

Minutes of the District of Powers Lake Quarterly Meeting, October 3, 2014

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Neil Kuhn at 5:00 p.m. and all said the Pledge of Allegiance.

1. Roll Call

Jim Michels, Deron Johnson, Judy Jooss, Brooke Jensen, Neal Kuhn, Mary Adams, and Mark Halvey were present.

2. Approval of Minutes

No updates were approved on this date.

3. Citizen or Commissioner Comments

There was a discussion of water testing using a volunteer if possible. Discussion ensued as to how other jurisdictions perform water sampling, including the Town of Randall, Browns Lake, Bohners Lake, Silver Lake, and Lily Lake. Judy and Neal will talk to Twin Lakes to see who does their testing.

The location of the Annual meeting was discussed. The capacity of the town hall is 70 people, more professional in appearance, and closer to Powers Lake. The school does have facilities for projectors, while town hall does not.

Neal Kuhn reported that he updated the directory of Commission Members and sent to various municipalities, including the Town of Randall, Village of Bloomfield, Walworth County, Kenosha County, Land and Conservation, SEWRPC, and UW extension.

4. Treasurer's report

§ \$21,047.87 general

§ \$66,258.00 wetlands

§ \$42,023.51 CDs

- a. \$11,600.00 expected expenses for end of year, all under budget.
- b. Anticipated expenses: the only over-budget item was aquatic plant management, since the post-treatment survey was \$800 more than anticipated..
- c. Is there a donation coming from Randall for \$2,000? Mark will update on any donation.
- d. Website expenses. There will probably be fees associated with email services, updates and management charges for updating website.
- e. Information/Education. We put a little more in that segment for next year. Have \$2,150 in budget balance. \$4,500 in contingency.

Motion to approve the anticipated expenses for the quarter. Mary Adams so moved, seconded by Deron Johnson. The motion carried unanimously.

Jim Michels moved to accept the Treasurer's report. Deron Johnson seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

5. Aquatic Plant management

Neal Kuhn reported good results on the aquatic plant management. Post-treatment survey of 7 acres of milfoil treated. There is very little curly leaf, which is good news. Our plant life is a good indicator of water quality.

6. Watershed Management

There was an update on the decisions made on Honey Bear.

A settlement was reached between the neighbors and the new owner of the former restaurant. Two items were not resolved, which are the extent of the restoration plan and possible DPL involvement with other properties that are disturbed like this in the future. It was noted that several entities are considering redrafting their shoreland ordinances, notably Walworth County, the town of Randall and the Village of Bloomfield.

There was a discussion regarding Walworth's shoreland protection which was much more restrictive than the Village of Bloomfield, and whether ordinances could be made consistent across the various municipalities. The way it is now, the Village of Bloomfield regulates its side of the lake, with Kenosha County and Town of Randall on the other side. Kenosha County is considering shoreland ordinance modifications and a study of the shoreline is being conducted. The District would promote the strictest ordinances possible, with special recognition to the DPL Charter and best interests of the lake.

Given the recent changes that the Village made to the shoreland ordinance, several commissioners felt that the DPL should be involved in modifications to ordinances. Several changes of concern involve increasing density on the shoreland. For instance, the requirement of 40,000 square feet for an improved lot, if in shoreland, is being changed to 4 dwelling units per acre. Given that an acre is 43,560 square feet this is a dramatic increase.

Extensive discussion ensued regarding the importance of education concerning shoreland protection, and how to reach out to the Village and County with the objective of being involved in ordinance changes, resources, and offering our help.

There was discussion of outreach efforts to the Village of Bloomfield resulting in designating Deron Johnson as the liaison to the Village.

A citizen expressed her concern of the state of Honey Bear.

The Citizen was not impressed Village of Bloomfield's protection of the Honey Bear shoreland, and thought that a time limited should be imposed along with a complete landscaping by the end of December. Erosion and runoff are serious concerns.

Further discussion between Commissioners on Honey bear property issue, specifically the landscaping/restoration issue.

Judy Jooss made motion to designate Deron Johnson liaison to Village of Bloomfield, seconded by Jim Michels, all were in favor, and the motion carried unanimously. Since Judy Jooss is already a Kenosha liaison, it was thought that no other Commissioner needs to be formally appointed at this time.

7. Management Wetland

Nothing to report.

8. Wisconsin Lakes Convention:

The convention is in April, exact date to follow.

9. Shoreland Protection

Shoreland protections/ water shed, Deron Johnson: discussion of possible outreach to landscaping companies, etc. to review shoreland ordinances, good stewardship. Possible newsletter topic (should happen in winter). Can forward/engage landscapers, educate owners. If more than 10,000 feet of ground clearing they need permit (from state), or below the normal high water mark. Shoreland seawall, they need DNR permit.

10. Town of Randall/Walworth County

Mark Halvey provided an update on Randall, which included outlining boat launch fees. Randall raised the boat launch fee next year from \$7 to \$8; Twin Lakes is at \$8 dollars for daily now. Randall resident \$15 (annual pass) going up to \$30, non-Randall resident to use boat launch \$22.50 up to \$60. Ch 20 is under review by the Town of Randall, but there was no update available.

Mark Halvey collects money out of launch, and issues tickets for fines or warnings if parked at boat launch without trailer/annual pass. Tickets are \$50.

Judy Jooss reported no updates from Kenosha.

11. Village of Bloomfield/Walworth County already discussed.

12. Newsletter

There was discussion of graphics, email opt outs, etc.

13. Website

Mary Adams and Judy Jooss have been spear heading website refresh, including clean up possibilities corrections and stylistic suggestions. Neal Kuhn: Website evolving. Going live, ok to send webmaster changes (spelling), and maintenance of links. There is no special meeting necessary for those items. Some concern expressed about the "turn out of the website," and the progress of the refresh. The Target for loading content is at the end of January. Discussion of who is hosting, and which server will be used. Jim Michels commented that the Website is coming along, nice pictures of lake, and it looks good.

Discussion of sending emails and newsletter from the website, generating a data base for contact information (tax rolls). Discussion of generational issues of mailed or e-delivered newsletter. Board HAS to have a mailed annual newsletter, quarterly newsletters COULD be send electronically (only). Several citizens expressed preference for mailed copy. Electronically mailed newsletters can be forwarded, or printed. Mailed copies may be read by some that may have deleted email (containing e-newsletter). Neal Kuhn: we have 60-70 email addresses.

14. Citizen and/or Commissioner Comments

None.

Any other business, citizen comments? No

15. Other

Brooke Jensen: Inherited small suitcase from Bill Lynch.

Next meeting date January 9th, 2015.

Motion Adjourn: Deron Johnson, seconded Brooke Jensen, all in favor and the motion passed unanimously.