

Des Moines Lake Association Annual Meeting
Saturday May 25th, 2024
Held at the Cabaret

Board Members in Attendance: Amy Juers, Ryan Knox, Tom Rooney, Mike Schafhauser, Jim Pappas, Holly Huso, Mike Kellar

Board Members not in Attendance: Sue Sjeklocha (Europe Trip)

Others in Attendance: 28 voting members, 48 total people

Call to Order: 8:30 AM

Welcome - Mike Kellar

Agenda Intro - Mike Kellar

- Last year accomplishments
- WDS Station Plan Overview
- Treasurer's Report
- Social Events
- Board Elections and Vote
- Member Q&A
- Door Prizes
- Volunteer Sign-up Sheets
 - Being passed around, please sign-up
- New Logo
- We wish Linda from the Cabaret all the best
- Missing Lilypad and Dock Section
 - See Mike Kellar

'23 - '24 Accomplishments - Amy Juers

- Surface Water Grant / WDS (In Progress)
 - Special Meeting
 - Unanimous vote Yes
 - CBCW 4/20 Workshop Presentation on WDS
 - Article in LakeLines
 - This project is getting lots of attention at the local, county, and state level

- Most Important Initiative
- APM Plan Overview with Emily Moore; video snippets on YouTube channel
- Purple Loosestrife Removal
- CBCW Volunteers
 - Met 25% to help satisfy Long Lake grant requirements
- Partnership with Long Lake
 - WDS/co-ownership agreement
 - Pontoon Trailer Rental
 - We feel this is a very strong relationship
- Fundraising
 - Membership Dues
 - Meat Raffles
- New Logo
- Membership Survey
- 56% Membership in 2023
 - 66% in 2024!
 - 77 total parcels
- Added Instagram and YouTube channel
- Shared Info via Newsletter, Facebook, and Instagram
 - New power loading ordinance
 - Solar Farm
 - Public Hearings
 - Missing Items

WDS Station Update - Ryan Knox

- Amy and Ryan are Project leads
- Project approved the project via special vote in early March
- Website has a page dedicated specifically to the project
 - updated weekly with our progress
- Large concern of membership is to keep aquatic invasive species out of lake
 - Biggest threat comes from nearby McKenzie lakes.
 - infested with zebra mussels since 2016
- Zebra mussel veligers spread
 - water vessels, live wells, bait buckets, and bilge water
 - Spread often happens from larger superspreader lakes, infesting smaller nearby lakes
- Why don't we want zebra mussels in our lake?
 - They filter out algae needed for food by native species in our lake

- Crowd out our existing mussel populations
 - Significant impacts on our lakes food chain and is damaging to its ecosystem
- Can cause hurtful cuts and scrapes to humans and pets
 - Walking barefoot into Des Moines Lake will become a thing of the past if we get zebra mussels
- Zebra mussels attach to boats, lifts, and docks by the thousands
- Hot Water High Pressure Water System
 - Best at protecting our lake not only from zebra mussels but a wide range of other aquatic invasive species
- Current Diluted Bleach
 - Significant shortcomings
 - Boaters must wait 10 minutes per WDNR protocol for it to be effective
 - The bleach solution degrades as quickly as 24 hours and becomes ineffective.
 - The solution can stain clothes, shoes, and upholstery
 - The solution requires constant refilling by volunteers
 - Other lake associations known to implement the diluted bleach protocol have already upgraded to pressure washer systems
- Project Approval and Support
 - The project was approved and received grant funding in March of this year.
 - Entered into a co-ownership agreement with Long Lake
 - We have full support from their board and membership
 - Will split both the upfront and operating expenses of the system with us.
 - We have the full support of land owner Mark Michel
 - We also have the full support of the township and county.
- Project Design and Build
 - Our Water Decontamination Station will be housed in a sound insulated shed at the end of Arbutus Dr on Mark Michel's property. It will be placed where the existing bleach solution station is located
 - The shed will be protected by concrete bollards that are 6 to 8 inches in diameter.

- After dozens of hours of research and deliberation, we purposefully designed our system to be capable of decontaminating at a high capacity rate, in an efficient and timely manner, using industrial grade equipment that is specifically built for this purpose. We approached the project as if Des Moines and Long lake already had zebra mussels and we were going to need equipment with specs and capabilities to adequately contain the problem from spreading further.
- We estimate the average decontamination to take around 3 minutes. Full vessel decontamination will be possible through the flushing of engine water intakes, live wells, and ballast tanks with non pressurized hot water.
- The system will use propane for heat, and phase 1 electricity for its pump. A sand-point well will provide water. We are oversizing our pressure tank for pump cycle protection, water volume, water temperature delta needs. The sand point is commercial grade and the well pipe is 2" in diameter. It will reach 29' below grade.
- The water decontamination station is safe for both users and equipment. We have spent many hours considering safety at every stage of development. Our industrial grade hot pressure washer will have its pressure reduced in a fail-safe manner that is on par with the pressures used at a self service car wash. The temperature of water and equipment will be safe for users and will be set at typical temperatures found in residential water heaters. We will not be using any chemicals during the process, only hot water.
- The system will be set up for different equipment settings for different users. We will train all Clean Boats Clean Water volunteers on the equipment. These trained users will use pressure wands with higher temperatures and pressures. These wands will be locked in the shed when trained staff are not present. A public use wand with lower temperature and pressure will be available for anyone to decontaminate. Low pressure garden hoses will be available for all users.
- Signage will be made for safety and operational instructions and will be posted on or near the shed.
- The system will be winterized every fall and brought back online every spring.

- Maintenance will be performed by association volunteers. Parts are readily available through numerous local distributors, and we are within the service call area in the event a tech is needed. With that said, the machines we are looking at have 5 to 7 year warranties on their boilers and pumps.
- Project Timeline
 - We are mostly done with Design and Development.
 - We have started purchasing the Parts and Equipment for the well. Purchasing of other items we continue between now and when we go live.
 - As far as site prep goes, trees were removed and stumps were ground over the last month. Just yesterday myself and six other volunteers drove the sandpoint well down 29 feet. I am happy to report that we were able to pump clear water at a 10 GPM rate via hand pump. This looks very promising for our water supply requirements and if all goes well after pump install, our volunteers efforts just saved over \$2500.
 - A gravel base will be formed at the site in the near future and we plan on having a concrete slab poured in early July. We are aiming for the shed to be complete in August.
 - Once the shed is up, the electrical, plumbing, and machine will be installed.
 - May 2025 is our estimated go live date.
- Project Budget
 - The total estimated cost of the unit with a sand-point well is about \$27,000
 - With a 10% contingency added, we estimate the budget to be just shy of \$30,000 total.
 - The DNR grant awards us around \$15.5k, leaving each association with about \$7,200 in upfront costs.
 - Total annual operation costs are estimated to be around \$1,200 for each association. This includes liability and property insurance.
- Project Fundraising
 - Holly will be discussing our fundraising plan

Treasurer's Report - Michael Schafhauser

- \$10,215 Checking Balance

- 501(c)(3)
 - Dues are deductible
- Expenses
 - 5 to 6 checks per year
 - Not including WDS
 - CC Processing Fees
- Wisconsin Sales Tax Exemption
- Waiting for Minnesota Sales Tax Exemption
- Changed to Elavon Credit Card Processing to save on operating costs
- Created Joint Partnership with Long Lake for WDS
 - Joint Checkbook
 - Fund Account
 - DMLA \$750
 - EIN
 - Joint Agreement
 - Insurance
 - Will need 2 board members from each association

Fundraising - Donation Plaque - Holly Huso

- Strong sense of community and legacy with the lake and the families on the lake
- Residents list high water quality as top reason for choosing Des Moines Lake
- Donations are suggested from each member to support WDS
- 4 Levels
 - Anchor - \$2500 and Up
 - Lakefront - \$1000 - \$2499
 - Shoreline - \$500 - \$999
 - Dockside - \$250 - \$499
- Top Two Levels Have Option of
 - "In honor of ..."
 - "In memory of ..."
- Website will have Donation Page
 - Will show Plaque example
 - Forms
- Donation is Tax Deductible
- Deadline is January 15, 2025

Projects and Volunteering - Jill Michel and Amy Juers

- CBCW
 - Need Volunteers

- Sign-up sheet being passed around
- Calendar available
- Contact Mark Michel
- Two hour shifts
 - Friday, Saturday, or Sunday
- Purple Loosestrife
 - Very informational Brochure at the Sign in table
 - Made by Tom Boisvery
 - Propagation Efforts will start soon
 - Rootstalk
 - Kiddle Pool
 - Tent Protection
 - Beetle Propagation
 - Last August
 - Herbicide and Clipping Removal
 - North of Des Moines Lake
 - Large Purple Loosestrife Population
 - Identification
 - Stem is square
- Loons
 - One egg has been seen with binoculars on loon platform
 - Mark was out on kayak on 5/24
 - There could be two
 - Loons have been bothered by loon flies
 - Loons do not like jet skis
 - Pontoons are okay but maintain distance
- Looking for tent donation for Purple Loosestrife
 - Talk with Mark Michel
- Volunteer Opportunities
 - Only 2 to 3 hours
 - WDS has building opportunities

Social Events - Amy Juers

- Boat Parade
 - Saturday July 6th at 5:30
 - Line up at Boat Landing
 - Boats travel clockwise
 - Cash Prizes for 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place
 - Everyone has the chance to vote and winners determined by popular vote

- One vote per parcel and vote will be electronic
- Invasive Species Workshop
 - Saturday July 27th, 10 to noon
 - Emily Moore
 - Boat Landing
- Stargazing Event
 - Hosted by WCCO meteorologist Mike Lynch
 - Friday August 9th at 8:30 pm
 - 100 person max
 - Pay dues members only

Board Election - Ryan Knox

- Current Board
 - Amy Juers - President
 - Mike Schafhauser - Vice President, Treasurer
 - Ryan Knox - Secretary
 - Jim Pappas - Member at Large
 - Mike Kellar - Member at Large
 - Holly Huso - Member at Large
 - Tom Rooney - Member at Large
 - Sue Sjeklocha - Past President
- Jim Pappas will not be running for the rest of his term
 - Thank you Jim for your time as a board member!
- Nominations
 - Nomination Committee approached Michelle Schoeder
 - Michelle agreed to become a board member
 - Member at Large
 - Holly Huso - Member at Large
 - Mike Kellar - Member at Large
 - Tom Rooney - Member at Large
 - Michelle Schoeder - Member at Large
 - Ryan Knox - Vice President
 - Amy Juers - President
- Past President
 - Sue will be joining again at past president
 - Non elected position
- Nominations from the floor
 - None
- Motion to Close Nominations -
 - Don Nienow - member from floor

- Second - Mike Kellar
- Since Nominees are running unopposed, they are elected to their respective positions
- Welcome Michelle Schoeder (Member at Large), Mike Kellar (Member at Large), Holly Huso (Member at Large), Tom Rooney (Member at Large), Ryan Knox (Vice President) and Amy Juers (President) to the '24 through '26 term

Member Q&A and Other Input - All

- Projects or Plans to Improve Fishery
 - Jim talked with Craig Roberts at DNR
 - Last time stocked was 2012
 - Most recent surveys were 2015 and 2022
 - Does not think lake can sustain walleye or musky populations
 - Jim looked into private stocking
 - \$8000 approximate cost per year
 - Recommend 5 years
 - \$4 per fish, approx 10 fish per acre, 215 acres
 - DNR thought this would be a waste of money
 - Fish Sticks through DNR
 - Needs DNR permit
 - Good panfish lake
- How do we get rid of swimmer's itch
 - Cause
 - Parasite found in geese and ducks
 - Makes way into snail shells
 - Tips to avoid
 - Rinse after swimming
 - Don't feed wildlife
 - Products to put on skin
 - Towel off immediately
- Why don't we have meat raffles at Brandi's?
 - Our first meat raffle was at Brandi's
 - 50% of our meat raffles have been at Brandi's
 - Our next meat raffle is in the fall and we plan for it to be at Brandi's
 - We typically have to plan the event 2 months in advance
 - Takes about 20 total volunteer hours
 - We have a slight concern about Brandi's being sold and our fall event having to be canceled or moved
- Why can't our facebook be open?
 - Was locked down due to inappropriate comments

- Will discuss with board about changes
 - In the meantime, you can always message Admin
 - One of the most active local facebook pages
 - Has been a great tool for us
- Reminder from Ryan at Pitcher Pump at Landing
 - Well needs to develop
 - When you are down at the landing this weekend, pump about 20 to 50 times
- Boat Landing Pad is in bad shape, what are the plans?
 - Power loading can cause the erosion of material underneath the concrete
 - Township has been responsive about patching
 - Depth goes from 3 feet to a severe drop off
 - Devil's Lake boat landing
 - Secured funding through federal or state
 - \$600k
 - Will discuss more at our next board meeting
- Snails, what can we do about them?
 - We have both Banded and Chinese Mystery Snails
 - You can collect them in buckets
 - Recommend to bury them in sand
- Muskrat Problem on Arbutus Dr side of Lake
 - Comment from member on floor
 - "Apples are like cocaine"
 - Association
 - Look into traps?
- Chris Franken Update on Water Quality
 - Thank you to Steve Markes!
 - DNR was hoping for early reading but boat wasn't in
 - Took reading on May 11th
 - 21' of clarity
 - A little less clear than last year
- Who handles the maintenance and ownership of the WDS?
 - Ryan Benson with Benson Law Firm in Siren has just finished looking over an ownership agreement
 - Both lake associations will sign
 - A board will be formed and specific duties will be performed as per agreement
 - Maintenance
 - Repairs

- Operation
 - CBCW Volunteers
- Added info about machine parts availability, service tech option, and easy winterization and spring start-up

Door Prizes - Mike Kellar

- Thank you to the following business for their donated door prizes
 - Cabaret
 - Lumberjack Saloon & Eatery
 - The Main Store
 - NextGen Powersports
 - Northern Lakes Marine
 - Tommy's Too High Wines
 - Trail Blazer's Tavern
 - Webb Lake Pizza

Adjournment - Amy Juers

9:42 am