

Gull Chain of Lakes Association
Board of Directors' Meeting
October 9, 2019, Grand View Lodge

Present: Steve Alex, Uldis Birznieks, Jay Chaney, Robert Eliason, Steve Frawley, Sue Friedrichs, Rosemary Goff, Linda Harrier, Chuck Herrig, John Ingleman, Sheila Johnston, Marv Meyer

Absent: Jane Edwards, Bob Toborg

Guests: Dave Anderson, Tim Plude, Brian Turner, Kate Bjorge

The meeting was called to order by Chair Herrig at 8:26 a.m.

On motion by Eliason, seconded by Goff the minutes of the September 11, 2019, were approved as read.

Treasurer's Report:

- As of September 30, 2019, cash assets were \$262,939.34 (including \$151,525.09 in the AIS Contingency Fund). Total income from September 1 thru September 30 was \$400.00 and expenses were \$9,227.26 resulting in a net income of \$(8,705.28). The treasurer's report was set aside subject to audit.

Correspondence:

- Initiative Foundation – Thank you for \$450 donation.
- Northern Waters Land Trust – Thank you for becoming a member.

USACE/MN DNR Update:

- Brian Turner reported the lake is at a high of 1194.02 and that the dam has been open since 9-30-19 due to 2.4" of rain. On 10-1-19 they started the winter draw-down and no more AIS inspections are being completed.
- Tim Plude stated the focus of 2019 AIS inspections was at the boat landings since that's the best location for early detection. He also works with Marc Bacigalupi and Levy Bergstrom to coordinate AIS inspections during the fishing tournaments on the Gull Lake chain.

Initiative Foundation:

- Kate Bjorge, Community Philanthropy Manager, from the Initiative Foundation informed the Board that the Endowment Fund balance was \$314,399.25 on 9-30-19.
- Reports are no longer available via a portal and instead will be delivered to Friedrichs via email on a monthly basis. The reports will be included in the Board packets going forward.
- The Finance Committee will meet to make a recommendation to the Board about future plans for the Endowment Fund.

Event Updates:

- **MNCOLA Meeting:** Birznieks noted that Doug Becker delivered an excellent presentation on safe wakes and there was conversation about how Minnesota Lakes & Rivers Advocates (MLR) and Minnesota Coalition of Lake Associations (MNCOLA) can work together with local lake associations.

- **MAISRC Showcase:** Herrig indicated that he and Steve Alex attended the event. See MAISRC Showcase 9/18/19 addendum for details.

AIS Committee:

- Alex talked to the AIS inspectors and learned that boaters were very cooperative with the inspections, fewer citations were issued this year and those that were issued were due to boaters refusing to drain their water. In the future the focus will be on having inspections seven days a week, partnering with Association of Cass Count Lakes (ACCL) and Levy Bergstrom (Cass County) to train staff at the resorts and increasing the number of inspections by using volunteers.

Communications Committee:

- Ingleman reminded the Board that articles are due October 23 for the fall newsletter.

Environmental Committee:

- Johnston announced that three additional shoreline restoration projects have been completed with either 25% or 50% of the expense to be reimbursed by GCOLA. This brings the total to four projects in 2019.
- Johnston is working on an invitation to participate in the Lake Steward program, which will be left on docks next spring for shoreline owners who might qualify.
- Motion by Frawley and second by Ingleman for GCOLA to be a National Loon Center partner. There will be no financial commitment on behalf of GCOLA, however the logo will appear in the website. Motion approved.

Finance & Audit Committee:

- Meyer stated the Tim Bergin will coordinate the 2018 audit on 10-9-19.
- The budget worksheet was delivered to the Board with numbers due to Friedrichs by 11-30-19. Budget will be approved at the 12-11-19 Board meeting.

Fisheries Committee:

- Herrig pointed out the temperatures have been poor for fishing.

Government Relations Committee:

- Birznieks proposed the following 2020 priorities for the Government Relations Committee.
 1. Watercraft wake regulations.
 2. Watercraft operator license program.
 3. AIS preventions/eradication strategy for GCOLA.
 4. Increase AIS violation fines.
 5. No more stocking of muskies in the Gull Lake chain.
- Motion by Meyer, second by Herrig to approve 2020 Government Relations priorities. Motion approved by Alex, Birznieks, Eliason, Frawley, Friedrichs, Goff, Harrier, Herrig, Ingleman, Johnston, Meyer. Motion vetoed by Chaney. Motion approved.

Membership Committee:

- Harrier sought input for the annual membership mailing to be coordinated in early 2020 with Lakes Printing.

- Harrier reviewed the membership graph which will be incorporated into the Board packet on a monthly basis in the future.

Recreation and Safety:

- Goff informed the Board that most of the buoys are now out of the Gull Lake chain except the rock pile.
- Johnston will research what Lake Minnetonka is using for No Wake buoys.

On motion by Eliason, seconded by Goff, the meeting was adjourned at 11:15 am.

Minutes recorded by Sue Friedrichs.