

Sauk River Chain of Lakes Association
Board MINUTES
Tuesday, July 18, 2023 6:30 – 8:30 p.m.
At Flexible Pipe Tool Co. • 22606 186th Ave • Cold Spring
Microsoft Teams Remote Option

Call to Order – Brad Matuska

Present: Gene Krebs, Karla Smetana, Troy Atkinson, Wayne Karg, Gary Schnobrich, Administrator: Trish Feldhous

Absent: Matt Noska, Rick Reimer, Aaron Schwartz, Richard Gallea, Steve Weeres, Gambling Manager: Keely Frakes-Rau,
Website Guru: Kersten Thellin

Review of past Minutes – Brad Matuska

June Board Minutes Approved via Email – Brad Matuska

Gambling Manager Report

- Majority of income for June was generated from e-tabs
- Legislature regarding e-tabs is effective in 2025, however they will start introducing new machines in 2024
- Revenue from the new machines may not decrease as much as originally thought because our taxes are decreasing significantly as well.
- *Troy made a motion to approve the Gambling report, Karla seconded. Motion passes.*

Financial Report – Troy Atkinson

- Review Financials - Profit and Loss, Balance Sheet, and Check Register
- Extend Marketing is paid through the end of 2023
- Cold Spring Record was paid in June for newsletters and postage
- Troy will be removing assets from the balance sheet going forward
- *Gene made a motion to approve the June Profit & Loss, Balance Sheet, and Check Register. Wayne seconded. Motion passes.*
- 2022 Taxes and Invoice – a copy of the corporate tax return was distributed for the board to review.
- A letter was received stating our 2020 taxes were approved.
- 2023 Budget is on target to where we should be.

Administration Report – Brad Matuska

- Membership update – we had only received a handful of memberships in June. Brad and Trish volunteered to coordinate another membership ask in August. The letter would thank those who already donated and ask those who did not to reconsider
- *Wayne made a motion to do another mailing/membership ask. Gary seconded the motion. Passes*
- Fall Magazine Schedule is currently on the SRCLA shared drive. Brad and Trish will coordinate the project which will go to print in October. This should work well with the online store which could give people time to order before Christmas.
- Marketing Team is meeting with Brenda Herubin on Wednesday, July 19th to start rolling out the Comprehensive Marketing Plan. Ideas will be brought to the board meeting in August.
- A piece was put on social media regarding Filamentous Algae. Describing what it is in an effort to educate people.

Land Use Committee Report

- Property owners have seemed happy about the Sandy Point Caution Buoys. Board members have noticed people are staying to the right of the buoys when boating (kind of like traffic on the roads). However, there are still some fast boaters going through since it is not a no wake zone.
- There will be a shoreline restoration tour on August 10th, 2023. A bus (capacity 56) will take people on a tour showcasing manicured lawns, as well as various restoration projects in different phases.

Marketing/Public Relations Committee Report

- Social Media Report – no update given
- Website Report – no update given
- Brad has been following up with people commenting on Facebook. It is best to meet with them face to face instead of trying to answer on social media or emails.

AIS Awareness and Prevention

- I-LIDS project was paid in June
- A decision should be made in mid-August on whether or not SCSU is receiving the Sea Grant for the Lake Level Modeling Project.
- Lake Level Monitoring is still going on. We are at the lowest we have been since Spring.
- Rick and Gene are working on reaching out to the DNR and legislators regarding a flow control device at the Cold Spring Dam. We would like to see some type of dual gate system that would restrict or encourage water flow to stabilize the levels.

Water Quality Committee Report – Gary Schnobrich

- Gary is planning on going out on Tuesday to work on gathering more data.
- There are problems getting the data to upload correctly to Google Sheets, but seems to work fine in Excel.
- Once all data is collected it will be put into a graph.

Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS) Committee Report – Gene Krebs/Wayne Karg

- The flowering rush budget was approved on July 18th. This project is upriver and through Stearns COLA.
- Wayne is working on grants for AIS but needs to put reports together with data sorted by lake.
- Rick and Wayne are registered to take part in the Starry Trek on August 19. This is a group of volunteers that will be sent to lakes to look for starry stonewort or other suspicious organisms.

Fisheries Committee Report - Matt Noska

- No update this month

Old Business

New Business

- On July 8th, a volunteer measured from the bridge to the lakebed, the bayou between Horseshoe and Long Lake. The distance measured at 19 feet 3 inches. This was the same as the May 2023 measurement.
- There is a 9am Zoom on Wednesday, July 19th that is being put on by U of M. This discusses some strategies and what's working or not working for others on AIS prevention. A link was sent to all board members.

Adjourn

- *Gene made a motion to adjourn the meeting which was seconded by Gary. Motion passes.*