

Little Sand Lake Area Association (LSLAA)
Board Meeting Minutes
Meeting Date: July 14, 2020
Meeting held via ZOOM

Board Members Present: (If x'd, the member was present)

X MaJeana Hallstrom- President
X Punky Catlin, Treasurer
X Cindy Nollette, Secretary
X Glenn Gapp, Director at Large
X Mark Doda, Director at Large
X Larry Odegard, Director at Large
X Wayne Swanson, Director at Large
X Steve Trutna, Director at Large
X Christine Hobrough, Director at Large

Non- Board member present:

X Jacob Nollette

Start of Meeting: 6:05 pm

Agenda:

Welcome and Call to Order--MaJeana Hallstrom, President

Secretary's Report--Cindy Nollette, Secretary

The Secretary's report for the meeting on May 27, 202 was previously sent to MaJeana Hallstrom for review. MaJeana sent the report to all Board members prior to the meeting.

Motion to approve- Christine Hobrough
Seconded motion- Wayne Swanson
Secretary's minutes approved.

Treasurer's Report and Membership Information--Charlotta (Punky) Catlin, Treasurer

Punky reviewed the current report, including expenses and the current balance.
We had 60 paid memberships and \$1360 received since June 2020. We typically have 77 paid members by this time of year. Our current balance is \$15,105.35.

The board discussed strategies to identify people that have not paid their dues, using USPS or email.
Punky volunteered to help identify the lake owners that have not paid their dues.

Motion to approve-- Larry Odegard
Seconded the motion--Christine Hobrough
Treasurer's report approved.

Old Business

Restore the Shore:

Christine Hobrough wrote an article for the newsletter on Restore the Shore.

COLA Update: Wayne Swanson

Wayne reported that Eurasian Milfoil has been identified on Big Mantrap Lake. Big Mantrap has one of the most rigorous inspection sites of all of Hubbard county.

We want to educate and remind people how important it is to remove all vegetation from their boat and trailer so stop any further transmission into the lake.

Upper Bottle Lake has faucet snails which is a problem for ducks and coots.

We discussed whether we need more signage about AIS.

Boat Launch Inspections:

We typically pay for 130 hours of inspection time. We will lose 57 hours from the state this year due to funding cuts (about 20% of requested hours). We anticipate the amount will be the same for 2021.

Wayne reported that we typically do not lose any hours from the township as our property taxes have not gone down. MaJearna asked if we wanted to make up any of those hours. The difference is about \$1200 to make up the loss from the state.

There is a Lake Emma Board meeting in February or March every year. It is decided at this meeting how funds will be allocated for AIS. If we identify how many hours we want, we usually get that amount.

A motion was made by Steve Trutna to make up the difference in funding from our AIS budget due to the loss in state funding. Mark Doda seconded the motion. The motion was approved to use AIS funds to make up the difference in DNR funded hours (57 hours) at our public inspection site.

(Note: The county will notify us when payment for LSLAA-funded hours is due, which is usually in January.)

Vegetation/AIS Update:

Surveys for Vegetation/AIS have been temporarily suspended. Surveys will continue toward the end of summer per Marshall Howe. Marshall leads that group that does vegetation sampling on our lake. Our vegetation is very healthy, so it is less likely that AIS can come in and take hold on Little Sand Lake.

Wayne will work with Marshall to monitor the vegetation on the lake.

Wayne put a Zebra Mussel sampler on our public access dock. He will check it on Labor Day and take it in for the season.

COLA Grant:

Information is available on the Hubbard County website.

Eyes on the Water:

Per Larry, we missed May to test the water. Mark and Larry have been out testing and at this point and everything looks good. Jeff Mosner sends out surveys on behalf of HC COLA regarding AIS and zebra mussels.

Membership:

We want to increase our membership. We will do a targeted email to those that have not renewed. We discussed how to obtain membership dues. Christine raised the question about the best method to collect payment, including sending out an invoice. We are actively pursuing adding a link to our website that offers an online payment option. Jacob Nollette is working with Mark Doda to narrow down our best options (Square, Venmo etc.) Jacob Nollette will create a link to use on our website once a payment solution is identified.

We will need to assess if the fees for such an option are cost-effective (around 3%). Do we absorb the cost or is the fee for the online payment option passed on to the member?

Once we have (or are aware of) a new resident on the lake, we will try to get a new member packet delivered to them.

We will look at updating the directory and provide a hard copy next year. It is an ongoing process to update the changes in the lake owners for the directory. Only paid members would get a hard copy of the directory.

New Business

Budget:

At our annual meeting Maggi Yerkes suggested we look at moving some money from our General fund to our CD.

Steve Trutna and Punky Catlin proposed that we move \$5,000 into a CD. Christine Hobrough seconded the motion. Motion carried to move \$5,000 into a CD.

We incurred some expenses including \$53 for gifts for the Annual Meeting. We paid \$50 for the Freshwater Festival. MaJeana will purchase a gift for Jacob Nollette for the work he has done on the website and our annual meeting.

2020 Annual Meeting

We had a very positive response to our annual meeting with the Zoom format.

Website:

Jacob Nollette has taken over the management of the website. He had a seamless transition with the work that Karen Smith and Diane Netland did on it. Jacob assessed costs and was able to secure hosting at a cost less than what was previously budgeted. One of the goals is to increase security of the website. Jacob will work with Mark and Punky to establish the online payment option.

Cindy raised the issue to how to get lake owners to utilize the website. A suggestion was made to think about ways to engage the younger community, provide access to "lake activities", local businesses etc. MaJeana reported that many visitors use the website to gather information about the lake, the area, activities etc.

The Board discussed other ideas to further develop the website. It was suggested that we look at the sites from other Lake Associations to see what they are doing.

It was suggested that as board members, we look at other websites. Information can be sent to Jacob Nollette. Jacob will collect information and present it at our next meeting.

Wayne suggested we look at adding a FAQ section on the website.

Newsletter:

Articles have been submitted to LuAnn O'Neill, and the newsletter is in process. Many thanks to LuAnn and all who contributed!

VRBO concerns:

Christine raised concerns about the VRBO's that are in the last bay/Mirimichi side of the lake. There have been several incidents of trash left on the lake during ice fishing season. There was one incident where a baby loon was killed by a boat. Christine reported that she has contacted several country departments and has had no helpful response.

It was suggested that the Association could put something together for the VRBO owners to put in their cabin information book that is available for their renters. We could include information about the lake and provide guidelines for maintaining a healthy lake, pick up trash, noise limitations etc. Most importantly, we want the owners to be aware of any concern other lake owners have about the renters and lake management and safety. We are not aware if there are any health department issues since there are larger groups that can rent the homes. Concerns were identified about the number of people that can share some of the cabins.

We are not aware how other surrounding associations deal with VRBO issues such as these. Larry will ask the president of Big Sand about any concerns they may have experienced as well as how the association has addressed any concerns. Christine is going to follow up with the health department to see if there is any information that neighbors and other lake owners should be aware of regarding potential violations.

(Note: Both Christine and Larry followed up on these questions and may share their findings at the next Board meeting.)

Adjourn:

Larry Odegard made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Mark Doda seconded the motion. All attending approved the motion to adjourn.

End of meeting: 7:44 PM

Respectfully Submitted,

Cindy Nollette, Secretary

**Little Sand Lake Area
Association BOARD
MEETING
MINUTES**

Meeting Minutes Draft

Subject to review and
approval at the next Board

May 27, 2020

6:00pm

Secretary's Report – February 25, 2020

Steve moved to approve, and Wayne seconded a move to approval. Motion carried.

Treasurer's Report – Punky Catlin

Punky reviewed the current report, including expenses and current balance.

Larry moved to accept the Treasurer's report and Steve seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Unfinished/Ongoing/Old Business

- Restore the shore:

Grants will be available for shoreline restoration projects. Information about the grants can be obtained through the Hubbard County COLA website.

- COLA update:

Wayne reported that boat inspections have started. We will continue to monitor for the presence of zebra mussels and other invasive species.

MaJearna will attend the upcoming COLA meeting to learn more about how they are going to handle meetings virtually during the pandemic.

- Membership:

At the time of the meeting only 10 people had renewed their membership for 2020. We discussed a need for new strategies to reach out to membership to obtain renewals and new members since we were not having a face to face meeting this year. An email will go out asking for renewals sent to Punky ASAP. In order for members to vote, their membership needs to be up to date. We often get many people paying the day of our annual meeting. Since we are not meeting in person, we need to get information out to our members quickly to increase members before the meeting on June 13, 2020.

We discussed the benefit of establishing an online payment option through our website. Jacob Nollette, Mark Doda, Larry Odegard and others will explore options to establish

an alternative payment solution moving forward (such as using Square, Venmo, Stripe or Paypal). MaJeana will reach out to Diane and Karen to obtain information about our website and discuss adding the payment option to the site. There will be fees associated with whatever solution we decide on.

☐ Donations:

We discussed adding a spot on our website that allows for online donations. Larry stated that we

could potentially increase donations through use of our website. We could establish a separate page on our website specifically for donations. We will need to address this issue with Diane Smith and Karen Netland who currently manages the website.

New Business

☐ Budget:

No new information was presented or discussed

☐ Directory:

We agreed to not print the directory at this time. We will try to keep our current member list up to date on the website. It is costly to print the directory. We will postpone the printing for 2020 and reassess next year.

☐ Annual Meeting:

We reviewed the draft of the Annual Meeting Agenda. We will need to meet virtually this year through ZOOM. Cindy Nollette and Jacob Nollette will send out a link to MaJeana that members can use to access the meeting. We will discuss mechanisms for presenting, voting, etc. over the coming weeks. We will set up a “practice” session for members that would like to get familiar with how ZOOM functions for the meeting. MaJeana and others will use the practice session to become more familiar with various functions of a virtual meeting. We will need to take attendance at the meeting. We will explore options for recording the meeting and then posting it (such as on You Tube) for members that are interested. Information will be gathered on that process in the coming weeks (by Jacob and Cindy Nollette).

- Who will present?

MaJeana will put together a power point for the meeting. She will put together an agenda with others that will present. We will need to address how to manage multiple presenters for the ZOOM meeting. Jacob and MaJeana will work on the mechanics of introducing each presenter.

- Doug Kingsley, our DNR Fisheries person will not be presenting this year. Little Sand will not be stocked due to COVID. The lake will not be restocked until 2022.

Doug is retiring at the end of the year so we will get a new DNR rep at that time.

○ Election/ re-election of officers

- MaJeana, Mark D, Glenn G and Cindy N are not up for re-election.
- Steve T and Larry O are up for re-election and will run again.
- **We need to find another Board member to replace Karen Carlson. Need to do this prior to Annual Meeting.** (MaJeana might have someone.)
- We need to start thinking about recruiting a “replacement” for MaJeana as president in 2021.

○ Door Prizes:

Our association will pay for a few door prizes. We are not able to get the donations we typically get due to COVID and the impact on our local businesses. Larry will ask at the liquor store. We will also check with Zorbaz and Hafners. Angela Albee will once again provide a donation of logo merchandise.

● Other:

We hope we can have our annual summer picnic. MaJeana offered to host again this year if we are able to have a summer gathering in August.

● Adjourn:

Steve moved that we adjourn and Wayne offered a second motion to adjourn. Motion carried to adjourn.

Board Members:

If “x’d”, the member was in attendance.

MaJeana Hallstrom: President

Punky Catlin: Treasurer

Mark Doda, Director at Large

Wayne Swanson, Past President/COLA Representative

Steve Trutna, Vice President

Larry Odegard, Director at Large

Cindy Nollette, Secretary

Karen Carlson, Director at Large (This will be Karen’s last meeting)

Glenn Gapp, Director at Large

Respectfully submitted,
Cindy Nollette, Secretary.

ATTACHMENT B – LAKE MANAGEMENT COMPANY

From: Little Sand <karenanddi@gmail.com>
Date: July 7, 2020 at 12:12:50 PM CDT
To: m_hallstrom@yahoo.com
Subject: LSL Website: New Message from Dan McEwen
Reply-To: dan@limnopro.com <dan@limnopro.com>

Greetings,

We are a lake management company based out of St. Cloud, MN that works all over the state. One of our primary services is aquatic plant management, including surveys, herbicide treatments, and vegetation management plans. We are on lists of recognized plant surveyors and herbicide applicators put out by the MN DNR (see <https://www.dnr.state.mn.us/invasives/iapm.html>). Most lake associations we work with are able to get some funding help with plant management from county or state sources. We are still scheduling nuisance aquatic plant management service for this year. I invite you to take a look at a few example products stored here at our Google Drive.

https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1QP SugpyEFT3by6tQekde8M0rp8J2_nSN?usp=sharing

Let us know if we can be of service to you by sending us an email at dan@limnopro.com or giving me a call at 320-342-2210. In the meantime, take a minute to look at our website at www.limnopro.com.

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-Dan McEwen (dan@limnopro.com)
