

LMA Board Meeting April 18 2009

Meeting was called to Order at 9:00 Am on April 18th, 2009 at Bann's Bar.

Members Present: Bev Rath, Pat Rath, Gregory Pfeifer, Larry Antonsen, Mark Pawelski, Steve Olson, Pat McGin., Greg Meredyk, Linda Peterson.

Members Excused: Ron Conzet, Tom Leach, Curt Pieske, Chuck Munson, Margie Marsyla Leanne Anderson.

Secretaries Report: Gregory Pfeifer indicated that this was the first meeting of 2009. Highlights of the November 1st, 2008 special meeting were gone over. Bev Rath asked for a motion to approve the November 1st, 2009 Meeting Minutes. Motions: Pat Rath 1st, 2nd Linda Peterson

Treasurers Report:

Pat Rath reported the year to date financial report. A register report was handed out to those members present and discussed. Pat report that approximately (70) membership donations had been received/deposited and that a number of them had been for \$100.00 or more. The donation from Doc was received in October of 2008 for the harvester trailer. The harvester trailer down payment had been made. Other incoming monies include further membership donations and Doc's sister had passed and wished for a memorial be set up with the monies to be received by LMA. Bev Rath asked for a motion to accept the treasurer's report. Greg Meredyk motioned to accept and Steve Olson 2nd. The motion carried.

Membership Report:

Individual memberships are co-chaired by Mark Pawelski and Curt Pieske. Business memberships are going to be chaired by Larry Antonsen. It was noted that there are a number of business members listed on the LMA website. Mark Pawelski noted that the spring membership application had been mailed out. He and Curt Pieske had put a real effort in ensuring that the mailing addresses were correct and that multiple mailings to the same addresses are avoided. This year 530 applications were mailed out to the Lake area property owners. They plan to keep a list of those property owners that donate to create a list of those interested in the LMA and may be able/interested in further help and or donations. Mark said they plan to do a second mailing later this spring to those property owners who did not respond to the first mailing to further try to ask them for their involvement with LMA. Pat Rath noted the importance of the membership donations and that it provides nearly 50% of the annual income for the LMA.

Harvesting Report:

Steve Olson stated that harvester trailer has been purchased and that it will be ready for pick up in a few weeks. Aquarius has sold the old trailer for \$5000.00 Steve said that the harvester is in good shape and came out of the water this past fall without incident. The barge was drained and had little or no water present. The one paddle wheel is in need of repair, cutter heads adjusted and aligned, new battery, and check / replace hydraulic hoses. Last year's truck driver, Gary D., has indicated an interest in driving again this year. Steve is checking on the operator of the harvester and possibly having a couple of operators to divide up the job.

Spring Handouts:

Greg Pfeifer said that, with Bev Rath's help, work is in process with completing the handouts. The handouts are going to be a little smaller this year to avoid the "throw away" factor of too many items. The items will be more educational with lake stewardship as a theme. The items included are (2) DNR handouts on natural shorelines and beach sand, MN Water newspaper, color brochure of invasive species, and a garage sale flyer. A copy of the Whitefish gallery items will be included noting that the LMA gets a percent of each item purchased. At the May 16th meeting we will be looking for volunteers to pass out the handouts. Steve Olson and Bev Rath are going to look for a map of the lake that has been used in the past to divide up the task of delivering the handouts.

Old Business:

Bev asked everyone to again consider volunteering to chair one of the many events for the 2009-year. There are still a number of chairpersons needed for some events including the garage sale. Although it is helpful to have many volunteers for an event, a lead chairperson is needed for each event.

The main door on the garage has been re-keyed to a push button lock. Board members are to contact Bev for the new combination.

There are a few items that need done at the garage. These include reinstalling the LMA sign, fixing the business membership board, and looking at getting some larger signs for the business members.

There are still monies that need to be used by June 10th from the grant allocation / BSALWMP funds. There are approximately \$400.00 in education funds and \$2000.00 in access management funds. Pat M. indicated that there are (5) none public boat landings on Lake Minnewawa. Last year, LMA, the township and the grant monies helped to re-grade and add new concrete ramps. This year the landings are to receive new signs with educational information, invasive species guide lines, and LMA information. The Indian Portage ramp is to receive new rip rap to help with ice heaves and erosion, each landing's concrete ramps to receive yearly spring maintenance, and the brush / trees to be cleaned up at the Dollar access.

Pat M. also reminded all members to keep track of the time they spend doing volunteer work for LMA. Those hours spent are used to receive funding for In-Kind hours. The more time turned in, the more funding available to LMA for the projects we do.

New Business:

Shamrock Township clean up day is on May 2nd, 2009. It will be held at the ranger's station and at the LMA garage. Chuck M. is head of the LMA garage site. Please try to stop by and help with this event.

The **garage sale** donations are set to start on each Saturday from 9:00 to 11:00 AM. The first Saturday for donations is June 20th, 2009. There will be a flyer in the spring handout about the garage and Saturday donations. A chairperson is still needed for the garage sale.

Highway clean up is scheduled for May 16th, 2009. It will take place after the board meeting. It covers both sides of the road from the Sportsman's club building to just past Bann's bar. This year the county is requiring a particular safety vest to be worn by the volunteers. The county is going to provide 12-15 of these vests. The sides of the road will be marked at approximately every ¼ mile to divide the area of clean up between the volunteers.

The **new harvester trailer** has been purchased and will need to be picked up this spring. There was a discussion of how to pick the trailer up due to its size and the need to license it for road travel. There was also a concern about any LMA liability if we ourselves picked up the trailer or reimbursed someone to pick up the trailer if there was an accident during transportation. Steve Olsen said he would check with some local trucking firms to get a cost on the transporting of the trailer.

Bev indicated that the **Rivers and Lake Fair** would be on June 20th, 2009 in Aitkin and asked if there were any interest in having a booth. We have had a booth in the past.

There was a question about the public being able to **correspond with LMA**. It was noted that we do have a web site with an email link and address for any questions and or comments.

The **dam** on the out flow was brought up. There have been many rumors of the dam not being at the correct height and that the lake level could be raised. Pat M. said that the old board dam was replaced in the early 1960's and that the new concrete, spill way dam was set at a height that the surrounding land could handle without a risk of the lake water eroding the land around the dam. There are many reasons for the current dam height and that many of the areas infrastructures have been designed and built based on the area lakes water levels.

LMA is currently a member of the **McGregor Chamber of Commerce** and our events will be post on the Chamber website.

Bev has made a request of \$1500.00 in donation from the Shamrock Township board.

Tim Turner, area resident, has shown an interest in buying the old truck.

Bev purchased a wood map of Lake Minnewawa for Doc in appreciation of the generous donation he and his family made for the purchase of the new harvester trailer.

A motion was made to adjourn by Greg Meredyk and 2nd by Pat Rath at 10:30 AM. The motion carried.