Sugar Lake Association Board Meeting Minutes

Thursday April 15th, 2021 – 6:30 to 8:30 PM

1. Chairperson Keith Theisen called the meeting to order at 6:34.

2. Secretary Todd Jackson took rollcall and noted the following people in attendance:

Steve Kowalczyk, Mike Emerson, Mark Snyder, Mark Ertl, Dan Salfer, Scott Radkte, Mark Kraemer, Keith Theisen, Rob Gusaas, Tom Nimmo, Kim Hanson, Trudy Richter, Todd Jackson and Kevin Welle.

Not in attendance: Diane Hall, Nick Hadfield and Lisa Salfer.

3. Todd Jackson presented the minutes from the last October 17, 2020 board meeting. Rob Gusaas made a motion to approve and Tom Nimmo seconded. Motion carried.

4. Chairman Keith Theisen reported that the last year was a challenging year due to the pandemic and we need to continue to be sensitive to this as we move forward in 2021. He also noted that board member Craig Johnson has passed away since we last met. A card with circulated to pass on the boards’ condolences. Keith introduced Jim Printup as a SLA member interested in going on the board. Trudy Richter made a motion to nominate Jim to fill out Craig’s remaining term and Rob Gusaas seconded. Motion passed.

4. Tom Nimmo presented the Treasurer’s Report as of March 31, 2021

* General Fund Balance is $ 59,163.64
* Invasive Species Fund Balance is $164,071.44
* Lake Improvement Fund Balance is $ 51,560.85
* Total Balance is $274,795.93

Cash balances are up approximately $13,092 over last year. We are starting to receive 2021 paid dues and have a number of budgeted expenses that we will start paying… New Buoys $2,000 and south ramp monitoring $14,000. Keith noted that the By-Laws require us to make the financials available to members within 6 months of year end. We will put a statement in the newsletter that they are available to members upon request.

5. North Landing Safety Concerns – Chairperson Theisen talked to county commissioner Darek Vetsch about safety and signage concerns around the north landing. Wright county had an engineer evaluate the landing and determined it was unsafe, due to lack of turnaround lane, lack of signage on highway 7 and the poor bituminous condition of the space. The board discussed the concerns of the county and Trudy Richter then made a motion that SLA send a letter to the DNR supporting Wright County’s engineer report and ask the county to either shut down the landing or improve it as suggested by Wright County. Seconded by Steve Kowalczyk. Motion carried.

6. South Landing CD3 Cleaning Station Chairperson Theisen reported that Wright County Soil and Water asked SLA to partner with them to install a CD3 cleaning station at the south landing. They are asking us to split the cost over two years and that they will maintain it. DNR must approve such an installation prior to this moving forward. The DNR has indicated they want to study this first to make sure there is adequate room or the south landing needs to be reconfigured to make room for it. Trudy Richter made a motion to let the WCSW know that SLA supports their proposed partnership and SLA is willing to spend up to $8,500 for two years to pay for a CD3 machine and that WCSW is responsible for all maintenance. Seconded by Rob Gusaas. Motion carried

7. Bylaw Updates – Chairman Theisen reported Todd and Trudy are helping him review and update the bylaws. Anyone that is interested in helping let Keith know. A document with proposed changes will be provided as the next BOD meeting.

8. Board Openings – Chairman Theisen reported that we will have seven open board positions to fill next year. Per the by-laws the vice chairperson will lead a committee Seven positions – Vice Chair Nick Hatfield will work at securing candidates for the board. A notice to members will be sent in May.

9. Review 2021 Calendar of Events

* Fishing tournament will be the weekend of June 26th and will be virtual again. Nick
* Boat parade will be Saturday July 10th. Jan Tift and Kim Hanson are co-chairing.
* Golf tournament is planned for July 31st Greg Selle is chairing.
* Picnic will be on August 7th and Don Rachel has graciously agreed to have it on his property again. Jan Tift and Sally Quinn Phenow
* Light up the Lake will be on September 4th.

10. Committee Leaders

A. Membership Keith Theisen has been doing this and needs someone new to lead it. Mark Ertl volunteered to lead membership. Will work with Keith to learn what needs to be done.

B. Water Quality / AIS - Scott Radtke has volunteered to lead going forward/ Dale Gustafson (consultant)

C. Need volunteer for monthly water samples - Dan Erdman said he would do it.

11. Committee Reports

Water Quality/AIS – Dan Erdman reported the following as of April 15, 2021:

* Water Clarity 19 ft. 0 Inches
* Culvert Inlet 21 ½ inches
* Culvert outlet 27 inches
* Water temperature at 19 ft. was 46 degrees
* Air temperature was 45 Degrees.
* Physical condition on a scale of 1 good to 5 poor was a 1. Best water clarity ever seen by Dan.

3 Loon Platforms have been put on the lake.

Buoy Upgrades – Need help Friday morning at the south landing to get 11 new buoys attached to anchors so they later can be put out by EZ Lift. 4 people volunteered.

Expect Blue Water to be out soon to survey the lake for weeds.

Fisheries

New Carp Trap is in.

Membership –

120 people have paid memberships for 2021 so far.

Scott Radtke has volunteered to pull together data for a new print directory. Idea is to make it a PDF version that can be sent to members.

Communications-

Newsletter – Don Peterson has a plan for the newsletter to go out yet in April.

Ron Elsner is selling adds to go into directory, newsletter and on FB. Hopes to sell 10 adds

Jan Tift is happy with FB and website. We have over 500 FB members in the SL group.

12. Motion to Adjourn. Rob Gusaas made motion to adjourn, seconded by Mike Emmerson. Motion carried.