

**Lake Leelanau Lake Association**

**Annual Meeting**

**7-20-16**

PRESENT: (LLLA Board Members): Bob Bosch, Nick Fleezanis\*, Hugh Farber, Cindy Kacin\*, Barb Kobberstad, John Lutchko, John Popa, Mark Smith, Dan Sweeney\*, George Prewitt\*, Richard Thompson\*, Wayne Wunderlich \*Officers

PRESENT: (LLLA Membership): Tony Borden, Janet Bogus, Nancy Dotla, Peter & Antoinette Bauer, Stephen & Nancy Beights, Kim Boose, Peter Burr, Jim Wenstrup, Barry & Barbara Dove, Jimmy & Lori Gross, Elaine Fleezanis, Betty Farber, Jeff & Susan Green, Bill & Cindy Green, Carl & Mary Hammond, Richard & Laura Howard, Jim Kacin, Jim Kobberstad, Merrill & Andrew Linton, Debbie & Bill Lipner, Ray & Penny Malcoun, Charles & Doreen McKenna, Scott McNamara, Robert & Jane Miller, Preston & Colleen Moose, Guy & Anneke Plamondon, Gayle Popa, Larry & Jessie Ray, Richard and Rebecca Reahard, Paul & Cathy Sehnert, Page Sikes, Marjory Smith, Larry & Beverly St. Clair, Nancy Sweeney, Judy Prewitt, Mary Taylor, Sera Thompson, Tom & Sue Trumbull, Douglas & Judy Van Dyke, Andy & Elizabeth Walters, Bernard & Janice Weidenaar, Dorothy Wunderlich, Jeff Sanborn, Bruce & Lynn Dunn, Dave & Ann Podeszwa, Wilbert & Gail Heinzmann, David Gleason, Janet Frank

NOTE: The attendance listed above was taken from a list of members that was checked as people arrived at the meeting. No distinction was made if only one person of married couple's membership was in attendance and the other was not – both names are listed. Also, some attendees may not have signed in and are not listed. Some names that were written in at sign-in may be misspelled. Apologies.

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The meeting was called to order at 6:50 pm by President George Prewitt. George introduced LLLA officers and committee chairpersons.

**PRESENTATIONS**

SICON PRESENTATION

Ron Reimink presented information of the ongoing work that SICON is doing in relation to Swimmer's Itch. Ron gave a brief history of the SICON company. The SICON program for Swimmer's Itch has 3 essentials: research, education, and control. Ron reviewed SICON's collaborations with various experts in the field. A handout about SICON's work was available to attendees.

Ron discussed the differences between the south and north lakes as it relates to the swimmer's itch problem. Currently, the major portion of SICON'S work is on the north lake. However, water samples from the south lake have been taken for analysis. Two collections have been taken, and three more are scheduled.

Questions from the audience:

- *Why was removing mergansers stopped? What about black snails?*  
There is a history of permit problems for removing mergansers, which was briefly explained. Permits are currently obtainable. Black snails are a species that does not affect swimmer's itch.

- *Question about reporting swimmer's itch.*  
Reporting is important because it records the incidence, which is important to presenting severity to the State for funding. Attendees were encouraged to report the itch.
- *Does climate and time of year impact the snails and the incidence of S.I.?*  
Not a lot is known at this time about the ecology of the snail population.
- *Is there a natural enemy to the SI parasite?*  
Zebra mussels possibly could have an impact, but it is not probable.
- *What about a topical cream to repel SI?*  
Question was referred to Wayne Swallow who has been researching and testing a topical cream.
- *What about the rumor that capture and release of mergansers is illegal?*  
It is not illegal. There are a lot of hoops to jump through to get the permits.
- *Is there a specific tree or location that mergansers prefer to nest in?*  
This is being researched.
- *Is there a correlation between faulty septic systems and SI incidence?*  
SICON's collaboration efforts will help to answer this question.
- *What if there were no mergansers on the lake?*  
It would break the life cycle of SI.

Nick Fleezanis reported that there is a \$250,000 grant that is available for SI. LLLA will be applying for a share of that grant. Attendees were asked to consider giving a donation to this effort. Volunteers were asked for to serve on the Swimmers Itch committee.

#### WATER SAFETY PRESENTATION

Two marine deputies were present to talk about water safety. Leelanau County has 4 marine deputies and 5 patrol boats. There is a handbook of boating safety laws that is available.

The marine deputies reiterated their dedication to the safety of children on the water. They emphasized that kayaks are difficult to right. Wearing a life jacket is important. Many of their calls involved overturned kayaks.

Questions from the audience:

- *What are the regulations concerning paddleboards?*  
The state does not require life vests for paddleboard users but the federal government does. Paddleboards are not considered watercraft and do not have to be registered in Michigan.
- *Is noise from music and motors on the water regulated?*  
People are generally responsive when they are stopped and asked to reduce the noise. However, tickets are hard to enforce because decibel measuring equipment would need to be used to prove excessive noise.
- *Children have been seen dangling their feet from the front of a moving pontoon boat. Is this illegal?*  
It is illegal if the boat is moving faster than a "no wake" speed. The marine patrol would stop a boat if they saw such a situation.

LAKE MONITORING SYSTEM – John Popa

John Popa reported that lake level controllers are going to be installed. LLLA has purchased the equipment. The installation needs careful consideration of the location of the monitors for accurate and useful readings. The data gathered from the monitors will be posted on the website.

**BUSINESS MEETING**

ELECTION OF OFFICERS

The positions of President and Vice President are up for re-election. Rick Thompson nominated Nick Fleezanis for President and Jeff Sanborn for Vice President. There were no other nominations from the floor. The nominations were proposed, seconded, and approved by the membership.

Nick Fleezanis took over presiding the meeting.

SECRETARY'S REPORT

Minutes of 2015 Annual Meeting were available to the membership. Approval of the minutes was proposed, seconded, and approved by the membership. Minutes of this meeting will be posted on the website.

TREASURER'S REPORT

The financial report as on June 30, 2016 was distributed to the membership. This fiscal year saw 53 new memberships. Our revenue was 50% greater this year. Donations for the Swimmer's Itch Fund was \$7,643 for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2016. Donations to date for July, 2016 were \$3,945. The total is \$11,588.

As of June 30, 2016, we have \$95,000 in reserve.

There was a proposal to accept the Treasurer's report, it was seconded, and approved by the membership.

PRESENTATION, WATER QUALITY, Wayne Swallow

Current reporting of SI is going to SICON. Wayne emphasized the importance of reporting SI incidences. LLLA is involved in the Cooperative Lake Monitoring Program. This program measures water temperature, phosphorous levels, chlorophyll levels, and dissolved oxygen.

Wayne also reported on the development of a SI repellent. He is looking for volunteers to test the repellent. Please talk to him if you are interested.

Volunteers are also needed for water quality sampling. Please see Wayne Swallow or Hugh Farber if you are interested.

MEMBERSHIP

Barb Kobberstad reported on membership. She asked for a show of hands to find out how people heard about this meeting. Most had heard through the email. Currently we have 363 members. There was a suggestion from the audience that we need a program to increase membership through 1-1 contacts with neighbors.

COMMUNICATIONS – Mark Smith

Mark outlined the features of the website and encouraged the membership to go to the website. (lakeleelanau.org) He asked the membership to do three things: 1) send in pictures, 2) subscribe to the newsletter on line, and 3) take some extra newsletters and share with neighbors.

SI reporting will be publicized on the website.

WATER SAFETY – Bonnie Gottshall

Bonnie reported that new buoys have been purchased and placed at the Narrows and the mouth of the river into Leland replacing the old buoys that were covered with algae.

Bonnie reminded membership that if they have questions, they can contact her or the County Marine Patrol.

WATER QUALITY – Hugh Farber

Hugh attends the Clean Water meetings and puts pertinent information in the newsletter. Membership should contact him about water quality issues. He also asked for volunteers for water quality projects.

FISH COMMITTEE

Pete Taylor has served as the chairperson for the Fish committee and also took charge of Kids Fishing Day in Veronica Valley Park. He is thanked for his service and commended for the continuing success of Kids Fishing Day. Pete has resigned from this position but will give a report at the Legacy Event.

Heather Hettinger (DNR Officer) has reported to the LLLA that fish shelters can once again be constructed in the lake.

HANDBOOK – Nick Fleezanis

A new and revised handbook is planned to be finished by Memorial Day 2017. It is Nick's plan is to hand deliver handbooks to LLLA members.

OTHER BUSINESS

Comment from the audience:

*There is concern about people abusing keyholing water access with boats.*

All townships now have keyholing regulations. Each township has designated how many boats are allowable. Members are encouraged to look up those regulations online if they have concerns about a specific area. If there are abuses, they should be reported to the township representatives. Members should take pictures and present their concern at a township meeting. Nick Fleezanis offered to help in this endeavor.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:21 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Cindy Kacin