

Minutes of the District of Powers Lake Quarterly Meeting, June 13, 2014

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Neal Kuhn at 5:05 p.m. and all said the Pledge of Allegiance.

1. Roll Call:

Present were Judy Jooss, Nancy Michael, Neal Kuhn, Jim Michels, Mary Adams and Brooke Jensen. Mark Halvey arrived later.

2. Approval of minutes from the 4/4/2014 quarterly meeting:

Motion to approve April 4, 2014 minutes by Neal Kuhn, seconded by Judy Jooss. Motion carried.

3. Citizen Comments:

None

4. Treasurer's Report:

The treasurer reported \$41,625.80 in the general cash fund, wetland \$65,936. Motion to approve anticipated expenses by Nancy Michael, seconded by Mary Adams. Motion carried. Motion to approve treasurer's report by Neal Kuhn, seconded by Nancy Michael. Motion carried.

5. DNR and other grants:

A DNR attorney told Jim Michels they have 10-12 million dollars set aside for property acquisitions.

6. Aquatic Plant Management:

Map of pre-treatment showed 9.8 acres EWM and 1.8 acre of CLP. Treatment was May 30th. Paul Kucerepa reported hundreds of dead fish on the shoreline in town which he thought was due to the treatment, either too concentrated or wrong chemical. Nancy and Mary drove to the house and took pictures. There were not hundreds of fish. Also, checked former Pyt Stop property and no fish there. Neal sent pictures to Stantec. Evidently Mr. Tisdale had called the DNR and they had already been out and taken samples. It was determined to be columnaris virus which occurs when the lake warms up quickly and spawning causes stress. The water temperature was already 74 degrees. Stantec and the DNR had replied by 7 p.m. EWM was not even treated in that area, just CLP. Stantec reported there were dead fish along shoreline before they treated.

Northern WI lakes are going to try and treat zebra mussels with a biologic agent. Our zebra mussel population is holding since they have eaten all they can from the food bank so they are a self-limiting colony at this time.

7. Watershed Management:

The north side of the lake has the usual wetland dispersal of tea colored water from the tannic acid and hummus in the wetland. It is natural and of no concern.

8. Wetland Management:

Mary Adams referred to and read our Mission Statement. She presented a map showing 2 current parcels we purchased in 2000 covering 73 acres. Map also showed wetlands for possible acquisition from 4 family members who approached the DPL about possible purchase. Now 1 family member is not interested. The family will contact us if and when they are ready to sell.

Colleen Keating had sent out letters to all or most of property owners of wetland in the watershed. No one was interested at that time. The proposed parcel is adjacent to our property, which is in Randall. Our 2 other parcels are in Wheatland. The proposed wetland has a higher quality of wetland plants and is strategic to the drainage way. Wetlands should only be visited in fall or spring due to mosquitoes. The proposed property comes up to Bloomfield Rd. Mary said that SEWRPC on pg. 23 of the lake management plan has commended us on property acquisition. We were able to decrease the amount of phosphorous from 2,040 to 1,225 parts per year in 2011. This decrease can be attributed to 2 things, our extensive campaign on community awareness and land acquisition. They recommend we continue to purchase land. Laws can be reversed and amended and not protect these wetlands. Kenosha County said that technically this land couldn't be developed. Any decision would have to be made at the annual meeting or a special meeting. We need a price or not to exceed X number of dollars.

9. Wisconsin Lakes Convention:

Judy related that the convention was moved back to Stevens Point after 10 years in Green Bay. 2 new hotels have been built. Vendors are handy and the research session was very interesting. Whole lake treatments are being done now in WI rather than the spot treating. The DNR has been stingy on approving these. Earlier treatments used too strong a solution and killed more native plants. They have found effective concentrations now. The next phase of study may indicate which lakes would be suitable. Silver Lake had a 50% reduction in the EWM the first year.

Other aquatic plant sessions indicated that sometimes treatment has been too early when there is not enough plant mass to absorb the correct amount of chemical. Enough growth is needed to absorb the full treatment.

10. Shoreline Protection:

Regarding recent actions at Honey Bear Farm, Mary Adams had handouts with before and after photos. There are many complaints. Mary Adams and Ken Monroe talked to 2 DNR reps, as did Jill Murphy, zoning administrator. The building inspector shut down work on June 11. No work was to be done until the owner cleaned up what is there. Stumps should not have been ground out per DNR. No demo permit or any kind of permit had been issued. The question is what regulations apply and who does what? The DNR is to enforce state statutes and the Village their own ordinances. Ken Monroe said the Village has adopted the ordinances a year ago and is consistent with the DNR. The DNR has a letter of inquiry about the 10,000 feet of shoreline. Property owner would be allowed a 30 ft. view corridor. The DPL has delegated Mary Adams to act for the district. Jim can meet with Ken Monroe. We can act as an advisory capacity. Mary Adams can draft a letter referring to the permit process and restoration. We are at a crucial point so a precedent can be set and enforced/penalized. Let Bloomfield know we will work in partnership with them. Can we coordinate with Randall so we have a cohesive approach?

11. Town of Randall/Kenosha Issues:

250 copies of the common sense flyer will be printed for the Knolls piers, Oakland piers and Knolls Civic Association.

12. Village of Bloomfield/Walworth Co. Issues:

Mary Adams said the new owner wants 3 condos on the former restaurant property. Tom Powell mentioned he talked to the Walworth County assessor as to how values are calculated. The first 60 feet of frontage are taxed at \$7,500/ft., 2nd 40 ft. of frontage taxed at \$3,000/ft.; more than 200 ft. of frontage is taxed at \$2,000/ft. No standard per foot basis for one parcel of land. The Town of Randall assessor says that he has 5 different zones around the lake that are taxed in differing dollar amounts. Tom said muck frontage has a 10-11% lower value.

The B&B on the point usually has standing water in the yard. Owner dug a trench draining standing water into the culvert, under the driveway and directly into the lake by the outlet. Will silt build up there? Nancy informed zoning administrator Joan who said she needed an address and something in writing. Could this affect the outflow of the lake creating high water levels? Unfiltered water is going into the lake. Dan Adams also mentioned a cantilevered deck overhanging the lake on the north shoreline. DNR has seen and said not allowed.

13. Newsletter:

Common Sense flyer is excellent and well received.

14. DPL Website:

15. Preparation for Annual Meeting Friday August 1, 2014:

The budget was discussed. Carryover was \$22,000 and levy will be \$29,000 with total budget being \$51,000. A motion to approve the 2015 operating budget as amended was made by Nancy Michael, seconded by Mary Adams. Motion carried. Mary has put in an application for Lakewood School. No speaker as of yet. For election, we have the resident list/election committee with Charlie Gitzinger and Hilary Navarowski.

16. Citizen or Commissioner Comments:

17. Other:

Next quarterly meeting set for October 3, 2014.

18. Adjournment:

Nancy Michael made a motion to adjourn, Neal Kuhn seconded. The meeting was adjourned at 7:12 p.m.