

January 6, 2012

Chairman Jim Michels opened the quarterly meeting of the District of Powers Lake with the Pledge of Allegiance.

1. Roll Call. Neal Kuhn, Mike Halvorson, Judy Jooss, Jim Michels, Nancy Michael, Colleen Keating. Brooke Jensen was absent.
2. Approval of Minutes. Colleen Keating made a motion to approve the minutes as presented. Judy Jooss seconded. Motion carried.
3. Citizen Comments. None
4. Kenosha/Racine Land Trust. Representatives Ron Rasmussen and Nan Calvert of the Land Trust gave an interesting presentation on the advantages of placing properties in a Land Trust. Property owners can designate how they want their property to remain – always be farmed, to stay natural or however they want their property protected forever. Ownership of the property does not change, it can be sold although the land use would stay as it was designated. Land can also be donated to the Land Trust. By creating an easement, it gives property owners another option for their property. The District is interested in acquiring more wetlands. An informational meeting will be set up with representatives from the Kenosha/Racine Land Trust, the Zoning Office and wetland property owners.
5. DNR and/or other Grants. Neal will continue working on the grants. The agreement with USGS for water quality testing was received, signed and returned.
6. Watershed Management – Hey & Associates, Inc. David Kraft from Hey & Associates gave a report on the floodplain around Powers Lake. Kenosha County maps show a Zone A floodplain while Walworth County maps show a lake elevation of 833.0. He feels this elevation is incorrect. SEWRPC will be conducting a study but it is unknown when it will take place. There is no flooding around Powers Lake. Hey & Associates could continue the study with a model for planning purposes. However it might put some properties in the flood plain requiring them to purchase flood insurance.
7. Tree Damage and Animal Control. Keith Keating was walking on a property on 91<sup>st</sup> Street and noticed some trees down ed by beavers. One homeowner had 27 trees destroyed. A trapper was hired and caught 4 beaver. Pictures of the large beavers were passed around. Their food storage is still in the water. The channel is now blocked from the fallen trees. Discussion followed on who is responsible to clean the channel. A motion by Neal Kuhn to contact 2 or 3 arborists to bid on physical removal and disposal of the fallen trees and to clear the beaver food pantry. Judy Jooss seconded. Motion carried.
8. Wetland Management and/or Property Acquisition. Colleen will send a letter to the wetland property owners informing them about the District; provide information about a potential purchase by the District or other alternatives. A special meeting will be scheduled to meet with them.
9. Aquatic Plant Management. There is one more year on the grant. It was questioned if there would be more weed growth with the open winter. Neal will get a proposal for plant treatment.

10. Treasurer's Report. In the absence of the treasurer, Judy gave out the final report for 2011. Ending balances are: General Fund \$19,040.57, General Fund CD \$10,000.00, Wetland Cash Fund \$14,051.64, Wetland CDs \$40,907.88 and Total of all Funds \$84,000.09. The contribution from the Town of Randall was not received. The 2012 planning worksheet and the 2012 operating funds journal were presented and reviewed. Nancy Michael made a motion to accept the Treasurer's report for 2011. Colleen Keating seconded. Motion carried. A motion by Nancy Michael to cash in the general fund CD. Neal Kuhn seconded. Motion carried. Colleen Keating made a motion to pay the anticipated bills for January, February and March. Neal Kuhn seconded. Motion carried.
11. Wisconsin Lakes Convention. Judy will be attending the Lake Convention. Colleen and Nancy will not be able to attend this year. There is a Wetland Conference in Lake Geneva and the Wisconsin Association of Lakes is having a workshop in Delavan on January 21<sup>st</sup>. Board members are urged to attend one of them.
12. Town of Randall/Kenosha County Issues. Two supervisors are up for election in April.
13. Village of Bloomfield/Walworth County Issues. The Village of Bloomfield is having an election to elect their new Village Board officials in February.
14. Newsletter. It was a very good newsletter.
15. DPL Website. Nothing to report.
16. Citizen Comments. Nancy Michael said there are two poles in the water that are now frozen in that should be marked so snowmobiles don't run into them.  
Copies of the Lake Protection Plan for Powers Lake were passed out to the Board members. The next meeting dates will be March 23<sup>rd</sup> and June 8<sup>th</sup>.
17. Adjourn. Nancy Michael made a motion to adjourn. Neal Kuhn seconded. The motion was carried and the meeting adjourned at 8:15 p.m.

Submitted by  
Phyllis Kaskin