



BOARD OF DIRECTORS' MEETING

July 14, 2021 – Grand View Lodge

Present: Claudia Allene, Todd Amerman, Uldis Birznieks, Jane Edwards, Robert Eliason, Steve Frawley, Sue Friedrichs, Linda Harrier, Chuck Herrig, Joel Meyer, Marv Meyer

Absent: Jay Chaney

Guests: Dave Anderson, Marc Bacigalupi, Dana Gutzman, Kathy Lundberg, Brian Turner

The meeting was called to order by Chair Herrig at 8:32 a.m.

Motion by Frawley and second by Birznieks to approve the June 9, 2021, Board meeting minutes. Motion approved.

Treasurer's Report

Organization	GCOLA*	Gull Chain Preservation Endowment Fund
YTD Time Period	6-30-21	5-31-21
Total Income (Loss)	\$89,800	\$46,554
Total Expense	\$39,682	\$286
Net Other Income (Expense)	\$673	(\$3,689)
Net Income (Loss)	\$50,791	\$42,579
Total Current Assets	\$297,457	\$441,365

* The treasurer's report was set aside subject to audit.

- Birznieks recommends exploring options for using the annual amount available from the Endowment Fund.

Correspondence

- Engel & Strong – Requested discussion about light pollution at the Annual Meeting. Friedrichs will contract Engel & Strong to invite them to the September Board meeting as that will be a more productive meeting for this topic. Allene will research issue and host discussion.
- Gutzman – Requested volunteers to sign up for Starry Trek.
- Cass County- Herrig will check with Cass County to see if OK to send the Cass County Comprehensive Plan & Survey to the GCOLA email list. If OK, Friedrichs will send email blast.

Donation Request

- None

Government Agency Update

- USACE – Turner reported that USACE is submitting a request for contract to re-do the boat launch. If the contract is finalized, Friedrichs will send email blast when Turner knows the dates it will be closed. Turner shared information about the Sustainable Rivers Program. If the program includes the Gull Lake Chain, then he will send details to Friedrichs who will send an email blast.
- DNR – Bacigalupi informed the Board that high school angling has become more popular with tournaments bringing as many as 200 boats. He recommends that GCOLA links up with Brainerd High School to learn more.
- Cass County – Gutzman continues to experience turnover with the decon specialist position.

Event Updates

- None

Nominations Committee

- Motion by Birznieks and second by Harrier to elect Jon Mendel as a Board member for a three-year term. Motion approved.
- Motion by Herrig and second by Amerman to elect Linda Harrier as Chair and Uldis Birznieks as Vice-chair for three years. Motion approved.
- Motion by Allene and second by Birznieks to elect Friedrichs for an additional three-year term as Board member. Motion approved.
- Herrig reviewed the list of committee chair assignments. Bacigalupi will explore ideas for a Fisheries chair and Lundberg will place a message in the next newsletter.

Gala Committee

- Edwards asked each Board member to help with a list of activities before, during and after the event.

AIS Committee

- No report

Communications Committee

- Lundberg reminded the Board that newsletter articles are due August 1.

Environmental Committee

- Eliason announced that Dorothy Whitmer will make a Lake Steward presentation at the Annual Meeting

Finance & Audit Committee

- Birznieks reviewed the Committee Chair expense approval authority limits. Since the chair is responsible for the budget these authorities are not extended to individual committee members.
- Motion by J Meyer and second by Allene for Friedrichs to pay Grand View up to \$20K, if needed. Motion approved.

Fisheries Committee

- No report.

Government Relations Committee

- Birznieks reviewed the results of the legislative year relative to GCOLA priorities:
 - No action taken on a 200-foot lake shore offset for boats pending results from the SAFL study
 - MAISRC funding increased.
 - State funding for county AIS prevention remains.
 - Support in the House, but not the Senate to stop muskie stocking in the Gull Lake Chain.
- Birznieks announced that the City of East Gull Lake will place an overflow pipe from Ruth Lake to Gull Lake to alleviate flooding in Ruth. If AIS occurs in Ruth, then Gull Lake can request that the pipe is shut off.
- Turner will work with Frawley to update the USACE and GCOLA partnership agreement.

Membership Committee

- Friedrichs reviewed the second membership dues mailing to determine if any volunteer boxes need to be removed.

Recreation and Safety

- J. Meyer announced the third boat safety class is today. In the future they will track if the parents of the attendees are GCOLA members. J. Meyer will explore a memorial buoy article in the next newsletter.

Motion to adjourn the meeting by Herrig and second by Frawley. Motion approved.

The meeting was adjourned. Minutes recorded by Sue Friedrichs.