific. This would allow the Board to select a date that would maximize attendance of officers and lake owners. The attendees also approved holding the meeting at the Lodge at Crooked Lake, as we did last year.

There will be no speaker at this year's meeting. An agenda will be developed and include a question and answer session with Mr. Button at the end of the meeting.

Update on membership and fund balance. Ms Young advised that the current balance was \$6,597. The number of paid members has dropped from 59 two years ago to 39 in 2017. Many members pay at the annual meeting so an accurate number for 2018 is not available.

Dicuss / investigate boat wash. DNR and Burnett County have suggested that BSLA establish a boat wash at the public landing and used the wash at Lake McKenzie as an example. Attendees agreed we should visit the Lake McKenzie boat wash, to observe the scope of work and activity that would be required. A point made during the discussion was that we normally think the boat wash would cleanse a boat coming out of Big Sand but not entering. Another perspective was "We're trying to control the entrance of these boats into the lakes," said County Conservationist, Dave Ferris. "I'm not so much worried about when they exit the boat. Ideally, we could get them to decontaminate before entering and upon exiting."

“The cost is about \$500 to \$800 for the sign, water, bleach and sprayer in total,” Ferris said. “Burnett County Lakes and Rivers Associations are currently the ones responsible for putting up the decontamination signs.”

So maybe having the decontamination station would provide something for people who came from lakes that didn’t have one. Obviously as an “honor” system it relies on the individual to do the right thing.

Lake map reprint. Initial printing of 250 maps is down to the last 50. General support was expressed for reprinting but Mr. Loots is to get estimate of print costs and advise the board before proceeding. Also, a couple of corrections need to be made regarding road names, when we reprint.

Facebook activity. While Mr. Cobb could not attend the meeting, he had advised Loots earlier that activity was nominal. Several board members indicated they have not or will not use Facebook. Attendees agreed to let the site remain active for a year and then reevaluate its continuance.

Election of officers. At the annual meeting the positions of the President, Vice President and two directors are up for renewal. All agreed that we need to reach out and encourage other property owners to serve on the Board. Mr Loots and Anderson agreed to contact a couple of individuals.

Tribal involvement. It was agreed by the attendees to actively pursue a representative from the Chippewa Tribe to attend our annual meeting. We are pleased with our annual stakeholders meeting which includes the Tribe and this would seem to be the next step in being more inclusive. Mr. Button indicated he would reach out to a Mr. Taylor, whom he believes is the current leader of the Tribe

Button expense reimbursements: Mr. Button presented the Board with a listing of expenses incurred by him for the years 2015, 16 and 17 which he felt necessary for him to do his research. On average the expenses were \$9,000 per year. Mr. Button was reminded that the Board had previously established a rule where expenses exceeding \$250 had to have prior approval by the Board. All attendees were supportive of the efforts by Mr. Button to expand his knowledge and that of the scientific community regarding lake management issues but that BSLA was not in a position to fund these expenditures.

Attendees did agree to pay for the printing cost of Lake Observer for the 2017 and approved a budget for the Lake Observer in 2018 of \$300. The Board continues to encourage the emailing of the Lake Observer to all property owners unless they specifically requested a printed and mailed copy. Mr. Button was not supportive of this recommendation, thus the establishment of a specific budget.

Establishment of a muskie population in the lake. Mr Button proposed, again, the stocking of muskie in the lake as they tolerate warming waters better than northerns/ walleyes. Mr. Anderson summarized an earlier lake stakeholder meeting in which the DNR stated they would not allow us to stock muskie. The Tribe did not support the effort either.

Mr. Loots shared with the group a 2018 research paper “Eroding Productivity of walleye populations in northern Wisconsin Lakes”

Submitted by:

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