

Wapogasset Bear Trap Lake Association Meeting Minutes

September 9, 2023

President George Hauser called the meeting to order at 8:30am.

George hosted the meeting at the Y Camp with 33 people present.

He called for any guests to be introduced and welcomed all.

There was immediate discussion about nominating 2 trustees at large Dave Nelson nominated Don Springer and it was 2nd by Jim Andersen. Jim Andersen will be the other trustee at large. These trustees will be available over the winter months to address needs that may arise. Ryan Hanson was also suggested, however Ryan was not in attendance to accept the nomination. There was a motion made by Mark Jacobson to nominate Jim and Don as the trustees at large. All in favor, motion carried.

Secretary's Report Brian Struglmeyer/Mary Kupfer

The secretary report (prepared by Brian Struglmeyer) was presented by Mary Kupfer. Motion by Doug Drake to approve and second by Mark Jacobson.

Treasurer's Financial Report Mary Kupfer

Mary reported the August 1st beginning balance of the checking account is \$26,349.65. August deposits totaled \$6,426.59 (Advertising and Membership) The expenses for the month totaled \$1,342.06 (McAfee MalWare Protection 63.29, Waterman Sanitation 108.00 400 Club 1,300, Clean Boats Clean Water 46.94, Photo Contest 50.00). The ending checking balance is \$31,434.00.

Last September there was a motion to approve \$30,000 for the Comprehensive Lake Management Plan. We will be applying for 2 grants, Phase I and Phase II. Phase II is a study for the release of the phosphorus. The cost is for the grant writer and the studies. The WBT Lake Association's commitment is 1/3 of the cost. Both phases will run close to \$33,000. The study needs to be completed within a 3 year timeline. Bottom line is WBT Lake association is responsible for "up to" \$33,000. The comprehensive plan balance will be \$25,000. Dave made a motion to approve the budget report and Doug second.

Presidents Report George Hauser

George clarified the May 2024 Lake Association meeting will be May 18th 2024 the date is changed because of an event at the Y camp on Mothers Day weekend. The WBT Social begins at 4:30 tonight (9/9/23) at Shoreview Supper Club. We are expecting 60 people.

Committee Reports

Lake Management Mark Jacobson

In September 2022 the Lake Association pledged "up to \$30,000" for upcoming grant shares for the updating of the Comprehensive Lake Management Plan and a grant for AIS study and education. We are currently in Phase 1 of the Plan update which will be monitoring the tributaries and the watershed that affect our lakes. The Associations share for this grant is \$4,874.77 which will be paid this year. Phase 1.5 has a grant share of \$10,900.16 which will include in-lake monitoring and a Public opinion survey. Phase 2 has a grant share of approximately \$12,000.00 and will finalize the results of Phase 1 and 1.5 and try to determine if an Alum treatment would be feasible. The total grant share for the Lake Association will be approximately \$25,000 for the Comprehensive Lake Management Plan. The balance of the \$30,000 pledge will be used for Aquatic Invasive Species grants.

The yellow iris treatments were completed and we will see if they were successful next spring. If you see new Yellow Iris growing, please let your Trustee know.

At the annual meeting in August (2023) there was concern brought up about boat safety it was decided that we form a boat safety sub committee, we are in need of a chairman. Mark read/explained the boat safety committee position descriptions from the Lake Directory. Marty Noonan volunteered to chair and will be recruiting a committee. He quickly recruited Dave Millard, Mark Jacobson, & Dean Christenson.

Lake Monitoring Ryan Hanson

Ryan was not in attendance at the meeting, George read Ryans report to the group. The following data is from the August 28th monitoring date. Wapogasset has a green color tone while Bear Trap has turned a green tone as well. The water temperature was 73*, nearly identical to the same time last year and slightly lower than in August 2021. The Secchi disc reading in Wapo was 3.0' (4.0' on 8/30/22 & 2.5' on 8/25/21) and in Bear Trap it was 4.0' (3.5' in August 2022 & 2021). The lake level at the dam was 3.80, compared to 4.03 on 8/30/22 and 3.97 on 8/25/21.

AIS Monitoring Dave Millard

Dave Millard reported he is finding Zebra mussels in Wapogasset. He displayed and explained a "plate system" for zebra mussel collection. We currently have 16 collection plates in the lake. If you happen to collect zebra mussels, place them in a zip lock bag and give them to Dave. The yellow iris is more present on the lake and we are keeping an eye on it.

Clean Boats Clean Water Doug Drake

Doug started by asking if the group had any questions on the CD3 cleaning machine. The project cost will be roughly \$50,520.00. We will apply for a grant in the amount of \$22,177.50 and are seeking commitments for cash and in kind donations of \$5,600 site preparation, electric connection, and cash contribution from the Sanitary District. WBT will be responsible for the remainder estimated at \$22,742. This includes \$2,700 in software cost which is not allowable by the grant, there will also be a recurring software cost of \$1,200 annually. Due to the high cost, we are looking at purchasing 1 unit at this time. The goal of this project is to protect our lakes from Zebra mussels and Eurasian water milfoil.

There was much discussion as to whether boaters would use the CD3 machine before/after using the lake.

George motioned and Pat Teiken second the motion to move forward with the project. All were in favor of the resolution.

Doug also suggested we wait to do the Sunrise Beach Landing until next year. He also thanked everyone for the vote.

Fishery & Dam John Mahoney

John reported the weeds are less than they were three weeks ago. He has not seen any zebra mussels.

Neighborhood Watch Joel Anderson

There is an opportunity to learn about Human Trafficking in our area. C.A.S.T. Includes ways to protect people from exploitation, removing victims reaffirming situations, and services for a safe and healthy future.

Sexual exploitation takes place in cities, suburbs and rural communities. 42% of youth have texted or received compromising pictures that may lead to harassment or extortion. Internet use needs careful monitoring by caregivers.

To learn what human human trafficking looks like in rural Wisconsin, join the workshop at St Joseph Catholic Church, Amery, Wednesday, September 13, 2023 at 6:30 p.m.

The program will last about 90 minutes. [Community + Awareness Flier](#)

Community Relations Karen Ohm

Karen reported the WBT Appreciation dinner is tonight with a social beginning at 4:30 and a buffet dinner starting at 5:30. She also confirmed that plans are underway to bring back the kids and turtle races next year on the 4th of July. The events will be held at the YMCA camp to allow more space for parking and all the people that attend.

Sunshine Club Lee Ann Overman

Lee Ann reminded all to continue to inform her of any illness, life changes, or anything you think a person would appreciate a note from WBT Sunshine. Sometimes in the winter months people may forget as they are not at the lake and living somewhere else.

400 Club Pat Teiken

At the August 2023 meeting the following names were drawn for \$100, Dan Goerdt, Andy Tihagni, Donny Kealy, Ron Schultz, Mary Ann Zaun, Jeff Aasen, Mary Kupfer, Pam Jacob, and Stacy Gregory won the \$500. The September 400 club drawing was held.

Membership Don Springer

Don reports there are no membership changes. He also mentioned he would review the 2023 membership data and share results of membership percentages by Trustee and/or lake locations. It will show areas of opportunities to hopefully improve our membership numbers for 2024.

Ways and Means Committee Linda Lawrence

Linda says a series of questions were sent to Chuck Williamson of the Amery Area Historical Society for additional information and clarification to aid in our discussion of their donation request. Linda asked WBTLA to contribute a donation. A minimum pledge of \$500 is required to be recognized. Doug Drake motioned to donate \$500, Marty Noonan second. All in favor. After the vote, there was discussion about donating more, which did not generate much interest. And it was also mentioned that we already voted on the \$500.

Communications Jim Anderson

Jim reported the last Lake Scene of 2023 season has been delivered. He confirmed with Kathy Mortenson that she will continue to publish the Lake Scene in 2024.

Jim suggested trustees bring the Lake Directory with them when they recruit new/non lake association members next year to show as an incentive for joining the association. Jim reported the cost of the directory, plastic bags and postage was \$3722. Jim also proposed we raise the amount of prize money we give the Lake Directory photo contest winners from \$50 for 1st place to \$100, \$25 for 2nd place to \$50 and \$10 for 3rd place to \$25. Doug Drake made a motion to approve and Linda Lawrence second.

Nominating Committee Marty Noonan

Marty has nothing to report at this time. We do need to do an audit. Brent Harms will be doing the audit and will be in touch with Mary Kupfer.

Old Business:**Wake Boat Discussion** Bob Sorenson

Bob verbally (as well as handed out) information on wake surfing concerns. He mentioned the size of the waves the wake boats create are dangerous and cause damage to the bottom of the lake ecosystem, docks, and shoreline as well as disturbing the fish and creating muck. He said

a Lake Wilderness Alliance representative is willing to present to our group if we are interested in it. He mentioned the ballast on visiting boats from other lakes are hard to empty and clean. Dave Millard commented there are not that many wake boats coming on and off the lake as most we see are lake residents. He said the boat owners and wake surfers need to be better educated and more courteous boaters. There was much discussion on the topic in both regards. Getting Polk County involved was also mentioned.

Marty proposed the committee get together in October and gather information for the May 2024 meeting. Pat suggested creating a map for incoming boaters indicating lake depths to make them aware of the safest place for wake boating.

New Business Mary Davis

Mary introduced herself as a member of the Amery Womens Club, they hold two fundraisers a year. The fall project proceeds are for the "Angel Fund". She says we can help support the club by showing up at the Amery Golf Course on October 14th. Tickets for the event are \$35. The event is a 70's theme. Dressing up 70's is suggested. There will also be a raffle and silent auction, Mary mentioned some of the donors on the lake.

George closed the meeting with a suggestion to review the quorum. Mark, Jim, and Pat will help with that.

Georgia thanked us for holding our meetings at the Y camp!

Respectfully Submitted,
Mary Kupfer