

ROCK LAKE IMPROVEMENT ASSOCIATION

www.rocklake.org

Minutes for December 17, 2018, at 6:30 p.m.,

City of Lake Mills City Hall, 200 Water Street, Lake Mills, WI 53551

- 1) **Call to Order** – 6:30 p.m.
Members present: Jim Colegrove, Wes Dawson, Nathan Pyles, Susan Trier, Bonnie Nolan,
Absent: Lianna Spencer, Candace Diaz Ralph DePasquale, Mike Neemann, Stan Smoniewski
Guests: Patricia Cicero
- 2) **Motion to accept the agenda** - made by Jim, seconded, and unanimously approved.
- 3) **Good News Minute** – meeting participants shared recent good news
- 4) **Secretary’s Report** – Motion to approve November 2018 minutes made by Jim, seconded, and unanimously approved.
- 5) **Treasure’s Report** –
 - a) November financial statements had been electronically distributed by Jim.
 - b) Jim reported that Wes has purchased the 2nd of the 4 Certificate of Deposits which the RLIA board previously approved so as to earn a higher rate of interest on our funds in savings. The 3rd CD will be purchased in March, and the 4th in June. Jim recommended that we close our RLIA bank savings account after the final scheduled CD is purchased. Nathan made a motion to approve the closing of the savings account after final scheduled CD is purchased, seconded, and unanimously approved.
- 6) **Public Comment(s)/Correspondence**
 - a) No public in attendance.
 - b) Jim distributed several flyers from state lake organizations.
- 7) **Committee Reports**
 - a) Water Quality. Note this has been split into 4 subcommittees:
 - i) Agricultural – Update from Patricia
She made contact with Rick Roedl of Daybreak Foods and asked if they would be interested in helping us form a Producer-Led group within the Rock Lake Watershed. She reported Rick was interested, and in fact they have been asked in the past by their egg buyers what actions they are taking to support environmentally sound practices. Daybreak is very busy now with their new expansion and Patricia will follow-up with Rick when he has more time.
Susan Trier will research if there is a term used to convey that a farmer practices the latest land stewardship techniques.
Patricia shared the idea that the Oconomowoc Producer-Led group has made signs that a farmer can post on their property with the group logo. The logo shows ag lands and lakes, conveying good stewardship practices. We agreed that RLIA could consider doing something similar in the future once a producer-led group is formed.

- Ag Update from Nathan

Nathan has not yet heard back from Andrew Stiles on his contacts with RL watershed farmers. Michelle Scarpace from UW Extension is continuing to organize Jefferson county farmers with progressive land stewardship practices. Her goal is to get their participation in forming the nucleus of a Jefferson county Producer-Led group.

We will 3 opportunities to present and recruit RL farmers for a Producer Led group – Michelle’s Jefferson County event, Dodge County Healthy Soils event, State wide event in Stevens point.

Nathan and Wes reported they met with Martine Koeppel of the Land Trust Network to see if they would be interested in holding a conservation easement on any of the property next to the Mijala channel. Martine said the LTN would be interested and she could help advise landowners on potential tax breaks for putting all or a portion of their lands into an easement. Wes will reach out to potentially interested landowners to see if there is any interest in meeting with Martine. Patricia reported that Jefferson County may also be interested in purchasing land adjacent to the Mijala channel to expand Korth Park. Wes will reach out to Jefferson County Park contact to explore.

The LTN holds an easement on 10 acres of land on the northwest shore of Rock Lake. If it makes sense based on RL turtles nesting patterns, LTN would allow construction on the lake front portion of this property for the construction of a turtle nesting sanctuary. The goal would be to prevent the turtles from trying to cross County B and risk being hit by cars.

Patricia mentioned that the DNR also has land on the north end where a turtle sanctuary could be constructed. A typical sanctuary uses a fence to prevent turtles from travelling further with augmenting soils in front of the fence to create ideal egg laying conditions. She recommended further study of turtle migration patterns to determine the ideal location for an egg laying sanctuary.

Note to Stan: Martine also shared she would welcome volunteers on this property for environmental cleanup and garlic mustard pulls.

ii) Residential – Susan

Patricia shared that the updated Rock Lake Management plan will be back from the printer on 12.18!! She will have copies at the next RLIA board meeting.

Susan asked for feedback on a multipronged promotion to make the community aware of the new management plan. This launch includes:

- Request 10 minute presentation time before the LM Town and City boards to summarize the plan and ask for their support in areas where their support is required.

- Lake Plan Community Rollout

- * Make a display stand that could include quotations from community members expressing the importance of Rock Lake in their lives, as well as plan highlights. This display would be used for Town & Country days and for several Brew with a View events Tyrana Brewery will organize this year at Korth Park. Bonnie and Susan may work with Cream City Marketing on ideas for this display.

- * Susan will write an article for the Leader

- * We will participate in Town & Country Days and promote sign-ups for the Lake Tour

- * We will present the plan to participants in the Lake Tour which Susan is organizing.

* If Susan can find someone willing to organize a volunteer recognition party, then we will consider holding a party – potentially at Tyranena Brewery on June 2nd. She will report back on progress at January meeting.

iii) Streets – Jim

The City has agreed to no longer dump snow next to the Mill Pond unless all other options are full. Waiting for Jim’s confirmation.

Jim 12.20.18 Follow up note: “City will use the old access road by the mill pond for snow only as a last resort if we get a lot of snow and the 2 primary locations are filled up.”

iv) Water Sampling. No updates.

b) Habitat. No updates

c) Membership and Lake Recreation – Bonnie

Bonnie will reach out to communicate with new Chamber person.

d) Public Outreach (Susan/Stan)

See comments above

9) **Other Reports.**

a) County. Patricia

There will be a discussion at the 12.18 City Council meeting on the Sandy Beach Project.

10) **Old Business**

a) Do we contribute to Town’s tough book purchase? if so, how much?

Conclusion – RLIA will not contribute

b) Discuss and approve Nathan’s language on Facebook/website posting for odor

Conclusion – Jim made a motion to approve after new edits are completed, seconded, approved.

c) Discuss and approve 2019’s “major” event - tour, lake mgmt rollout or combination

See notes above. Lake Tour is approved for 2019 activity.

d) Discuss and approve Susan’s letter to riparian owners on Healthy Lake grants

No update

e) Discuss and approve Jim’s selection of shelters

Jim asked for board approval of new shelter. Nathan made a motion to approve spending up to \$300 for a 10 x 10 shelter, seconded and unanimously approved.

f) Discuss Jim’s ice rescue idea for Knickerbocker Days and do we move forward?

We will be proceeding with Knickerbocker demonstration booth assuming Bill Kreiger is still available to lead the dive. We do not a display booth or handouts for this event.

g) In-lake clean up - pending until we identify a pontoon owner willing to assist

No update

11) **New Business**

a) Select date and location of 2019 RLIA’s annual meeting

Korth Park was unavailable for 2019. We will be at Lower Rock Lake County Park on August 24th this year. Wes suggested that we reserve a shelter for 2020 as soon as they are available for reservation.

Jim 12.20.19 follow-up: "We can request Korth Park for 2020 on June 1st 2019"

12) Next board meeting: Monday, January 21, 2019 at 6:30p.m., City Hall

13) Adjournment

Nathan made a motion to adjourn, seconded, approved.