

MINUTES: Pentwater Lake Association (PLA)

July 18, 2022

- 1) Call to order: Tom Walter called the meeting to order @ 6:35pm @ Centenary United Methodist (UMC) Church.
- 2) Roll Call: PLA Board Members - Kelie Bond, Lynne Cavazos, Ross Feltes, Pat Hooyman, Joan Menke-Schaenzer, Beth Provencal, Rich Pugsley, Tom Walter, Vice President. PLA Members: AnnaMae Bush, Newsletter Editor, Joe Primozich, Natural Resources chairperson. Guest: Allen Blohm, Oceana County Road Commissioner. Absent: Board Members: George Richey, Dan Selahowski, Mike Peters and Education Chair: Betty Pleva.
- 3) Approval of Agenda: Removed Nomination Committee until Spring. Request for 3 additions under New Business – Rich: add discussion of possibility of boat wash at Convenience Center, Beth: clarify Board vs Officers, website to list both, and if should add chairs of committees, Joe: need to share Pentwater Sportfishing Association (PSA) input regarding Village, Lake St launch. Motion made by Beth to accept agenda with additions, Lynne seconded the motion. All approved, motion passed.
- 4) Public Comment: Guest, Allen Blohm stated he saw the advertisement for this meeting in the Oceana Herald and came to see what the PLA is about. He added “in full disclosure, I am on the August 2 ballot for re-election”. Stated he realized it would be beneficial to be involved with the PLA to learn and for input on issues he knows about. Stated he was raised in Shelby. He is interested in joining the PLA. Pat handed him a membership form.
- 5) Approval of Board Meeting Minutes: Members input received regarding acronyms and correction of name of the watershed group. Rich made a motion to accept May 16, 2022 minutes with corrections, Kelie seconded the motion. All approved, motion passed. Minutes will be posted to PLA Website this week. June 17, 2022 Annual Meeting Minutes not sent out in time, will add to August agenda for review. Cannot approve until 2023 Annual Meeting.
- 6) Treasurer’s Report: Rich presented the July 2022 PLA Financial Report, sent to all Board members via email prior to meeting. Totals include: General Fund: \$13,176.49, Harvesting: \$2025.00 and Youth Fishing Tournament/ Dave Rose Donations: \$2,457.28, noting did have another \$100 donation added on 6/4/22. Total all funds: \$17,658.77. (see Social Committee report for Annual Meeting cost/expenditures) Lynne made a motion to approve Treasurer’s report as presented, Joan seconded the motion. All approved, motion passed.
- 7) Next Board Meeting: AUGUST 15, 2022 @ Centenary UMC at 6:30pm
- 8) **COMMITTEE REPORTS:**
 - A. **NEWSLETTER**: AnnaMae re: software purchase, said not needed yet. She has Microsoft 365 with MS Word and Publisher, and decided to do the August Newsletter in BOTH Word and Publisher as a trial to see which one works best. Rather than needing a software purchase, AnnaMae requested the Board approve the cost of her taking a class, perhaps at Westshore Community College, to aid her in knowledge and use of these programs. It is a challenge to fit all the information into the 16-page format. Rich made a motion to conditionally approve \$50 to \$100 for class(s), Lynne seconded the motion. All approved, motion passed. The next newsletter will be sent to PLA members the first week of August. AnnaMae

expressed many thanks to Tom, Rich and Joe, to everyone, for the great articles submitted. She actually had more material than pages this time, and said what a great problem to have.

- B. **PUBLICITY:** Press releases completed in timely manner.
 - a. PLA Homecoming Float - Pat started out stating he will not be in Pentwater for Homecoming this year and requested Joan to please head this effort of planning and organizing the float. She agreed. Tom stated he has a pontoon boat, trailer and truck to use. We have 3 banners to attach. Rich has numerous key fobs, koozies, temporary tattoos for children and will order more. Numerous ideas were exchanged regarding number of people on boat, number walking along, decorations, props – life jackets, etc. Joan will organize and keep the board up to date via email. Rich made a motion to approve up to \$100 for decoration budget, Beth seconded the motion. All approved, motion passed.
 - b. Pentwater Service Club Presentation May 19 – Pat said it went very well. Will email the PowerPoint presentation to all. Will save for future use.
 - c. Start of Summer Party- Was held June 5, 2022 went well despite the weather. Used the 3 banners – 2 Pentwater Lake Association banners and 1 Clean Boat / Clean Water banner.
 - d. Life Jacket Press release- submitted the reminder to the Oceana Herald again this year (4th year now) regarding the Life Jacket Loaner Program and also submitted an article in PTW Magazine.
 - e. PTW Magazine articles/timing- Lynne has the main list of articles and timing of release of these, such as announcement of the Strawberry Social and Youth Fishing Tournament. Difficulties arise at times because need to submit some articles 2 weeks ahead and the magazine does not come out weekly every time. Lynne will connect with AnnaMae regarding articles / timing in regards to the Newsletter announcements as well.
- C. **PLA WEBSITE / FACEBOOK:** Beth updated the website with new officers and board members and requested everyone double check the website for their contact information for accuracy. She asked if we wish to list committee chairs – unanimous agreement to add. So far has added 7 youth fish pictures since the tournament began. Beth has posted numerous educational and current photos of lake happenings on Facebook.
- D. **MEMBERSHIP:** Rich, per suggestion from AnnaMae, reported current PLA membership details more specifically: We have 240 "households" and 422 "members". 58 are either single person households or businesses. We have 8 new households since May 1st which included 14 members. 69 households have recently renewed, still have 49 pending.
- E. **WATER QUALITY:** Pat handed out a Water Sampling Schedule to share. It included exact dates, what is collected, destination and drivers along with phone and emails. The biggest need is for drivers. Pat will be recruiting other PLA members to assist. Rich, Kelie and newest committee member Tim Cole, completed the last collection on July 14th. Carole Feltes volunteered to drive sample to Muskegon. Tim has expressed enjoying being part of this team. Kelie stated she needs more chemicals before next collection.
- F. **NATURAL RESOURCES:** Joe had 5 things to report: 1. EGLE sent 4 workers to lift frogbit on June 30 from the marsh. Sites were mapped out for further management. 2. Aquatic plant growth in the lake is three weeks behind from last year. 3. Starry Stonewort will be harvested before Homecoming. (The three worst spots are in front of the Walter home, in front of the Beckman home and in front of the Village/Lake St. launch.) 4. Big Sandy Bend Erosion project is in the study phase. Should be done this fall. 5. The wooden bridge on the

north branch of Pentwater River was removed by the property owner. There is clear paddling from Hammet Road to the red barn.

G. **SOCIAL:** Lynne reported

a. Strawberry Social will be held Thursday August 11th from 6-8:30pm. Caroline Denlar is assisting again this year organizing volunteers, of which we have plenty. Decision made to have 45-minute shifts instead of 1 hour to utilize all the people wishing to help. We have “runners”, discussed maybe using a golf cart to transport this year, but might be too much traffic. Cost of supplies has increased and decision made to increase cost from \$4.50 to \$5.00. Water will be separate cost of \$1.00/ which is not new. Decision made to decrease the number of biscuits and whipped cream as had too many left overs last year. Will be ordering supplies through the Oceana Council on Aging rather than the PTW Yacht Club for ease of ordering. Rich has all tables needed: 6 long, 2 card tables. Things are in place for a successful event.

b. Annual Meeting Summary: Lynne handed out full report regarding the Annual Meeting held on Friday June 17th. Attendance was down somewhat, but not surprisingly so due to covid in area. There were 59 paid dinners. Cost exceeded income, but this is not unusual. Discussed next year having a water re-filling station and perhaps a recycle bin for plastics. The speakers were very interesting and enjoyable. The PLA received good input afterward.

H. **EDUCATION:** Betty Pleva absent, Rich reported next Speech Contest will be in October 2023. Will add to agenda in the fall.

9) **UNFINISHED/CONTINUING BUSINESS:**

a. Grant Updates-

Sandy Bend Engineering Project: Tom reported this is still in process. Too early to submit any grant requests.

Clean Boats, Clean Waters Grant: Rich reported the PLA did not get the grant. Will work with other Lake Associations next year, to create a broader attempt and can increase chances of obtaining a grant.

b. July 16 Launch Blitz results: Rich thanked all 11 volunteers for their assistance, in addition to 9 board members, Tim Cole and Steve Thomas helped. The volunteers met with 87 people and inspected 54 boats. This is half the amount of last year, but the weather was not great. Beth created a handout of highlights that Rich had given out, and folded pamphlets in them which worked well, and will do again for next year. Discussed how best to talk to boaters about washing their boats and why – it was mentioned there are great YouTube videos to watch.

c. Upcoming Seminars/Conferences/Webinars: Ross referred to his list, is keeping it updated. Beth will post on PLA FB site 2-3 weeks ahead of each opportunity. Another site to look for opportunities is National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) website: noaa.gov.

d. Outreach to other Lake Associations: nothing to report. Can remove this from the agenda at this time.

e. Update from Friends of the Pentwater River Watershed: *Note – this is not a “committee” of the PLA. It is pertinent to the PLA but not part of the PLA.*

Here is a summary of the watershed activities per Rich:

- Contact made with Amanda Buday professor at Grand Valley State University, to help with a riparian survey. Hope to work with her and her students this fall. Working with Fly Fishing

International on potential funding to cover the \$3,000 cost of the survey work.

- Ken Konyha is attending the Crystal Valley dam discussion being held tonight.
- Working to determine the best mobile app to record information on the river when doing surveys.
- Fish surveys will be conducted by the DNR on the South and North Branches on Thursday and Friday, August 4/5.
- Working to determine the best ARC-GIS system to store the river inventory data in and whom to work with to learn how to do it.
- Working with Rick Rediske at AWRI on additional contacts for evaluating zoning regulations in the watershed.

f. Channel Dredging: This is in process now, thankfully. Per Lynne, the Friends of the PTW Channel are looking at possibility of using fences to keep sand off sidewalks and from blowing into the channel. Lynne shared a handout titled: Resilient Coast Projects Initiative – West Michigan Participation Interest Form, which was submitted 7/13/22 by the Friends of the PTW Channel in an attempt to secure funding for fencing. They expect to hear back by September. Contact people include Lynne, Manny Vasquez, Manager at Charles Mears State Park, Tom Walter, PLA and Tom Marriott, Oceana Beach Association. Lynne will keep the PLA posted as needed.

g. Converting from MS Word to PDF: Beth brought her laptop to the meeting and asked for assistance. Ross showed her how to do this. Beth will cancel the \$149/yr Adobe Acrobat subscription which expires July 31, 2022.

h. PLA Scholarships: Joe has formed a subcommittee which includes himself, Betty Pleva and Dan Selahowski. Joe stated Pentwater High School has a large number of scholarships available to students and would benefit from a PLA scholarship as well. Topics being discussed are the application process, criteria appropriate to Pentwater Lake and River, perhaps an “Environmental Sciences Scholarship” which would require students to share which college and what their major is. Maybe ask the PLA membership to donate separately to this fund? Amounts would be determined, but hopefully somewhere between \$300-\$500 as a starting point. He asked for the board input and ideas. Nothing is decided yet, all is in process. Joe will keep the PLA updated on the subcommittee progress and when decisions reached, will conduct a vote at a board meeting.

10) NEW BUSINESS:

a. Water hose at Village Boat Launch: Beth stated had been approached by a PLA member and the Pentwater Jr. Sailing Program teacher, Pam Slotsema, about the condition of the hose. It is leaking, has duct tape on it, in general disrepair. She had been to the Village and spoken with Chris Brown, Pentwater Village Manager, but unable to secure a new hose/handle/reel. She wondered if the PLA would be willing to donate a hose to the Jr. Sailing Program? Beth took pictures of the hose and showed board members the situation. Discussion ensued. Lynne volunteered to speak with the Village Manager and see if it is in the budget. The hose belongs to the Village and any donation would be to the Village, not a specific program. The PLA is promoting Clean Boats/Clean Waters Program and would be in the best interest of the lake to have a working hose for numerous reasons. Further information needed to make a decision. Will add to the August agenda.

- b. Rich presented an idea he had that would help promote Clean Boat/Clean Water Program. We need a place that boaters can powerwash their boats. He spoke to the Pentwater Convenience Center (gas station on Monroe by exit) manager, Brian, about the possibility of using that location for a boat and car wash. It would be especially convenient for the numerous kayakers who use the Monroe St. river launch. If there is interest by the owner, this would be a good grant opportunity to apply for. Will discuss findings at August meeting.
- c. Bylaw Clarification: Beth asked for clarification regarding Board vs Officer term limits. Pat clarified can only do 2, 3 year terms in succession, but can return after a year or more off the board.
- d. Village Boat Launch: Joe stated he had input from the Pentwater Fishing Association (PSA) about the condition of the launch and safety issues for boaters. The launch lists to the left but the posts list to the right. There is jagged metal on the top of the posts. The PSA had heard complaints from boaters and has contacted the Village in writing about these concerns twice. The action item- proposal- is to apply PVC sleeves around the posts and cap them. The PSA is asking the PLA: if the Village will not fix the issues, will you donate half of the \$250 cost to cover supplies and the PSA will do the repairs. It would be a one-time request. It was decided to have the PLA cosign the letter to the Village with repair requests which Joe will deliver personally. A motion was made by Lynne to have the PLA cosign and to donate up to \$125 for repairs if not covered by Village. Joan seconded the motion. All approved, motion carried. Joe will update the PLA with results of that request.

11. Board Comments: None.

12. Adjournment: Tom adjourned the meeting at 9:38pm

Respectfully submitted,

Beth Provencal
PLA Secretary