

ROCK LAKE IMPROVEMENT ASSOCIATION

www.rocklake.org

Minutes for November 19, 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, Mike Nesemann, Nathan Pyles, Stan Smoniewski, Susan Trier, Bonnie Nolan, Ralph DePasquale
Absent: Lianna Spencer, Candace Diaz Guests: Patricia Cicero, Brian Walter (Boat Patrol)
- 2) **Motion to accept the agenda** - made by Mike, seconded, and unanimously approved.
- 3) **Good News Minute** – meeting participants shared recent good news
- 4) **Secretary’s Report** – Motion to approve October 2018 minutes made by Stan, seconded, and unanimously approved.
- 5) **Treasure’s Report** –
 - a) October financial statements had been electronically distributed by Jim.
 - b) Membership status: 5 affiliates (formerly corporate), 117 family, 20 individual, 11 donor only (largely gifts made in memory of deceased) for a total of 142 members. This includes 85 riparian owners (59% of our membership). 95 have been members from before 2010.
 - c) Jim reviewed several checks, including \$1,950 from Jefferson Co towards fish sticks costs, \$320 to Lake Mills Light and Water for printing 3,600 leaf management flyers which were included in the mailing of last month’s bills, and \$10 to the State of Wisconsin for registering us as a non-stock corporation.
- 6) **Public Comment(s)/Correspondence**
 - a) Wes distributed copies of the Board authorized letter sent in support of a grant to conduct a fish survey in Oconomowoc River, Oconomowoc Lake, and Rock Lake (attached).
- 7) **Presentation by Town on Toughbook and request for funding.**

Officer Brian Walters presented information re the Town’s plan to purchase a Toughbook computer to improve the Boat Patrol’s efficiency. They currently go through the County Communications when checking with the State on registration records, outstanding warrants, etc. If there is a County emergency, they have no access till the emergency is over. He estimated the direct line to the State would get them a response time between 10 seconds and a minute, vs the current 5- 10 minutes. This would also allow them to issue electronic citations, which are not only faster than written, but sending them electronically allows the state to suspend license for non-payment. The proposed contract was reviewed, but the Board had several questions requiring answers from the Town Board before it could decide whether and how much to support the purchase.

Officer Walters also provided a summary (attached) of the Boat Patrol’s Annual Report, breaking down the types of activities for the past several years. Board Members questioned the decline in activities since 2016, especially citations, warnings, and inspections. Officer Walters pointed out several issues

including difficulties attracting and keeping personnel reflecting the fact that it's a part time position but requires a fully licensed and trained officer. He said it also reflects a general drop in interest in law enforcement careers.

8) Committee Reports

- a) Water Quality. Note this has been split into 4 subcommittees:
 - i) Agricultural – Nathan
His committee met with Land & Water Conservation District personnel and have an action plan to match farmers with the landowners they are renting land from, with a special emphasis on large farms. They also discussed the Healthy Soils program and stratagems for implementation. In addition, they made contact with the Land Trust Network and he and Wes will meet with them after Thanksgiving vis-à-vis the Miljala drainage. Wes still has a permit for dredging that but last time he did it they went down 12 feet and it filled up in a year! Doing so would require agreement from the riparian owners as well as funding and finding both a dredge and a place to dispose of the dredged material.
 - ii) Residential – Susan
see discussion under Public Outreach
 - iii) Streets – Jim
Flyer re leaf management sent out by city, see 5c.
 - iv) Water Sampling. Ralph will be meeting with Patricia to formulate options.
- b) Habitat. Letter sent re fish survey, see 6a.
- c) Membership and Lake Recreation – Bonnie
Bonnie is checking with the Chamber of Commerce re a meeting in January, and will check with Lake Mills Main Street as well. Mike and Ralph volunteered to be on her committee. See 5b. for membership numbers.
- d) Public Outreach (Susan/Stan)
 - i) Brought up ideas recently discussed at the lakeshore group, including the need to publicize activities on the LM Community Facebook page. The Board discussed the ideas and given time constraints, decided to initially focus on representation at Town & Country Days, including getting the DNR to set up their fish tank exhibition. This usually generates a fair amount of interest and we hope to take advantage of that to educate people about our activities, publicize the Lake Management Plan (LMP), and sign people up for a possible boat tour (see below).
 - ii) There was enthusiasm for sponsoring a boat tour of the lake, showcasing shoreland management practices as well as discussing the LMP. The tour specifics will need to be fleshed out as it would be our major project this year.
 - iii) Susan met with the new Lake Mills Leader editor who is not particularly interested in feature articles but prefers shorter, upbeat pieces about life on the lake.
 - iv) Mike made a motion authorizing Susan to write a letter to shoreland owners regarding best practices and how to obtain grants from Healthy Lakes 2020 to implement them. The motion also authorized spending up to \$500 for printing and mailing costs. Projected time frame is July. The motion was seconded and unanimously approved.
 - v) A discussion ensued re how to publicize the LMP. Given time constraints, the most interest seemed to be for establishing a presence at one of the Brew with a View events at Korth Park. Details will have to be fleshed out.

9) Other Reports.

- a) County. Patricia

Launches (attached) as part of the Clean Boats, Clean Lake Initiative.

ii) She also provided information re an upcoming City Planning Meeting re moving the Sandy Beach pier.

b) JRLC. Stan

i) Attended a presentation and it appears the Mill Pond dredging will not occur any time soon. It is not high on the City's budget constrained list of priorities.

ii) The PIE pier dispute continues, apparently there is now an issue with a neighbor's pier.

iii) Apparently there was a Town discussion re a 200 ft no-wake zone, compared to the DNR's 100-foot standard. The motion was tabled.

10) **Old Business**

a) Update on Leaf Campaign. Jim

Our letter went out with last month's utility bills and there is a general sense that there has been a significant reduction in the amount of leaves piled in gutters.

b) Status of lake management fish survey. Patricia

She received the final editing suggestions from the DNR and is instituting them. She will, as previously authorized, have 75 full and 300 Executive Summaries printed. Any Board comments must be received by Monday, 26 November.

c) In-lake clean up. Pending identification of cooperative pontoon boat owner.

11) **New Business**

a) Discussion of 2019 priorities. Tabled.

b) Placement of info on our website and FB page re reporting of odors, presumably from the DayBreak chicken farm. Although the general feeling was that DayBreak has been extremely cooperative re their expansion, the email address to report malodors is a matter of public record and should be on our website.

c) Knickerbocker Days participation. Pending Jim's talking to EMS and the Fire Department.

d) Purchase of a shelter for our outdoor presentations and events. We had to shut down our booth at the Fall Festival because of inability to shield materials and workers from the rain. Given the general state of disrepair of our current "shelter," Stan made a motion authorizing up to \$150 for the purchase of a new shelter. It was seconded and unanimously passed. Jim will investigate options and report back.

e) December meeting. Agreed to hold one on 17 December, as a quorum is likely.

11) **Adjourn** – Mike made a motion to adjourn at 8:25 pm, it was seconded, and passed unanimously.

12) **Next Meeting:** Monday, December 17, 2018 at 6:30 p.m., Lake Mills City Hall

Lake Mills Boat Patrol Annual Report

<u>Year</u>	<u>Hours</u>	<u>Citations</u>	<u>Warnings</u>	<u>Inspections</u>	<u>Rescues</u>	<u>Person Assists</u>	<u>Vessel Assist</u>
2018	500	25	21	64	??	5	6
2017	411	28	50	88	1	5	9
2016	376	45	317	236	0	18	7
2015	???	61	288	247	2	23	15
2014							
2013							
2012							
2011							
2010							
2009							
2008							
2007							
2006	578	97					
2005	736	105					
2004	516	79					
2003	502	56					
2002	355	32					
2001	389	28					
2000	471	27					
1999	360	19					
1998	230	32					
1997	293	36					