

## West Lakes Association – Board Meeting – Wednesday, April 5, 2023

### Attendees:

In Person: Cliff Foughty, Diane Foughty, Linda Knefely, Jane Silver, Jean Thomas

Zoom: Randy Mull, Rosie Risser

Zoom connection was finalized and the meeting was called to order by President, Jean Thomas at 7:03pm

Jean made a motion to accept the Minutes of the Feb. 8 meeting; Jane seconded and Minutes were approved.

### Old Business:

- Jean gave kudos to Ned, our former West Lakes Association President, for the many years he has been an integral part of the West Lakes community, a great friend and neighbor. She is planning an Open House to be held at the marina to honor him before he leaves the area. Once the date is determined, an invitation will be sent to the community and put on facebook. She asked for suggestions for a good-bye gift; received a few suggestions but nothing was finalized. Jean will talk with his daughter; Jane will ask Stan and Gary.
  - Because of Ned's departure Jean Thomas is the new West Lakes Association President (per by-laws).
  - The Vice President office needed filled – Jane motioned that Randy Mull be the new Vice President; seconded by Cliff. With a unanimous vote, Randy accepted and is the new Vice President. He will also keep his office as Director of Tamarack Lake until this position is filled.
- Weed spraying – Jean reported that we received \$5,000 – most lakes didn't get anything so we are grateful. She has spoken with Dave Keister of Aquatic Weed Control; she has submitted the 3 necessary bids and it is likely Aquatic Weed Control will get the bid. With the LARE grant having a "MUST DO BY" date, Dave would come out the day before to view the area. We may have the option of not using the grant and spraying at a later date that would be more beneficial. We also need to re-evaluate the 50 acre spray area – we may be able to cut this down to a smaller area. Dave Abbott will have no influence on the LARE administrators in trying to adjust the "MUST DO BY" date; last year the date was in April. The LARE grant is \$5,000; with \$1,000 on top of that.
- Jones Lake Update – there was no new news or developments.
- PayPal update – Jean is having trouble with this because of the many addresses that are on file for the Association. It was concluded that over the years the different officers used their addresses which is why there are so many. Jean's thought is that the Treasurer's address should be the 1<sup>st</sup> or Main address; the secretary 2<sup>nd</sup>. Then it needs to be in the By-laws that the addresses need to be changed when these offices are changed.

### Other questions:

- Our legal name is West Lakes Conservation, Inc.
- Corporate Seal – where is it? Randy will contact Dave Wick to find out who holds our corporate papers.
- Rosie has the Fed EIN but never received the Corporate Seal

Jean and Rosie will work on getting all the addresses sorted out.

- Randy hasn't heard anything regarding the grants – funds are to be awarded in April. Jean will check the PO Box tomorrow as she had heard that Rica from the Jones Lake Group had received an email last week that they did not receive the REMC grant.
- Rosie did a review of the budget:
  - Buoys - \$500 in budget – we need more buoys and more than that, someone to keep track of them. Perhaps an "Adopt a Buoy" program? This is a big job putting them in, taking them out and keeping track of them.
  - \$50,000 LARE grant – this may come into play if the Jones Lake Group doesn't use the entire \$100,000 they received.
  - Bingo – the amount paid to volunteers was dropped to \$100; Rosie will change the income in the budget from \$1550 to \$1000.

Randy motioned that the budget be approved, Cliff seconded; budget was approved.

- Receipts for reimbursement are being sent to Rosie. She mentioned that anytime she can pay a vendor direct, this is the best way.
- Question was also asked if we pay sales tax. Rosie answered Yes, we cannot get a Sales Tax Exemption.
- Lastly, Rosie and Jean will need to get new signature cards on file at the bank and will take care of any other paperwork that may need to be completed with the change in office.
- Newsletter – Linda had copies of a draft of the first Newsletter. Format would be electronic, 2 pages (although the first one has an extra page with the Meet Your Board Members). It would be sent out 4 times per year – Spring (end of April), Summer (end of July), Fall (end of October) and Winter (end of January). Goal is to be informative, transparent, use it as a segway to get people to attend the general meetings, and to include interesting lake related stories. It was felt that Jean and Randy could review before it is published – the entire board does not need to approve each edition.
- Geese Control – Jean had received inquiries about the number of geese on the lake and the mess they make. At a meeting she had with two of the new officers of 5 Lakes, she found out that they do a “Geese Round-up”. In contacting the company that they use, the following information was obtained:
  - They are an approved DNR vendor.
  - Geese Round-Up – two options – Euthanize or Relocate
  - Minimum cost is \$1500 and up to \$25 per bird

Jean described the process that they use to corral the birds, which is done the last 2 weeks of June. It was agreed that we need more clarification regarding the cost and that the Lake Directors would need to get information out to their residents. West Lakes Association would possibly contribute a small amount but homeowners on each lake would be responsible for the remainder of the cost.

- Stop Logs – April 15 is the target date set to put the logs in. Ken Thomas stated that it is better putting the logs in when the water level is 5.5 and not the current 7.5 - even though the weather next week looks doable. Jean stated she had an offer from the Mast family to do this but Ned’s experience with them was not favorable and the job they did was unacceptable. It was decided to collect the names of those who could help and let them know that they are on standby to put the logs in. It was mentioned that we have to drive on the Mast family property to get to the logs.
- Lake Director Reports:
  - Jane – Steinbarger Lake – an issue with a sewage problem that was promptly taken care of. No other issues.
  - Cliff – Jones Lake – no issues
  - Randy – Tamarack Lake – he would like Becky and Jane to go door-to-door thru Oak Shores as he felt they would get a better response. There is only a small number of Oak Shores residents who use the lake. Randy does have some ideas of people who may be interested in taking over as director.

Motion to adjourn by Jane; seconded by Randy.

Meeting was adjourned at 8:26pm

Next meeting – Wednesday, May 10, 2023.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Linda Knefely