

MINUTES: Pentwater Lake Association (PLA)

November 15, 2021

1. Meeting called to order: 6:30pm at Centenary United Methodist Church.
2. Roll Call: PLA Board Members – Pat Hooyman, Tom Walter, Rich Pugsley, Beth Provencal, Dr. Ross Feltes, Joan Menke-Schaenzer. PLA Members – AnnaMae Bush - Newsletter Editor, and George Richey.
3. Approval of Agenda: Request to add SHORE (Safe Harbors for our Recreation Economy) ACT under 11: Board Comments. Motion made by Joan to accept with additions, Rich seconded the motion. All approved, motion passed.
4. Opportunity for Public Comment: None
5. Approval of Minutes: October 18, 2021 reviewed. No corrections. Motion made by Joan to accept Minutes as written, Ross seconded the motion. All approved. Motion passed. Minutes will be posted to PLA website. If any PLA member wishes to have the Minutes emailed to them, the Secretary will do this.
6. Treasurer Report: Rich had emailed Treasurer's Report to the PLA Board prior to meeting. No changes to savings or Weed Harvest. Checking account changes included the MLSA check was cashed, Riparian Magazine bill paid. Additions of 3 new PLA Memberships. Current membership stands at 229. Checking balance: \$4466.92. Will be paying for the annual PLA Directory soon which will cost over \$1,000. Motion made by Beth to accept the Treasurers Report, Ross seconded the motion. All approved, motion passed.
7. Next Board Meeting: Discussed and agreed no meeting in December 2021 or January 2022. Next meeting will be February 21, 2022 at Centenary United Methodist Church. NOTE: Because of Spring Break and "snow bird" members, the March meeting may need to be on Zoom to make a quorum.
8. Committee Reports:
 - a. NEWSLETTER: AnnaMae reported the next Newsletter will be printed the first week of February 2022. It will include information about Winterfest and the Oceana Speech Contest. She requested brief summaries regarding PLA alliances such as MLSA. Rich will provide summary about the Watershed. New members names will be added. Currently AnnaMae is using 2016 software and just starting the process of gathering information to purchase updated software that will best provide needs for the PLA Newsletter. Current software is unwieldy and difficult to format and add photos.
 - b. PUBLICITY: Pat reported PLA Meeting information was sent for press release and noted in both online and hard copy newspapers. He sent the Buoy Newsletter article also with thought they might wish to publish, but received no response.
 - c. WEBSITE & FACEBOOK (FB) PAGE: Beth reported November Meeting date/time was posted on both sites soon after October meeting. On FB site- a photo of the 3 presenters from WMSRDC with a special Thank you for their time and expertise was posted. Agreed to add to FB page: "If anyone interested in serving on any PLA Committees to let Pat know". It was suggested we post a story about a recent marine assist by Pat and some members of his family! Beth will get details from Pat and do this.

- d. MEMBERSHIP: Rich reported final PLA Membership count is 229. This number includes 12 new members! PLA budget is based on 230. Discussed possibility of distributing the Directory in pdf format as an option instead of receiving a mailed paper copy. Lynne Cavazos and Caroline Denlar have been doing the Directory for many years. Will need new recruits to step up and take this responsibility over soon.
 - e. WATER QUALITY: Mike Peters has officially resigned as Chair of this committee. Kelie Bond, who recently joined the PLA, may be willing to do this role. She had agreed to be an Advisor on this committee in October. Ross will ask if she would be willing to be Chair. If not, will need to recruit a new Chairperson. Maybe in the Newsletter? On FB site? It was noted that it's not necessary to be a Board member to be a chairperson, just a PLA Member. In the interim, Joe and Tom have been keeping this Committee running. Joe stated all the Water Quality Testing results were received, not much change from prior report. Pat stated they have all the historical data in hand, but that there is so much to compile, it is not done but is steadily working on it. PLA may decide to have a public Water Quality Informational Meeting. Tom mentioned there are excellent videos on the MiCorp website for water quality training.
 - f. NATURAL RESOURCES: Joe absent. Tom mentioned it is deer hunting season. Many fishermen are still on the lake as steelhead are still around. * See Newsletter about Pat and Diana Hooyman's recent Marine Assist in Lake Michigan*. There are many fall/winter waterfowl species to see including Long tailed Ducks, Tundra Swan, Bufflehead, Mergansers, Blue Bills, etc.
 - g. SOCIAL: Lynne unable to make meeting due to illness
 - h. EDUCATION: Betty Pleva continues to work on the Oceana School Speech Project. (see 9a below)
9. Unfinished / Continuing Business:
- a. Oceana School Speech Project – Betty and Rich met with Rick McGrath, English Teacher x 34 years and Kelly Sisung, Computer and Social Studies Teacher, regarding the Project. They thought it was a great idea and had recommendations. One was to give the kids \$50 to make an Introduction Video of the Project to be shown to other schools to boost participation. Rich presented the invitation letter being delivered to educators in Oceana County. Anticipate renting Park Place one or two nights for the Contest.
 - b. CD3 Grant Update – Rich sent Handouts via email. See last page for the breakdown of the Grant. It has been submitted. We will know by February if we get it. If the PLA does not get the grant, then may need to broaden participating Lake Associations outside of Pentwater so it is more sizable. Other Lake Associations could shadow our volunteers if we need more people to accomplish the work.
 - c. Annual Membership Fee – discussed increasing fee by \$5 per year. Benefit? Could do more projects. It was \$25 10-15 years ago. Now \$30. After discussion, decided not to increase. We have enough money in checking and savings accounts to accomplish PLA goals. We will revisit it again before the June 2022 Annual Meeting.
 - d. Consolidated Water Quality Historical Data Project – Pat reported it is basically a can of worms with a smile. There is so much information! All the information has been gathered from Connolly Bowling, Phil Betten, and Tom Osborn who had several pictures.

It's now a matter of taking the time to meet with Mike Peters and get enough help to compile it all. It's a "work in progress".

- e. Outreach to other Lake Associations – AnnaMae forwarded the Newsletter to Bass Lake Association and Bass Lake Improvement Board. Chris Dunn stated would like to stay in touch. Rich will reach out to John Stivers, key person at Stoney Lake. Joe has contact information for Hart Lake Improvement Board. Rich will create a spreadsheet with contacts. Between November and April will try to meet with as many as possible to evaluate if interested in working on Grants together. Between May and September need to talk to State people then WMSRDC, then work on grants from October to November when due.

10. NEW BUSINESS:

- a. Update from Pentwater River Watershed Council – see email handouts (11.11.21 email) Rich has taken the lead regarding this council and states it is informal at this time. He is in process of gathering information, finding interested persons to form a Group, and eventually information how to fund such a council. Joe, Pat, Tom, George, Dan and Rich met for the first meeting. They are in need of a secretary – Rich will take notes/minutes for now. One major decision was made: that this council will not be part of the PLA but a separate entity which will include at least representative from the PLA. It will be essential to include Pentwater River riparians. The plan is to meet with as many interested persons from November to April before any decisions are made. Findings will be presented to the PLA at the February PLA Meeting.
- b. Pentwater Visitor Guide – Rich suggested PLA purchase an ad to be placed in Cobb Communications regarding publicity for the Grant Proposal. Cost is \$325 for quarter page and \$425 for half page ad. No decision was made.

11. Board Member Comments:

- 1. Joan had read a post on the Pentwater Community Resources FB page on Nov 11, 2021 regarding the SHORE Act, the need to vote Yes and to contact Bill Huizenga, MI State Representative, requesting a Yes vote. She raised the question whether the PLA should copy that post to the PLA FB site. The SHORE Act is being put before the Legislature and affects harbor maintenance, intracoastal waterways and inland waterway projects. While it does not directly affect Pentwater Lake – it would indirectly affect the health of Pentwater Lake by the increase of consumers able to access the Lake. This would increase the potential introduction of AIS, of increased damaging wakes to name a few things; while realizing the additional benefits of income for the Village of Pentwater and increased use of Pentwater Municipal Marina. After discussion, it was agreed need to post this on PLA FB page. Beth will do this this week.
- 2. Ross raised question whether sharing document access, such as Contact information, would be beneficial to pursue. Some discussion but no decisions made.

12. ADJOURNMENT: 8:32pm

Next Meeting: FEBRUARY 21 – in person at Centenary UMC unless Covid recommendations change