MINUTES: Pentwater Lake Association

**March 22, 2021**

Lynne called the meeting to order at 6:37pm

Members present: Lynne Cavazos, George Richey, Rich Pugsley, Joe Primozich, Patrick Hooyman, Tom Walter, Beth Provencal and Guest: Joan Menke-Schaenzer. Absent: Janet Strahan, Dan Selahowski, Betty Pleva, Mike Peters and Guest: AnnaMae Bush.

Agenda was reviewed. Rich made a motion to approve, Joe seconded it. Motion carried.

Minutes: February 15, 2021 Minutes reviewed; word “year” changed to “issue” under New Business: Newletter Budget. Joe made a motion to approve with correction, Tom seconded it. Motion carried.

Treasurers Report: George present but is traveling and did not have computer access. Did report income of 2 more membership renewals, and expense of $50 for Newsletter supplies. Lynne has the Treasurer book and checkbook while George is out of town.

Date for next Board meeting: APRIL 19, 2021 @ 6:30 PM via ZOOM. Did agree at some point we will be able to have hybrid meetings but with covid numbers rising in the area, best to wait until safe. Discussion regarding where followed. No firm decision. Lynne and George will investigate Centenary United Methodist Church vs Park Place and report at April meeting.

**Committee Reports**

* Newsletter: AnnaMae absent/traveling. The next Newsletter will likely be in May per Lynne.
* Publicity & Facebook Page: Pat reported did get meeting notice into both the Oceana Herald-Journal and Ludington Daily News. The Agenda was posted on PLA FB page and PLA website with note if wish to join to contact Lynne via her email address, also listed.

Discussion regarding whether need to put Agenda on FB (which was not easy) versus posting a notice on FB about the next meeting with reference and/or link to PLA Website. This would provide access to both the Agenda and last approved Minutes, with the ability to print or download either from the PLA Website. Pat will investigate how to attach PLA website link.

* Membership: Rich reported he has created a Master PLA Membership list in Outlook. Some members did not supply their email for the Directory. He will let those members know and give them an opportunity to supply that and be added to the list. (see Old Business for software update.)
* Water Quality: Mike absent. Joe reported he and Mike met and notified us of plan to get a Phosphorus Spring Sampling of Pentwater Lake. Joe and Rich plan to obtain the sample via boat on 3/23/21 and will freeze it for future use. Mike will be training in April to become the new CLMP (Cooperative Lakes Monitoring Program) contact, replacing Joe.
* Natural Resources: Joe reported the Tundra swan moved out the first week of March in smaller batches and were heard by many by their distinct whistling sound as they flew overhead. As the ice moved and melted, the waterfowl have been seen in abundance in numerous locations on the lake. We have quite a variety of geese, ducks and swan to observe!
* Social: Lynne stated nothing new to report. (see Old Business for Annual Meeting discussion)
* Website: George – Nothing new to report.
* Education: Betty absent. Rich mentioned a possible Life Saving Program through the Muskegon YMCA is available but there would be much to do in order to make this happen. We need to first see if Pentwater School is interested, must gauge that first. We could probably get access to a pool in a local hotel. Many variables would need to be worked out – timing, price, etc. Not sure we have enough time to make this happen or if there is interest. Lynne and Rich will follow up with Betty.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

1. Dropbox update: Joan reported has not had time to do much research and with Rich’s software update – does not think there is a need if we decide to use MS Office 365 with One Drive capabilities of storage.

2. Email “Blast” update: Rich said with Outlook capabilities, monthly email "blasts" might be a good way to keep PLA Members up to date with "What you need to know": events, announcements and pertinent lake information. This would be a supplement to the Newsletter which comes out approximately every 2- 3 months. Discussion ensued. Agreed this would be useful. Beth agreed to assist with cut/pasting information from the monthly PLA Meetings and Rich would send out. It was suggested adding this to the Newsletter in May as we intend to use the emails for important information. Mention made perhaps it would be good to post to PLA Facebook page as well. Lynne added she needs to find out the PTW Magazine situation this season as it has been a good resource to utilize for the general public. No decision made when/if to start the email blasts.

3. Software Update: Rich presented his software summary both verbally and with a handout (emailed prior to meeting). The handout was a table providing an alignment of rolls and deliverables essential to supporting the efforts of the PLA. It included: Microsoft 365: Outlook, OneDrive, Word, PowerPoint, Publisher, Access. The table included current programs PLA is using i.e. Quicken, FB, Website, PO Box, etc. and it was plain to see the benefit of Microsoft 365. Rich purchased it for a month and is finding it easy to use. The One Drive application fits nicely as a cloud repository and shows the value of a shared repository. He added that there are two deliverables that do not have tools specified: Survey Tool (last year did the Wake Zone survey) and an Online payment tool. These will need to be investigated for options. Both the Pentwater Sportfishing Association and the Pentwater Historical Society use online payment systems. Rich will present further findings at our next meeting. Rich will work with George to create labels in Outlook for future use such as Directory mailing. It can also be used to create a Volunteer List and send out Annual Meeting invites.

4. PLA Annual Meeting: Currently scheduled for June 25, 2021 at St. Vincent's Catholic Church on Monroe St. However, the Bishop has not decided whether to open the church up and is not expected to until April. We normally send a letter out to PLA Members in April regarding details. It was decided we cannot take that chance and need to get a refund at this point. We have many decisions to make: Do we still have the meeting? If so, where? format: outside vs Zoom? If outside, what are our options? Suggestions included: Hill & Hollow Campground Pavilion / Channel Lane Park / Park Place / Lake Michigan Retreat Center? Lynne will do some calling. Normally have 70-80 attendees. Speaker: Emily Neuman is possibility - need to confirm. As for food, will likely need to do boxed dinners or appetizers. It requires serious planning and time is running out. Will readdress in April meeting.

5. Work Group Updates:

a. *Aquatic/Vegetative Management*: Tom/Janet/Joe

See New Business (5): Report on the EGLE plan for Frogbit management on the wetlands and PTW Lake.

b. *Water Quality*: Mike/Joe/George

See committee report re: phosphorus sampling. No need for volunteers at this time.

c. *Boating Safety / Water Safety*: Rich/AnnaMae/Dan

Per Rich: Regarding the Landing Blitz (Clean Boats / Clean Waters), this is scheduled for Saturday, July 17, 2021 from 9am to 4pm. Volunteers will be needed at 3 Pentwater boat launch sites: Monroe Rd, Lake St and Longbridge Rd: "right angle". There is a power washer on reserve for use at Lake St. Volunteers will be needed to educate boaters and give handouts about AIS and what to do to prevent the spread.

Also, there is an online course worth looking into. It is through The MI Paddle Stewards. It is a self-paced, online program from MI Sea Grant and MI State University Extension to help paddlers learn about important invasive species, how to properly clean a watercraft and how to report invasive species. (Paddlers: Stand Up Boards, Kayaks, Canoes)

d. *Community Involvement / Education*: Pat/Betty/Beth

Betty absent. Nothing new to report.

6. Job List for Volunteers: Need for volunteers to be identified by Work Groups by the May meeting. Tom stated we need to make a master spreadsheet with names, email and phone #s of people interested in volunteering for PLA activities. Need to be very specific: job description, location, time frame asked. It would be beneficial to have a Volunteer Chair or Coordinator to be key contact and keep up the spreadsheet. For example: The Strawberry Shortcake Social requires about 40 volunteers. Lynne mentioned it would be helpful if we could get a list together in time for the May Newsletter and an email blast. Facebook would be helpful to recruit. Pat volunteered to talk to Claudia Hodan-Ressel about her experience and methods of recruiting volunteers in the community.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

1. Potential New Board Members for PLA: We currently have 11 members, can have up to 13. Both Lynne (President) and George (Treasurer) are rotating off the board (each has served two 3 yr terms) and will need to ask Betty if she wishes to serve a second term. Therefore, a possible loss of 3 members, we have the potential to recruit 4 to 5 new members.

2. Discussion about Officers and Committee Chairs for 2021-2022:

Rich is interested in Treasurer position and Pat possibly interested in President. Beth volunteered to continue as Secretary. All will recruit and then discuss at April meeting. Normally new officers are introduced and voted into office at the Annual Meeting.

3. Discussion of potential upcoming events for PLA - Spring-Fall of 2021: What do we want to do this year? For sure the Blitz, possibly a Safety Event with Tim Simon (as we will need help). Eco Tours using the Village Tour Boat (not sure if Lee Price is still the Captain?). Emily Newman has agreed to narrate / be the docent and Chris Brown, City Manager gave a verbal yes, but this is not 100% guaranteed yet.

We need a calendar. Pat volunteered to compile this as we make decisions. This could be posted on PLA website and PLA FB site.

4. Discussion of Clean Boats, Clean Waters activities and funding for this year. Review the activity list and spending options: Did not discuss funding at this meeting. See Old Business for further information.

5. Report on the EGLE plan for Frogbit management on the wetlands and on the lake:

Joe reported EGLE will monitor the marsh, south side of Longbridge Rd. They will be using herbicides to control growth. The herbicides are reported to be ones that have been cleared for safe use. EGLE will not do removal/clean up. PLIB is to take the lead on clean up and the PLA will assist. Last year many volunteers from Apache Hills and PLA members worked together to remove 7 tons of Frogbit in a Lift and Dry project. This involved use of a backhoe to remove the Frogbit, leaving it on shore to dry a few days then removing to an inland site. This will be the need again this year. PLA needs to be ready with volunteers on an on-call basis as cannot mark a specific date when it will be necessary.

For education of the public, the proposal is to have boat tours (Ecotour) on the lake to describe the changes due to invasive aquatic vegetation.

Announcements:

Rich had 3 announcements:

1. Sustainable Watershed Funding Initiative is still alive. They can use some short-term funding to help with the administrative tasks of working through the necessary meetings. The initiative is to place a check box on your tax form to donate money to your local watershed management group. For us, this is Kathy Evans and the West Michigan Regional Watershed Collaboration. (WMRWC)

2. We are also working with the WMRWC to acquire funding to update the Pentwater River Watershed Plan. This is being done in conjunction with Suzie Knoll, the Executive Director of the Oceana County Conservation District.

3. On April 20th there is a zoom call / webinar on "Not MI Species":

Not in MI waters: Responding to watchlist aquatic plants in Michigan

This discusses what the state is doing to manage AIS (Aquatic Invasive Species). To register go to: <https://www.michigan.gov/egle/0,9429,7-135-3308_3333-539592--,00.html>

(of note there is an underscore\_ between 3308 and 3333)

4. The last but not least announcement:

We gave a big applause to Joe for great job getting coverage for the Perch Tournament on Michigan Out of Outdoors, TV Program!

Meeting Adjourned @ 8:19PM Next meeting: APRIL 19, 2021 @ 6:30PM

Respectfully submitted,

Beth Provencal