

MINUTES: Pentwater Lake Association
April 19, 2021 ZOOM

Lynne called the meeting to order at 6:36pm

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

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

Public Comment: Both John and Maisie Stears were each sent the Zoom link for this meeting upon request. Maisie did not join. John Stears did join toward end of meeting to listen. No action or response required.

Minutes: March 22, 2021 Minutes reviewed. Pat made a motion to approve. Rich seconded it. Motion carried.

Beth will request Claudia Rodan-Hessel to assist with posting the approved minutes to PLA Website in George's absence. Both Pat and Beth will eventually train with Claudia as administrators for PLA website as George will be rotating off in June.

Treasurers Report: On 3/12/21 George emailed the latest PLA Checking / Savings and Weed Harvest balances. See reports. This includes 1 more membership renewal, and the expense of \$50 for Newsletter supplies. Total balance of Checking/Savings accounts: \$13,381.22 and Weed Harvest account is \$2375.00. Lynne has the Treasurer book and checkbook while George is out of town.

Date for next Board meeting: MAY 17, 2021 @ 6:30 PM. Will continue in Virtual/Zoom format as Covid numbers still up in area. The decision to meet in person, virtual or hybrid (combination of the two) will be decided monthly. Notification of the public and PLA members will be in the newspaper, website and FB page.

Committee Reports

- Newsletter: AnnaMae absent but emailed Lynne asking us to submit any articles to her by the end of April. She plans to have the Newsletter sent to the printer by the second week of May and distribute the third week of May. Several members are in process of submitting articles with various topics: i.e., Joan – Seagulls, Rich – Marinas, Tom: Bubblers and Volunteer information, Joe- University of Minnesota Research Center Workshop take-aways, and he is working on an Outline of the State of the Lake Report.
- Publicity: PLA Website/PLA Facebook Page: Pat reported the meeting notice submitted to both the Oceana Herald-Journal and Ludington Daily News. As of February, we started posting the PLA Agenda on PLA FB site. It includes contact information for Lynne

Cavazos (President) to request Zoom invite if wish to attend. The PLA website also has contact information for Zoom invite and last approved Minutes for interested persons. As noted above, further education is in process for use of the PLA Website.

- Membership: Rich reported he sent out one New Member packet since last meeting. George did send the Master Membership file via Excel to Rich, but not able to download yet – still working on this. It will be used to send out Annual Meeting Invites, to create Volunteer Lists for various needs, including hopefully the Strawberry Social and it will be helpful for making labels for future mailings. Rich is working on designing the Membership Letter in time for the Spring mailing.
- Water Quality: Mike
 - Rich and Joe did obtain the spring phosphorus lake sample.
 - Michigan Lake and Stream Conference on April 29, 30 is free. By registering for the conference one can become a "Water test sampler"
 - Mike and Joe are working on figuring out how to summarize the data on the Website and in the Annual Lake Report. The data goes back to 1972 with major episodic changes only and the E. coli data always shows the biggest swings only in the river but not in the lake samples
- Natural Resources: Joe
 - Exciting news! This is the 3rd year Coho spawn found in North Branch of the Pentwater River. Fisherman are catching Coho up to 20" off both the pier and the bridge.
 - MDOT has done some sandbag removal on Monroe St for dock users ease of access. Not all will be removed yet until sure water level will remain down.
 - Reminder it is now Turkey Season as of April 17 to end of April.
- Social: Lynne
 - Please see # 3 / Old Business – PLA Annual Meeting notes
- Website: George
 - Claudia Rodan-Hessel is assisting George and the PLA at this time as noted above.
- Education: Betty
 - Acknowledged Covid has dampened progress of PLA Education Committee goals.
 - Pentwater School children between grades 2-5 will be making "Public Service Announcement" posters, approximately 11"x11". The topic chosen: "Aqua Smart". Betty will collect these, have them laminated and distribute. Examples include: *Clean Your Machine!*, *Look Before You Leap!* PLA goal is to provide the resources for the teachers to accomplish this. The posters will be hung up in various places in our community to

promote safety and health of the lake as well as involve the children in caring for the future of Pentwater Lake.

- Discussion ensued regarding rewarding the children with \$5.00 gift certificates to appropriate local establishments. Pat made a motion to spend up to \$300 for this, Janet seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Rich (and AnnaMae) asked Betty to float the idea of a post school year “Drown Proof” Class for next school year.

OLD / CONTINUING BUSINESS:

1. Email “Blast”: Rich led discussion regarding benefit of doing monthly email blasts to PLA Members and if so, what content should be sent. All agreed it would be beneficial to do real time email blasts in addition to the quarterly Newsletter to keep PLA members informed. The first one should introduce email “blasts” purpose, including frequency members will receive and be open to feedback. May 2021 proposed as start date; will try to send first week of every month. Because we have never had a Master email list it has not been tried. Now seems the perfect time to start.

2. Software Update: Rich

-Still need to do some homework in regards to this before making decision. It’s not clear if everyone must have Outlook or not.

-Tried OneDrive for sharing capabilities, it works very well.

-SquareSpace.com is a great system to use for online payments of dues, donations, and payment of Annual Meeting. There is an associated cost of approximately \$3.00 per payment. Discussion had regarding whether to add to dues cost or absorb this cost. Because over 200 members, will likely tack cost on to dues fee. We will not start it before this cycle of Annual Membership 2021-22, but sometime between June and the following year. We need to do more research before making a final decision. It makes sense to start using an online payment system. Many local groups are already using with success.

3. PLA Annual Meeting: Lynne

-The Grand Rapids Diocese Bishop announced the maximum indoor capacity at St. Vincent’s is 25. We will be unable to have the Annual Meeting there. We will receive a full refund.

-Park Place is available. Capacity is 50-100. It can accommodate a “hybrid” meeting using the new Tech Center for those who wish to Zoom in for virtual experience. We will rent from 1-9pm, which will include set up beforehand, and clean up afterward. Time of meeting will be 6 - 9 PM. Cost there is lower for non-profit associations. Masks will be required (except when eating/drinking) and social distancing will be in place.

-Emily Neuman has agreed to be our speaker. She will be paid an Honorarium for her presentation.

-Homework:

Need know final cost to rent.

Need to obtain an insurance rider.

Need to decide on “boxed” dinner versus hor d’oeuvres. Janet volunteered to check into caterers / food options.

Need to decide how we will register members for both virtual and in-person attendance.

Need to decide final cost of in-person attendees (addition of food cost) before letter goes out.

-Pat made a motion to approve use of Park Place for the Annual Meeting and to make further decisions via email rather than May meeting to expedite decisions. Dan seconded. Motion carried.

4. Additional Work Group Updates:

Each work group is to submit information of needs of Volunteers at next meeting. (see 5. Below)

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

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

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

-Dan shared that Manny, the Mears Park Director, informed him that for the boat wash, we can fill the DNR containers with fresh water and dump the dirty water in the RV dump.

Rich asked if Lynne had any stencils that he could use on pavement at our launch sites (like they do at Duck Lake Park) reminding people to clean, drain and dry their watercraft. Working on this and road sign reminders.

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

5. Job List for Volunteers: Tom

-Pat created 2 lists from Rich’s list of volunteer needs – one sorted by “owner” and one by “frequency” for possible use. (emailed to all ahead of time).

-Tom said he will begin by writing a “volunteer informational letter” for the Newsletter to encourage PLA members to consider volunteering. We need to be careful not to recruit people to volunteer then not have specifics for them to do with dates / times / job descriptions. We need to be organized ahead of time.

-Each work group is to come to the May meeting with specific needs to present to Tom.

6. Information Stand: Lynne

-Chris Brown, Village Manager, did give approval for us to remove the old Information Stand at the Village Boat Launch and replace with a new one. The cost is \$550-\$600 to replace. Tom made a motion to approve purchase, Joe seconded it. Motion carried.

7. Approval of the State of the Lake Report (PLA): Joe

-Joe asked for PLA Board support to an Annual Lake Report. The report will cover: Water Level Patterns, Lake MI Surges, Fall Algae Blooms. Joe will talk about our lake at risk. He presented his request to us on May 3. If accepted by both groups (PLA/PLIB) the report will be ready for our Annual Meeting June 25. Tom made a motion to accept report publication. Pat seconded the motion. Motion carried.

-The Annual Lake Report will be posted on both PLA and PLIB websites.

-Joe reported he had many class “take-aways” after attending the Zoom University of Minnesota Research Center workshop. A goal included limiting herbicide to 15%, i.e. of their 106 acres, this would be 16 acres of herbicide use.

-Mechanical Harvesting will be 50% of PTW lake, choosing 53 acres of shoreline.

8. Potential New Board Members for PLA: Lynne

-Betty confirmed will not renew for another term. We will need an Education Chair.

-Four people are rotating off this June: Lynne, President; George, Treasurer; Betty and Rich. We need a VP as well as Education Chair. Everyone asked to think of and present nominations at the May meeting.

-Normally we present the slate of officers to vote at the Annual Meeting. This year we would like to vote ahead of time so we can present the new officers at the Annual Meeting.

Meeting Adjourned @ 8:45PM

Next meeting: MAY 17, 2021 @ 6:30PM / via ZOOM

Respectfully submitted,
Beth Provencal