

MINUTES: Pentwater Lake Association

**SEPTEMBER 20, 2021 6:30PM**

1. Meeting called to order at 6:45pm at Pat Hooyman's residence
2. Roll call: Board Members - Pat Hooyman, Tom Walter, Dan Selahowski, Rich Pugsley, Joan Menke-Schaenzer, Dr. Ross Feltes, Beth Provencal. PLA Members: Lynne Cavazos, AnnaMae Bush and newest member: Dianne Baker, who won the free PLA membership at the Women's Club Auction.
3. Approval of Agenda with additions: under Old Business added PSA lighted buoy update, under New Business added MI Species Grant Program and CD3 Program. Motion made by Rich to approve with additions, Tom seconded the motion. All approved, motion passed.
4. Opportunity for Public Comment: Dianne introduced herself stating has been interested in PLA for quite some time and very happy to be here. She has experience as a photographer and did bring photos to share.
5. Approval of Minutes: August 16, 2021 Minutes reviewed; 3 corrections noted. Joan made a motion to approve with corrections, Ross seconded the motion. All approved, motion passed. Beth thanked the PLA for reimbursement for cost of Adobe Acrobat software.
6. Treasurer Report: Rich reported Treasurer transition complete, the checkbook is balanced, new checks obtained, taxes filed (Pat is the official contact for PLA taxes), and that he, Pat and Lynne have bank access. He completed a budget, noting there is still \$1000 left for use in Projects, we are still within budget for Weed Harvest and that our \$740 insurance has been paid. See Treasurer's Report for further details. Beth made a motion to approve, Dan seconded the motion. All approved, motion passed.
7. Next Board Meeting: October 18, 2021 @ 6:30pm, Centenary Methodist Church on Hancock St.
8. Committee Reports:
  - A. Newsletter – AnnaMae  
Next Newsletter set for November. There will be a committee meeting prior to release. AnnaMae will contact each author directly. Deadline is October 15. Rich stated the May cost of the newsletter was \$279, and August newsletter cost was \$316 which is now exceeding \$250 allotted in the budget. AnnaMae will look into this and report back.
  - B. Publicity – Pat  
The new Gmail address Pat created: "PLA Press 2021" is for publicity communication only; it is not for any other official PLA email. This September meeting announcement was posted in the Oceana Herald-Journal.  
Dan sent 2 thank you notes using PLA letterhead with the PLA logo. One letter was to Dr. Jo Latimore, MSU Sr Academic Specialist in Aquatic Ecology & Outreach, for choosing PLA to participate in the MSU Boat Wash Program in July and the other was to Chris Bush, DNR Officer at Mears St. Park, who arranged for fresh water and waste water to be flushed. He is a great asset and contact for PLA.
  - C. Website / Facebook – Beth/Janet  
Website: Posted September meeting information. Sea Tow Foundation, MI Paddle Stewards and PTW Township links all added. In the Current Issues section added Frogbit and Starry Stonewort sections with pictures but requested someone write up a condensed description

like the other issues have. Joe has done the others that are listed. Rich stated he would discuss with Joe and then email something to post. Lastly, the Website credit card has been updated and doesn't expire until October of 2025.

Facebook: Recent posts include - Youth Fishing Tournament end results, winners and a write up from Joe, Sand bag pick up and Stonewort harvest with pictures and last, the PLA September Meeting announcement.

D. Membership – Rich

Current membership 212 paid and 24 unpaid members at this time. The list of unpaid members was reviewed, one member has moved so was removed from the list. Some will be contacted by the board to see if still interested. Our budget is based on 230. There are 6 new members since August meeting. Working on updating the Membership form to include a check mark if nothing has changed. We are not credit card ready because of additional costs this would entail. Further discussion is needed. Rich requested add "Finalizing the Directory" to the October Agenda.

E. Water Quality – Mike Peters absent

Rich reported in Mike's absence (noted Mike is facing health challenges at this time). Regarding Water sampling- Sept 16 the last water samples of 2021 delivered to Muskegon and that Tom will be delivering the last one to GR tomorrow. This completes the testing for this season. Joe has the first 2 months of results and will have the next two very soon. See New Business regarding Historical Data.

F. Natural Resources – Joe absent

Rich reported for Joe. Please see Old Business regarding Mechanical Harvest update. He announced a wild life sighting of a Bobcat at Sandy Bend!! He shared a picture. A discussion of Grant Proposals came up with the announcement of Kathy Evans imminent retirement as Program Manager at West MI Shoreline Regional Development Commission. She is our primary contact for PLA Grant requests. It's unknown who will replace her. Because we are a smaller lake and grants are generally awarded to large projects, we are included within other lakes grant requests. The last Watershed Report was done on the South branch of PTW River in 1999. The next one needs to be the North branch. It's noted that the sand load into the PTW River at Sandy Bend is concerning and needs to be fixed. Ross and Tom shared valuable information about grant process and how very complicated it is. Joan expressed an interest in this topic and wishes to be included in further discussion as we will need to be persistent if we wish to have Pentwater Lake needs addressed and funded. (See New Business MISGP regarding discussion about recent article in the Oceana Herald-Journal regarding new grant proposals)

G. Social – Lynne

Nothing new to report, no Fall or Winter projects require action. But did wish to inform PLA of 2 things regarding Safety and Networking:

- Safety Issue/comment: Expressed concern that she had not heard back from her contact, Gail, regarding the Sea Tow Program. Lynne has not submitted any data this summer. She stated the life jackets will be picked up in late October and she will store them again this year. The stands will be stored at the Junior Sailing Program building.

- Networking comment: Lynne shared that she recently went to the Bass Lake Improvement Board meeting. There were around 50 people present. Bass Lake has done a lot of chemical

treatment of weeds this year. They have large celery mats choking the lake where property owners have docks. The mats are making swimming and boating difficult. Discussed swapping / brainstorming with other Lake Improvement Boards as to what they are doing that might be of interest to PLA/PLIB. Discussion ensued; no decisions made.

H. Education – Betty Pleva absent

Lynne reported Betty is involved in the new Oceana School Speech Project.  
(See New Business)

9. **Old / Unfinished Business:**

- a. Email Blitz/New PLA Email – Rich sent out 2 email blitzes. It is very easy to do. He got 10 responses to each email with good questions from PLA members which he answered. Stated we will eventually need a PLA designated Email to be established rather than a personal Email address. He will investigate what this entails and bring findings to discuss. AnnaMae expressed concern that blitz email and newsletter might be redundant but was assured while it may have some overlap, some repetition can be a very good thing to remind people of important PLA doings. Rich stated the blitzes should be posted on the PLA Facebook site as well to reach a greater audience.
- b. Approval of Weed Cleanup Expense – Rich has paid the bill. The cost was already an approved part of the budget.
- c. T-Shirt Update – All board members now have a PLA T-shirt. There are 10 left: 6XL, 1L and 3M. Suggestion made to give one to George Richey our past Treasurer, all agreed. Rich will deliver to him.
- d. Mechanical Harvesting Update – One Weed Harvest was completed the week after Labor Day. A total of 53 trailer loads (@ 150 tons) of Starry Stonewort was removed and disposed. It went very well. Rich took a survey the Friday after removal. Unfortunately, the machine could not get inside some docks. Other than that, no major issues. The Weed Harvest Permit is valid for 5 years so will be able to start earlier next summer. The plan will be a first harvest in early July 2022 targeting Riparian dock areas. Anticipate at the end of August / early September will complete a second and final harvest of 2022.
- e. Score the Shore Update – Tom stated not much more to report yet. There are 5.3 linear miles to cover; amounting to approximately 30, 1000-foot sections. A committee was formed which includes Joe, Rich and Tom.
- f. PSA Lighted Buoy Update – the light was replaced in current buoy last Saturday by Pentwater Sportfishing Association members: Dean Jessup, Bruce Koorndyk and PLA members: Rich Pugsley and Pat Hooyman. The actual new buoy will go in next year for start of season.

10. **New Business:**

- a. Oceana School Speech Project – Betty absent, will put on agenda for October.
- b. Membership Renewal – Pat
  1. MI Lakes and Streams Association: \$300/year. Important to support this Association. They offer valuable information which include the magazine, webinars and meetings members may attend, virtual and in person.

2. MI Waterfront Alliance: \$100/year. Good to keep abreast of this information as it includes current lobbying and advocating for Inland Lakes.
3. Pentwater Chamber of Commerce: \$75/year. Important to continue to support Pentwater Community, including the PTW Magazine which PLA has used for publicity. Beth made a motion to approve, Tom seconded the motion. All approved, motion passed.
- c. Consolidated Water Quality Historical Data Project – Rich  
Some history first – From 1977 – 1995 Conley Bowling kept data on written spread sheets. 10 years ago, Dave Roseman digitized all these reports. These records are stored in plastic tubs in the basement of the Historical Society. Mike Peters gave Rich a 9x13 spreadsheet of most current data report. The data needs to be organized and reviewed. Ross stated he will help with this endeavor.
- d. Future Board Meeting Sites – Pat  
We will return to the Centenary Methodist Church. We will not have a key to building but will send request to Matt Hacker, our church contact to open when needed.
- e. MISGP 22' Grant & AIS Prevention with CD3 Systems - Pat  
-MI Species Grant Program: There was a recent article in the Oceana Herald-Journal regarding new grant proposals, requiring a 20% match, and due by Nov 1<sup>st</sup>. The timeframe is too short. PLA is not ready and will not pursue any grants at this time.  
-AIS (Aquatic Invasive Species) Prevention with CD3 Systems: Clean/Drain/Dry Program – difficult and expensive to implement with boat cleanings for a variety of reasons. This is a possible grant proposal worthy of pursuing. Rich is going to send Cathy Evans an email asking for her opinion about the grant.

11. Board Members Comments –

AnnaMae - We currently send out PLA Newsletters the Village and Township in addition to PLA Members. Questioned if it would be beneficial to send to other cities/villages with small lakes such as Stony, Silver, Bass and Hart? Should we send it to Ludington News? Oceana Herald-Journal (OHJ)? Purpose? Benefit? Asked us to think about it and discuss in future. Pat – maybe send email to Amanda Dodge @ OHJ and ask for input? No action taken.

Rich – Should we review the current PLA Bylaws? Will need to get copies and be reviewed. Will table to next meeting.

Ross – Entered into deeper discussion of CISMAs (Cooperative Invasive Species Management Areas) which is complicated to describe. PLA Board is fortunate to have such knowledgeable members. Ongoing learning is needed by the PLA.

12. Adjournment: Meeting adjourned at 8:45pm

Next Meeting: NOVEMBER 15, 2021 @ 6:30pm

Respectfully submitted,

Beth Provencal  
PLA Secretary