

Lake Shamineau Association Spring Member Meeting

May 27, 2017

Lincoln Evangelical Church

Board members present: Dave Graning, Tim Swanson, Sandy Williams, Pat Held, Mark Frisk, Duane Hendricks, Bob Ingle, Randy Kevern, Jacquie Rognli, Kim Salisbury

Dave Graning, Board President, called the meeting to order and welcomed the members. Board members introduced themselves.

Open Forum:

Curt Jones spoke about his concern regarding money spent regarding the high lake level, whether it is worth spending money for a study if there is no possibility of action to lower it. He wondered if, with the invasive species in the lake, the downstream affect on other properties would pose a legal liability. He also indicated that he wants to understand the personal expense estimates before action is taken.

Mike Fedde stated that we can do watershed mitigation and landscaping to possibly help the water flowing into the lake and to protect shoreline.

Craig Solberg suggested that floating bogs be staked to hold them in place where they are wanted, and Jacquie Rognli reminded members that Al Doree gets an annual permit that allows association members to remove bogs up to six by six feet. Disposal at county gravel pit is free.

Floyd Jerres spoke about possible causes for the high water being road construction over the past thirty years, including the rebuild of Hwy. 10, when the peat and porous soil was removed to create a firmer roadbed. The porous soil would have allowed water to move through the area towards Fishtrap Creek and on to the Long Prairie River.

Dave Graning introduced County Commissioner Jeff Jelinski of Morrison County District 2, who attended in place of _____ Lemere, the Commissioner for our district.

Secretary's report:

Minutes from the fall 2016 Lake Association membership meeting were published in the spring newsletter and were approved.

Treasurer's report:

Pat Held reported the balance in our checking and savings accounts as of May 26, 2017 was at \$13,905.32. Income was \$6,993.07 primarily from membership dues and newsletter advertising sales. Expenses were \$4,826.72 primarily from costs associated with the newsletter, membership in the lake and river organization that hosts our website, and conference fees.

Pat indicated that expenses of the association are approximately \$3,000 per year. Jacquie prints and mails about 200 copies of the newsletter twice per year. If members have email, we could save more on postage and printing. There are approximately 360 property owners.

Water Quality report:

Al Doree reported that our phosphorous level averages 14.8 and the reading in May was 11; Chlorophyll A averages 4.8 and in May was 3.12; the Secchi disk water clarity reading averages 14.5 feet and now measures 17 feet. The water level is 1.1 foot above the OHWL (official high water level). We have received 6.7 inches of rain the past three months.

Membership report:

Kim Salisbury commented that the membership turnout this day was very good. She indicated that approximately 150 families are up for membership renewal. She thanked the membership captains that do the work inviting property owners to become new or continuing members. Kim asked for additional volunteer co-captains for East Shamineau, Lakeshore Drive, West Shamineau, and the North side.

Loons and Wildlife report:

Diane Schroepfer reported the geese flying north to molt and said that there is about one week left of spring migration. Bob Kohl has been reporting and posting photos of the loon nesting on the floating platform the bay near his home. Two baby loons have hatched and currently are surviving despite the eagle landing nearby. With the high water, perhaps new nesting platforms could be built and placed in various loon territories next year.

Communication report:

Jacquie previewed the results of the survey of the impact of high lake water levels for the purpose of documentation for the high water study. Results will be on the website without personal identification of the survey responders. Jacquie also had been running a photo slide show of historical to present views of water levels and shoreline damage prior to the beginning of the meeting. Additional photos from members were scanned at the meeting.

Fishing report:

Eric Altena, DNR fisheries manager, gave a presentation (slide show will be posted on LSA website) on the lake's fish population. Shortly after ice out, in April, the DNR did their netting fish survey. Each day they lift the nets to get counts and sizes of the fish. Walleye, muskie and northern pike showed highest count in recent years. The DNR inserts an electronic tracking tag in each muskie netted in order to monitor their growth, length and movement. The last survey was done in 2012. The population estimate of muskies in Lake Shamineau is in the range of 122 to 244 (estimated 169 from this year's netting survey). Surveys are done about every four years.

The DNR stocked the lake with one million walleye fry this year and 95 muskie 3three year olds last fall. This summer they will complete a full fishery survey on the lake and in the fall they will evaluate the fry stocking. The netting survey has a low mortality rate.

Walleye in Lake Shamineau has rare natural reproduction. A quick spring warm up causes fungal growth on the spawned eggs and the eggs die. The slot limits in Minnesota law are effective until 2022.

To help the bluegill fishery, the males (brighter color) should be released and keep just females when possible. The larger the males, the larger the sizes of the bluegills. The largest male becomes the upper limit of sizes of these fish. Keep medium sized fish and only keep what you need.

Black spots on fish are a parasite. The parasite comes from snails in the lake.

Lake Shamineau Lake Improvement District (LSLID) report:

There will be three Eurasian Milfoil pulls this summer. If a property owner does not want the pulls in front of their property, they must fill out an "opt-out" form.

Bob Koll reviewed watershed studies done so far and showed photos of various notable areas in the watershed. Cindy Kevern developed the RFP (request for proposal) that resulted in the selection of Houston Engineering to do the high water mitigation study. The original proposed cost was reduced due to the extent of studies and data collection already done at the request of the LSLID by government agencies and by lake residents. Cost of the study will be \$28,000 paid by the LSLID. Houston Engineering will host a high water study kickoff meeting on Friday June 2 at Pine Ridge Golf Course from 12:30 to 2:30, followed by a field trip to view problem areas and potential drainage corridors.

Cindy Kevern noted that she called other LID's who had water issues and heard about the different options they implemented.

At the August 26, 2017 LID meeting, results from Houston Engineering' study will be presented. They will also point us to grant opportunities for any action that might be considered. All studies and data will be archived for future needs.

Election of Board Members:

Don Kirchner was nominated to fill an empty board position, and incumbent board members Randy Kevern, Dave Graning, Kim Salisbury and Sandy Williams agreed to be nominated. Motion was made, seconded and approved to elect the nominees to the board.

New Business:

Reminder that the fall membership meeting is the Saturday before the weekend of Labor Day, August 26 to coincide with the LSLID annual meeting that will follow the LSA membership meeting.

A request was made to put information on the web site and in the newsletter regarding winter aeration to prevent ice jacking, permit requirements, air pump specifications, options for the system, etc. There were permits for 22 systems on the lake this past winter.

Fabulous Door Prize Drawing:

Many door prizes were given away selected at random from those who completed the high water impact survey.

One hundred and eleven individuals were present at the meeting. Motion was made, seconded and approved to adjourn.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Sandy Williams, Secretary.