

**Little Whitefish Lake Association (LWLA) Minutes
Annual Meeting
Saturday July 11, 2016 10:00 AM**

The meeting was called to order at 10:12 AM by President Bill Schweikert at Timber Bay Lodge.

Greetings: President Bill Schweikert thanked all attendees for coming, and requested updates and or corrections to existing list of Lake Property owners. Annual dues are payable by check/cash. Meeting agenda was presented. About 29 people attended.

Special Thanks: To Timber Bay Lodge for use of their site for this meeting. Thanks from Mark Ritchie from Timber Bay.

Additions to Agenda: The following additions to the agenda were solicited and added as topics

- Bill Schweikert - Mentioned lake weed control resource

Minutes: 2015 Meeting minutes were read by Bill Thorsen. A motion was made by Skip Nelson and seconded by Arlo Schweikert to approve the minutes. Motion Carried.

Officer Update: The following changes to the Officer roles were made per the earlier protocol that was established (Every 2 years the 1st VP will move to President, 2nd VP will move to 1st VP, and we will elect a new 2nd VP)

President – Bill Schweikert to step down from 2 year service and was succeeded by Carl Lemann

1st Vice President – Mike Hodges moved to position

New 2nd Vice President - Volunteers were solicited but no takers.....will be readdressed at next year's meeting

Secretary – Bill Thorsen remains as Secretary

Treasurer – Dennis Burr remains as Treasurer

Directors: Bill Crenna, Bill Thorsen, Diane Riedel

Financial Report: Reported by Dennis Burr, Treasurer.

Starting balance was \$4,207.57 and ending balance was \$4,057.57 after dues and donation expenses.

- There were 24 LWLA member/families paying dues in 2015 (\$650 total)
- The following donations were made in 2015:
 - \$100 to Pine Center First Responders (annual) motion to keep
 - \$100 to Garrison Fire Dept. (annual) motion to keep
 - \$100 to Mille Lacs Area Health Foundation (annual) motion to keep
 - \$500 to Timber Bay Building Fund (Project was completed and motioned to discontinue this year)
- **2017 Dues:** A motion was made by Gene Kern and seconded by floor to keep the association dues at \$25.00 per year. Motion carried. All were urged to pay dues at the meeting to Dennis Burr.

Committee Reports:

- **Road Side Clean Up:** Bill Schweikert - Good turnout 17 people and it went quickly. We have a new roadmap. Thanks to Tammy and Dean for supplying coffee and donuts beforehand at resort.
- **Water Clarity:** Dennis Burr made 3 sightings at 14-15 clarity between Jack Vessey's point and Island.
- **Lake Level:** Skip Nelson presented a graph of the 2014-15 lake levels from spring to fall. The lake has gone down since ice out this year 1.46 to .8 current. Ice Out was around March 30th 2016. Skip assembling new graphs .
- **LWLA Non Profit Status:** Jim on our nonprofit status renewed December 2016 online for 2017.
- **Lake Map Update:** Bill Schweikert distributed copies of latest map at meeting.
- **2016 2nd Annual Boat Parade:** Diane Riedel – turnout was good and we had about 20 boats or so join in for cruise around the lake for about 45 minutes.. Pictures posted on new LWLA website www.littlewhitefish.org There was judging (Thanx to Kris and Jean) and prizes(gift certificates to Resort) this year for boat theme and creativity with the following winners:
 - 1st Place (\$25) - Bobby and Brittany Lahr, Cory Lahr and Taryn Hager.
 - 2nd Place (\$15) – Diane and Rob Riedel
 - 3rd Place (\$10) – Robert Haddorf family
 - Honorable Mention - Paul and Eileen Schirer & friends

2017 Planning:

- **Roadside Clean up:** Scheduled for Saturday April 29th, 2017
- **Annual Boat Parade:** Scheduled for Saturday July 1st before the 4th.....meet in lake in front of resort bay
- **Annual Meeting:** Scheduled for Saturday July 8th 2017, 10AM at Timber Bay Lodge
 - Next Meeting elect a New VP 2nd Vice President
 - Add Matt Rehm to discuss lake weed removal services
 - Possibly add DNR update based on DNR availability

Old Business:

- **Tent caterpillars** – No problems per DNR and Bill Crenna. We are in low cycle.
- **DNR update** –
 - **AIS** - Jacob Fire from DNR mentioned that there was no report of AIS on our lake. Also see LWLA DNR website page
 - **Lake Fish Sample** – Per Bill Crenna and Dennis Burr we are on DNR waiting list for next sample and analysis (7 yr cycle)....last sample was in 1997. See LWLA DNR website page.
 - **Lake Weed Control** –Bill Schweikert discussed service with Matt Rehm who does professional lake weed removal and handles DNR permits etc. He currently charges \$200 show up fee and 5 cents per sq ft and can combine multiple Lake owner properties to save \$\$\$. Vote was made and 50% of members in attendance would like to have presentation next year. It will be added to next year agenda.
- **LWLA Website** – Bill Thorsen motioned if we should publish meeting agenda and minutes on website and Bill Schweikert seconded. Motion was carried.
- **Local Suspicious Activity** – Barb McIntosh has noticed strange car parked on Oxcart road and informed Crow Wing Sheriff. No other unusual activity noticed on Lake. Paul Schirer mentioned website that show recent Police raids and arrests to see if there is crime in area <https://www.raidsonline.com/> . Gene Kern mentioned disbandment of current Tribal and Mille Lacs Sheriff coordination that could impact police response time in Mille Lacs side of lake as Tribal officers usually show up first.

New Business:

- **New Lake Owners: Welcome from LWLA!**
 - **DJ Block** – west side of lake
 - **Ron Anderson** - on Little Whitefish road
 - **Schreifels, Pat & Cheryl** – next to Resort
- **Local Veterans Day on the Lake** – Mike Hodges was not in attendance but followed up with this update and request. Hello lake association members, this is Mike Hodge, your 2nd vice. I was excited to talk to everyone about a community service event I am working on as a member of the Garrison Lions. I wanted to do this with the residents of the lake. We are planning to take military veterans from the Garrison area on a pontoon ride on our awesome lake. I am planning it for Sunday, September 11th from Noon to about 3pm. We will be meeting and loading at Little Whitefish Resort. Currently I am planning a to go lunch for all guests. I was going to donate Beer and beverages for each boat, that way neither organization is responsible for providing alcohol. What I am looking for are volunteers to volunteer themselves, Pontoon boat, gas and a cooler of ice. To make it a little more entertaining , I was thinking of setting up different objects around the lake shoreline or docks for a scavenger hunt, like a plastic owl, Canoe, and other objects as well as having them look for eagles, hawks, turtles, and other wildlife . I can't help from thinking of how much fun it would be for some our local Vet's to spend some time out on our lake. If you would like to volunteer or know others that would please email me at mpkhodge@yahoo.com or call my 612-282-2537 and please leave a message if I do not answer . I need to put together a list of volunteers and pontoons ASAP so we can figure out the numbers of guests we can invite. I am thinking of only 4 Veterans per pontoon so there is room to move around and so they don't feel like they are squeezed in like sardines. If you have any other ideas let me know.
Regards, Mike Hodge
- **2016 Lake Level Concerns:** All agreed that lake was down quite low for this time of year. Folks on east side of lake and Resort have problems getting to lake from shoreline as water is quite low. The Resort ramp access is quite low and if lake continues to drop it may be an issue for folks to pull their boats out in the fall which impacts the majority of Lake owners and resort Business.
- Some of the reasons for low levels are lack of rain (about 9") since ice out, light snow runoff and the recently completed Lake Ogechie Wild Rice Restoration project http://www.messagemedia.co/millelacs/news/tribal/restoration-of-ogechie-wild-rice-production/article_b0169030-c1bc-11e4-97e0-7b259e229951.html which removed the Buck Thorn dam and increased the Rum River out flow from Lake Mille Lacs. Following options to address low water levels were discussed:
- **Dam project:** Bill Crenna discussed a 1987 project that the LWLA sponsored to build a dam in the creek to Lake Mille Lacs that never got going because of no Government sponsor. Lake spans 2 counties and townships. In 2007 Bill engaged SCH to estimate complete dam project study and recommendation prior to building that would have cost \$31k but did not guarantee we could build a dam and dam cost would be on top of study cost so it was dropped.
- **Beaver Dam:** Bill spoke with local Hydrologist.....who said the beaver dam was in the Creek in 2015 per google map pictures but may have been removed. Beaver have been legally trapped. We possibly could get a DNR ruling to not trap beavers in creek area but it could not be enforced.

- **Dredging:** Bill mentioned that only feasible long-term solution would be to dredge channel to resort and adjacent properties. There was dredging performed back in 1980s for about \$2+k with permits and excavator. DNR Dredging permit is available from DNR but cost of work is unknown and would need to be explored. Would need to be joint effort to pool resources. <http://www.dnr.state.mn.us/permits/water/answers.html> . Ideas on funding were discussed.
- **Committee to Explore:** Motion by Dennis Burr and seconded by Bill Crenna to form a LWLA Committee to look at strategy and approach to dredge lake. The members are: Bill Crenna, Dennis Burr, Dean and Tammy Anderson, Bill Thorsen, Jim Cory, Carl Lehmann, Mike Hodges, Bill Schweikert, Diane Riedel. Bill Thorsen will create a Committee event spot on LWLA website to post progress.

Meeting Guest Presentation: Carrie Wall – Pine Center First Responders volunteer provided an overview on who they are and what they do. She thanked LWLA for donations.

- Fully Volunteer organization with 6 members plus 1 in training
- Training and Equipment expenses are high \$5K per person oxygen, defibrillator, trauma kit, BP and blood sugar, temp, neck brace.....new 2-way radios \$3k per unit...connects to all hospital, statewide, local organizations
- They are not professional physicians and don't apply paramedic treatment or administer drugs etc.
- Serves Pine Center Crow Wing side of lake; Garrison paramedics covers Katio/Mille Lacs side of lake
- Calls to 911 in this area alert the First Responders via dispatch.
- They use the blue property number signs to get to houses so it's important to keep them visible
- Callers should have their Cabin address numbers
- They get paged and haul their equipment to cars in winter or keep in summer
- They arrive together as a team to the location usually before ambulance
- To speed up time they complete the Emergency medical sheet, so Callers should have their medical history and recent meds available and provide a copy to ambulance drivers/paramedics. **POSTED ON LWLA Website**
- Sometimes they ride in Ambulance if needed to help paramedics (e.g. CPR)

Meeting Adjournment: A motion was made and seconded to adjourn the meeting at 11:42

Respectfully submitted: Bill Thorsen - Secretary