BMLA Spring Meeting

May 10, 2022

Via Teams, On line conference video

7:00 p.m.

Attendance: Rich Halvorsen, Brian Livingston, Julie Mickelberg, Kathy Nevins, Barb Fischer, Linda Zawacki

President Rich Halvorsen called the meeting to order.

Minutes of the last meeting were corrected to reflect proper spelling of Aerie. Kathy moved to approve corrected minutes. Barb offered a 2nd. Motion passed unanimously.

Treasurer Report

Linda clarified that there are 23 paid memberships for 2022; 17 AIS donations totaling $5,000. Linda requested that we get the Aerie out ASAP to remind members and residents to get the membership dues in as well as contribute to Loon and AIS funds.

Loon Fund: $5, 923 balance

Total Cash on hand: $50,495

Barb moved to approve the Treasurer’s Report

Kathy 2nd

Motion passed unanimously

To Do List:

1. Big Mantrap Lake History

Julie reported that Cindy Fegley agreed to assist in organizing and archiving historical artifacts and articles. Rich will scan and document what he has on had to begin the digital archive process. Julie will act as liaison between digital and physical archives.

1. Website

Rich reported there were no changes to the website. Barb mentioned that the Facebook option is helpful and has been updated and informative.

1. Welcome Letter and Packet

Linda sent a letter in the board packet that the board enthusiastically supported. She will include brochures and pamphlets from the Park Rapids Area Chamber with the welcome letter for new residents. She will also include a helpful list of names and phone numbers for new residents. Barb will get new owner property information to Linda. Board discussion included a separate letter for resorts and other rental places to give to their temporary/short-term tenants. This letter would focus on the importance of following boating laws, loon management and AIS management. It would also include an offer to donate to the BMLA AIS and Loon funds.

1. Logo Contest

No further action

1. Looner Recognition Plaque

Julie was to take the lead in design and has no updated information. She will reach out to her contacts. Brian suggested that we consider a “BMLA board” at the public landing. This would look something like an information board at a trailhead and would be able to present up to date information on a variety of issues: meetings, AIS reminders, Loon etiquette, etc. Brian’s contact at County was going to research but has not gotten back to him. Rich has a contact at the state and will reach out to see what options we have.

1. Update Homeowners list/phone

Rich has updated map information as best he can. He suggested that we change this map concept to something more flexible and useful … teaching people how to use the GIS system. We can inform members via the website how to locate current ownership status. We can also inform members how to use GIS in the Aerie. Barb and Rich will collaborate on how to inform residents.

1. De-Contamination Station

Nick at the county resigned. Kathy mentioned that Nick’s replacement was named in the Enterprise as well as the new AIS person. Rich and Brian will take a run at the new people in place to see what they can get in terms of a decontamination station closer to the public landing. The leverage will be that we are one of the busiest public landings. Kathy mentioned that Cass Lake has two trained and authorized people at the Federal Dam landing and they have a decontamination station right at the landing. She will get more information about that. Rich mentioned Emmaville is not super interested in a free station because of the water issue and expense.

1. County Inspector Training

Nick is gone so this is a new opportunity. Before, the explanation was that inspectors have to test out of the training so it is assumed they are following the regulations. Board discussion included that we have a stake in this since the association pays part of the employees’ salary. We will discuss the expectations the board has of employees following procedures with a focus on thoroughness and consistency.

1. Add “Native” water plant species photos to website

We can offer a link for information about native species as well as invasive, undesirable species and how to report concerns on the website.

1. Annual AIS appeal letter

Brian has already written this letter and it was sent out.

1. Hubbard County (GIS) Address List

Jim was going to try and find ownership addresses. Linda and Barb will undertake this process.

1. Merchandise

Linda has created a “Welcome to Mantrap” flag. Her nephew is able to do the iron on lettering and can do it in either black or white. Linda does the sewing part of the flags. She would like to see if there is any interest in the flags as a fundraiser. She is going to make some for the next meeting and offer them for $20.

Board Duties, Updates, Website

Barb and Linda are working on mailing the Aerie. Linda mailed two copies of the last issue based on paid memberships that request a mailed copy.

Board Vacancies and Interested Parties

We currently have three open spots on the board. Three people have expressed interest in being on the board. Andy from 3M, The Evans Family and Craig (friend of Brian) is still interested. Brian and Rich will reach out to their contacts and follow up on interest. This would be a June meeting issue.

2022 Meeting Dates & Times

June 11th – Linda will call the Conservation Club to see if it is available.

August 20th – Social meeting and no location was decided.

Motion for clarification on dues: Kathy moved that we emphasize that dues are due January 1 – June 1 for that calendar year. Members are not considered delinquent until September 1. Linda seconded it with discussion that any resident is welcome to call her and ask her if they are up to date on their membership and donations to funds. She is happy to share this information. She is also able to track where people are in their membership by the way she is now able to track payments with Excel.

New Business

* Channel Markers – Rich tried to place the markers but the wind was too strong to place them. Brian will try maybe this weekend.
* Dead Head on “The River” - Brian will check into some temporary marking options and will investigate options for removing the log.

There being no further business, Rich asked for a motion to adjourn. Julie so moved. Linda 2nd and motion passed.