

**LAKE MINNEWAWA ASSOCIATION
ANNUAL MEETING MINUTES
Saturday, August 13, 2005**

President Mike Zell called the annual meeting of the Lake Minnewawa Association to order at 10:00 a.m. on August 13, 2005, at the Sportsman's Club. Board members present were Steve Olson, Beverly Rath, Lyle Marsyla, Margie Marsyla, Pat McGinn, Kay Klumpner, John Palmer, Art Orosco, absent were Carl Rippie, Bonnie and Jerry Maxwell, David Warner, and Dennis Bohanon. In addition, there were 14 property owners in attendance.

Annual Minutes: The minutes of the August 14, 2004 minutes were read. John Palmer made a motion to accept the minutes, Steve Olson, seconded, and it was approved to accept the minutes as read.

Treasurer's Report: Margie Marsyla gave the treasurer's report for the past year. The total receipts for the fiscal year were \$26,276.17. The total disbursements for the fiscal year were \$29,347.71. The LMA holds a capital equipment fund, which is at \$21,907.57. This fund is set up for future potential purchases for equipment that the LMA may need. Greg Meredyk made a motion to accept the treasurer's report, seconded by Chuck Monson. The motion was approved.

Financial Secretary's Report: Steve Olson reported that we have 159 donating individual memberships, with the average donation at \$55.31. At this time during the 2004 season we had 152 association members.

Bev Rath reported that the Business membership has grown. We now have 11 businesses that donate \$200.00 or more. They are: Bann's, Countryside Millwork, Christian Realty North, Freeman Electric, Fireside Inn, Horseshoe Inn, Minnewawa Sportsman Club, Ritter and Ritter Sewer Service, Tamarack Sno Flyers, Willey's Marine, and the MN National Golf Course.

Water Quality Report: Mike Zell reported for Paul Bredow.

So far this summer season, the water clarity in Lake Minnewawa, as measured by Secchi Disk readings at our two sites has been reasonably good. Site 201 is located in the main portion of the lake while site 202 is located in the inlet bay. The readings refer to the maximum distance in feet that an eight-inch diameter white metal disk can be seen below the surface of the water. Clear water allows for greater readings, and stained and algae-laden water gives low readings.

At site 201 the reading taken during the last week in May indicated clarity of 11 feet. The reading on August 8th indicated that the clarity had been reduced to 5 feet. This follows the expected decrease in clarity.

In the inlet bay, at site 202, the reading taken during the last week in May indicated clarity of 8.5 feet. On August 8th, the clarity reading was 4.5 feet.

Compared to previous years, the 2005 readings to date indicate less clarity than those taken in 2004, less than the June readings in 2002, and better than the readings taken in 2000, 2001, 2003 and the latter part of 2002.

Larry Grivna shared some history; Lake Minnewawa has one of the longest records in the state for keeping data on water quality.

Harvesting Report: Mike Zell reported on the harvesting for the 2005 season. He thanked the maintenance team who consist of Lyle Marsyla, Pat McGinn, Jerry Maxwell, and Chuck Munson. The team works on preventative maintenance during the off-season that helps keep the equipment running during the harvesting season. He also thanked the harvesting team of Lyle Marsyla and Jerry Maxwell for all their hard work and dedication in running the harvesting operation.

There are significantly more weeds this year than we have experienced in the recent past. The numbers of loads of weeds taken out of the lake as of 8/10 were 173. Mike shared comparisons from previous years during the middle of August, they are in 2002, 113 loads; 2003, 101 loads; 2004, 97 loads. The LMA expects up to 270 loads as the total harvested for the year.

Election of Board Members: There were six open positions for the Board this year, five positions for three-year terms and 1 position for a 1-year term. Candidates for election were Ron Conzet, Kay Klumpner, Bonnie Maxwell, Jerry Maxwell, Greg Meredyk, Dave Warner, Leanne Anderson, and Chuck Munson. Those elected by ballot were Ron Conzet, Kay Klumpner, Bonnie Maxwell, Jerry Maxwell, Greg Meredyk, and Leanne Anderson. The new board members were welcomed.

President's Report: Mike Zell reviewed the LMA calendar that was created this year and reviewed the activities the LMA participates in. Some of the activities included the annual fundraisers, booths at the various community days, individual and business membership drive, Fishing for Kids, handing out educational packets. The calendar was included in the spring newsletter and the July handout packets.

Mike will contact the DNR to do a Lake Management Assessment.

Mike shared that the LMA has applied for a grant but has not heard back yet. If the grant is awarded, it will be used to improve the landings at Indian Portage and Timber Lodge.

He thanked the board members and officers for all their help and dedication.

Open Forum:

- ❑ There was discussion on the weeds and concerns were stated. Ron Conzet commented that the weed harvester is a positive move for the lake by taking the weeds out. The gentleman who treats weeds chemically reinforced this. He spoke at the Sportsman's Club August 6. The more people are concerned, ideally more people will start to participate in the LMA and donate.
- ❑ We need to educate the public about the benefits of the weed harvester.
- ❑ Pat McGinn attended the ACLARA (Aitkin County Lakes and Rivers Association) meeting on August 6th. He shared that he felt it important for the LMA to become part of the association. He is willing to attend the meetings and be a spokesman for the LMA.
- ❑ Pat McGinn handed out some copies of the Conservation Volunteer and talked about lakefront vegetation. It is being recommended to let vegetation grow on the shoreline and utilize paths to get through the vegetation, instead of grass all the way to the shoreline.
- ❑ Larry asked if we have abandoned the Sportsman's Club in regards to weed cutting. The response from the harvesting team was because of the muck and low water level, the harvester gets stuck in that area.
- ❑ Art Orosco recommended having a stack of newsletters and membership brochures at realtor's offices, for prospective and new buyers.
- ❑ Chuck Munson recommended including a stamped, self-addressed return envelope be included in the mailings. He stated it would increase the return rate of our membership donations. If this occurs, he is willing to donate \$150,00 towards postage.
- ❑

There being no further discussion, a motion to adjourn was made by Greg Meredyk, Lyle Marsyla seconded and the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Beverly Rath, Recording Secretary