

MINUTES: Pentwater Lake Association

**May 17, 2021 via ZOOM**

Lynne called the meeting to order at 6:34pm

Members present: Members Lynne Cavazos, Pat Hooyman, Betty Pleva, Joe Primozich, Beth Provencal, Rich Pugsley, George Richey, Janet Strahan, Tom Walter, GUEST: Joan Menke-Schaenzer. Absent: Mike Peters, Dan Selahowski. (Ad Hoc member: Editor AnnaMae Bush)

Agenda: Reviewed. Joe requested add Membership for Students under New Business. Rich requested add 6 additional topics under New Business. Joe made a motion to approve agenda with additions. Tom seconded it. Motion carried

Public Comment: None

Minutes: April Minutes reviewed. No corrections. Pat made a motion to approve minutes. Janet seconded it. Motion carried.

Treasurer's Report: George present but Lynne presented information as has been keeping Treasurer book and checkbook this past month. Current checking account: \$5,033.33, savings account: \$11,549.36. Weed Harvest account remains unchanged at \$2375.00. Major changes in accounts include the return deposit from St Vincent's. Outgoing bills include payment for Newsletter, Stamps, Annual Meeting / Membership letter to all PLA members and the 3<sup>rd</sup> Information Station at Lake St launch. Of note, so far 82 members have paid membership. Joe made a motion to approve the Treasurer's report. Rich seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Date for next Board Meeting: JUNE 25, 2021 Annual Meeting at Park Place from 6-9pm. Meeting will be both virtual via new tech center and in person within current covid restrictions. Because there was no Annual Meeting in 2020 due to covid, no prior minutes will be read. The Annual Treasurer's report will be shared.

## **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

- Newsletter: AnnaMae reported via email the following: The 16-page, first time in color, May 2021 Newsletter went out on time. It now has several "fixed features", such as Presidents Message, Committee Reports, etc. So many people had submitted articles that she had to decide which to include, which to edit, which to save for another newsletter. It's a great problem to have! She requested assistance in this decision-making process in the future. PLA member Ron Beeber requested her to add a link to the Newsletter for our website. Discussion ensued regarding the need to build the Newsletter Committee to include 3-4 people would be beneficial in making these decisions. Caroline and Lynne will join the Newsletter Committee and assist w/ decision making. Rich mentioned possibility of using some of the article information in email blasts. There were many comments and compliments at the quality of our Newsletter thanks to Annamae's hard work. The next newsletter will be the August Issue.

- Publicity: PLA Website/PLA Facebook Page: Pat reported Claudia Ressel-Hodan posted the previous February Newsletter and the May Newsletter on the PLA Website for us. Training is scheduled on June 9<sup>th</sup> for both Pat and Beth to be trained on the Website. Janet will also be training in the future when able. Claudia will also be asked to assist with some FB tips and advice to improve use of that medium.
- Membership: Rich reported he has successfully created an Excel spreadsheet with current PLA Membership information. He plans to update it at least monthly with both Membership and Riparian Magazine stats. This is a great new tool for future use in numerous ways for PLA. Thank you Rich!
- Water Quality: In Mikes absence, Joe reported their committee is going to work with MiCorp' Cooperative Lakes Monitoring Program (CLMP) which provides technical assistance, training and other support to volunteer lake monitors in Michigan to ensure that they are collecting reliable, high-quality data. (website is: micorps.net) Tom Walter will be spearheading a new PLA Shoreline Evaluation Team, which will require at least 3 members. This is a new endeavor, so they are just learning about it. It's an interesting concept to lake improvement with a 0-100 scoring system. Between June 15-17 we will submit a lake sample to WVSU Annis Water Resources Institute in Muskegon. Joe asked for a volunteer to drop the sample off before 11am at Annis. A suggestion was made regarding the volunteer that perhaps it could be done as a great opportunity to take kids and/or adults on a tour of the Annis Center.
- Natural Resources: Joe also reported that the Eagles Nest has been spotted on the south branch of Pentwater River about a ½ mile up river. It is the largest nest noted since 2002! It is on private land in the tallest tree across from Big Sandy Bend. It is worth the paddle to go and see it. There is quite an abundance of water fowl in the lake, marsh and river this year. There are more Teal nesting in the marsh than in low water years, and we have Lesser Scaup nesting in the Marsh for the second year in a row.
- Social: Lynne reported that the Strawberry Social is still happening, though not quite sure what it will look like. We already have 25 volunteers already from membership letter returns. Caroline Denlar and Lynne will work on the details and keep PLA up to date. George stated the church is still available to assist with refrigeration, etc. as in past years.
- Website: George will be transitioning off in June. As noted above, training is scheduled on June 9<sup>th</sup> for both Pat and Beth to be trained on the Website. Janet will also be training in the future when able.
- Education: Betty reported 30-35 students in the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> grades have participated in the Pentwater School "Aqua Smart" Poster Project! She will be collecting the posters May 19<sup>th</sup> to be posted in numerous places around town. A discussion ensued how best

to do gift cards. It was decided: Each student will receive a \$5 "PLA Bucks" coupon with their name on it to be used at local establishments such as the Dari Crème, Cosmic Candy, House of Flavors. Lynne volunteered to assist Betty with choosing which businesses would be age appropriate for the children. The stores will then contact Betty and she will retrieve coupons and reimburse accordingly. Pat made a motion to approve the student reward system above. Tom seconded it. Motion carried. It was suggested we submit a thank you note to the children to the Newsletter with a picture or two. Betty also mentioned she dropped books/resources for the 3<sup>rd</sup> grade regarding Water Safety as Tim Simons still cannot go into classes for Water Safety Education, nor can the Coast Guard. She will speak to Chris Bush about Water Safety signs at the State Park.

## **OLD BUSINESS**

- PLA ANNUAL Meeting: Lynne led discussion of final plans for Annual Meeting June 25<sup>th</sup>. The cost is \$90 to rent from 1-9pm. We have a reduced cost is \$50 b/c we are non-profit and add \$40 extra to rent the Tech Center from 5-9pm. There will be 6-6:30pm social time prior to start. So far 32 people have signed up for In Person attendance and 10 Virtual on Zoom. Food will be pre-packaged. The main meal will be from Antler Bar, \$10/box that will include chicken croissant, a nonmeat vegetable option (roasted vegetables), asparagus salad, potato salad, and bag of chips. Dessert will be from Green Isaacs, \$5-6 each that will include 3 different sweets such as cookies and scones. Lynne assisted Janet with taste testing and fully approved! There will be bottled water and sparkling juice. Attendees have been informed they can BYOB. Distancing and mask rules will be the current CDC requirements, which have thankfully lessened. We anticipate an hour for set up to do tablecloths, napkins, set up calming music and place a folder on tables for attendees. The folder will include several things but will include specifically the State of the Lake Report. This is an exciting first for PLA! There will be a short business meeting, introduction of new Board Members and then Guest Speaker: Emily Neuman's presentation. Clean up will be needed when finished.
- Additional Work Group Updates:
  - *Aquatic Vegetative Management* – (Tom/Janet/Joe)

Joe requested a lead person volunteer to design a map of Pentwater Lake with local "sightings" of Aquatic Invasive Species. Specifically: Japanese Knotweed, Purple Loosestrife and Phragmites. He suggests we have a "hotline" of sorts that people can call, and the lead person will check out, then take a screen shot and document them on a map, perhaps using google maps. Additionally, will need volunteers to help spot and report the 3. Pat said if no one volunteers, he could help. We could post pictures of the 3 species on our FB site once we have a point person's contact information (email/phone #). After the map is complete, this will be used to request

the Michigan Conservation District to treat the species accordingly. Rich encouraged PLA members to take the “Paddle Steward” online training that is a 2 hour session for free that would help paddlers learn to identify invasive species.

- *Water Quality* – (Rich/AnnaMae/Joe) (see a. above)
- *Boating Safety / Water Safety* – (Mike/Joe/Dan) Already discussed in Education.
- *Community Involvement / Education* – (Pat/Betty/Beth) Betty stated she would love to be an Education Liaison / Ad Hoc member in the following year. All agreed yes please.
- Potential Upcoming Events for PLA: Spring-Fall:
  - Launch Blitz will occur July 17<sup>th</sup>. Rich said we will need 12 volunteers to assist.
  - ? Tim Simons may possibly be able to do a Water Safety Event.
  - Welcome to Summer Event/Kick Off Party will occur June 6<sup>th</sup>. We will need a table set up – Lynne & Rich both state they have tables available. Would be good to use our PLA Banner. They will be closing Hancock St down at Dari Crème to the Methodist Church for tables/booths. We will have Membership forms, an Invasive Weed information sheet, the Bull’s Eye chart and Clean Boats, Clean Waters information available on our table.
- Clean Boats, Clean Waters Activities and Funding: Rich presented several options he’d thought of including: 1. Information Kiosk 2. Pavement signs 3. Banners for a float (if having parade), would need 2, one for each side. 4. T-shirts: “Clean-Drain-Dry” on the front and “Clean Boats, Clean Waters” on the back perhaps? Rich will send Lynne the Graphics. Discussion ensued regarding sizes: L / XL / XXL and color: blue with white letters. All volunteers would use one but return for future use. See NEW BUSINESS: T-Shirt for motion made.

Some PLA Board members expressed interest in ordering one, paying for one themselves (Not out of PLA budget) and can email Rich if interested.

- PLA Board Members, Officers and Committee Chairs:
  - Potential New Board Members for PLA: In past, used to get a volunteer, present their Bio and then vote. We will do the voting prior to the Annual Meeting this year and introduce them at that time. We still need to find new people. Betty and Pat have a few ideas and will let us know via email. We will not have an additional meeting to decide but vote via email.

- Decisions on PLA Board Members for 2021/2022:

President: Patrick Hooyman

Vice President: open

Secretary: Beth Provencal

Treasurer: Rich Pugsley

- Committee Chairs for 2021/2022:

Newsletter: AnnaMae Bush

Publicity: Website and FB page: Beth Provencal / Janet Strahan – co-chairs

Membership: Rich Pugsley

Social: Lynne Cavazos / Janet Strahan to assist

Water Quality: Mike Peters ? unclear – Joe will confirm

Natural Resources: Joe Primozich

Education: Betty Pleva- will email reports to Pat Hooyman, President

## **NEW BUSINESS**

- Membership – Joe presented the idea of including students to join our PLA. This would be students who are not children of current families of PLA. They could be from Pentwater Schools, Westshore Community College – really any interested student in the area with a love and interest in PTW Lake. Students interested in biology might be very interested. Plus it would look great on a resume'. Joe made a motion for PLA to offer Student Memberships for \$5.00/year. Betty seconded it. Motion passed.
- Rich - 5 Additional Topics added:
  1. T-SHIRTS- Suggested we purchase 10 T-shirts for PLA volunteers to use for PLA Events. Unsure of cost, but approximately \$20 each. Lynne offered to check on prices. (See Committee Report/Clean Boats, Clean Waters discussion above.) Pat made a motion for PLA to fund the T-shirts at a maximum of \$20 each. Rich seconded the motion. Motion carried.
  2. Clarity Reading- We have never had a clarity reading - depth of clear water - over 10 feet. Currently it is 12' 6"!
  3. PLIB Goals we share in common- We have 3 goals in common with the PLIB: 1. Native Shoreline (up to PLA). 2. Phosphorus Tracking - more in-depth tracking beyond the surface level. 3. Oxygen Level measurement.

Also, PLA is compiling a State of the Lake report and PLIB will have a contribution to this report. A Common Lake Report.

4. E-Mail Blast- All set to start email blast, early June. It will include information about the Annual Meeting, Dues and Riparian Magazine reminders. He included he will need to change the email blasts from his personal email to a formal PLA email site. All agreed.

5. Sailing Buoys - Sailing buoys have been installed this year, but in different locations in years past. It may cause some issues with skiing and no wake zones. Pat belongs to the Yacht Club and offered to talk to appropriate people at PTW Yacht Club to discuss and correct as needed. Pat and Rich will approach this together to find a solution with Yacht Club members.

All buoys do require permitting and have regulations in place. There was some discussion regarding buoys and zoning. Rich proposed an article in the Newsletter about this. Much discussion followed. Lynne offered to speak with Keith Edwards regarding zoning ordinances. No decisions were made regarding Newsletter articles. PLA purpose does not involve zoning, but mission statement does have goals regarding safety.

Fishing Tournament:

Joe- stated will need money for posters and trophies for the Annual Fishing Tournament in July. Need to put a copy of the poster on PLA Website. Also will need PLA funding- approximately \$100.

Tom – Informed/Reminded PLA Board that there is a DNR Hotline 800-292-7800 and noted it was utilized recently regarding the boat that was in the marsh for > 1 month was reported and has been subsequently removed.

Meeting adjourned at 8:50pm

Next Meeting: June 25 Annual Meeting

Respectfully submitted,

Beth Provencal