

Minutes
NSTLRA BOARD MEETING
Tuesday, August 11, 2015
Northern Exposure, Phelps, WI
8:30 AM

The meeting is adjourned by President Roger Ganser at 8:30 AM.

Members Present: President Roger Ganser, Vice-President Bob Bailey, Treasurer Dick Donarski, Steve Bahrke, Joe Fritzsche, Mike Schindler, John Hyde, Ron and Kay Ottoson, Susan Pamperin, Cap and Denise Pedersen

Members Not Present: Margot Peterson

Minutes: Dick Donarski motions to accept the minutes of the July 9, 2015 Annual Meeting, John Hyde seconds, and the minutes are approved.

Roger Ganser introduces the newest board members, Joe Fritzsche and Susan Pamperin.

Election of Officers: Roger asks Mike Schindler to nominate officers. Mike nominates: Roger Ganser, President; Bob Bailey, Vice President; Joe Fritzsche, Treasurer; Denise Pedersen, Secretary. Ron Ottoson moves to accept the slate of officers, Cap Pedersen seconds and all are approved. Mike Schindler makes a motion to elect Susan Pamperin to the Board, John Hyde seconds and she is approved.

Treasurer's Report: Dick Donarski reports we have 201 members. The checking account balance is \$11,057.60. The AMEN Fund balance is \$81,738.20. Dick reports he has just paid an invoice from the hand pullers for \$5062. We will have another invoice for hand pulling that will come out of the AMEN Fund for \$9700. We will be reimbursed for half of the hand pulling by the DNR. Dick says we had 237 members last year. Denise Pedersen suggests that as we only had 85 at the last meeting, the additional membership mailing was successful, and she suggests we do a membership mailing separate from the newsletter again next year. Dick agrees, and Mike Schindler says we should mail it first class and send it out in April. Kay suggests that Dick make an announcement regarding membership at this Saturday's Anniversary Party and Dick will bring membership forms. Dick reports that the good turnout at the Poker Run on July 18th resulted in a \$537 for the AMEN Fund. 1st place winner Debbie Scott gave \$150 of her winnings and Doug Best gave all of his 3rd place winnings as well. Dick reports that the Golf Outing, also well attended, resulted in \$340.37 for the AMEN Fund. Dick says we will have a payment of \$3500 for sweatshirts to be sold at the Scarecrow Fest. Dick reports that although Cap sent a request for reimbursement to the DNR on November 10, 2014, we just received it yesterday. When Dick made a bank deposit last week, he inquired about the process of changing who is authorized to sign checks. Dick tells Roger

Ganser he needs to write a letter to the bank saying Dick is stepping down as Treasurer. Roger motions that he, Bob Bailey and new Treasurer Joe Fritzsche should be able to sign checks. Joe Fritzsche makes a motion as such, Ron Ottoson seconds, and it is approved. Dick reports that all of the memorial donations have been deposited to the AMEN Fund. We now have 4 memorials; Steve Hash, \$1405, is dedicated to repairing the buoys. Ellen Schuster, \$250, Jim Tilt, \$1595, and Margaret Rehnberg, \$100, will all go to the AMEN Fund. Kay Ottoson suggests that these memorials should be acknowledged in the fall newsletter and the board agrees. Bob Bailey says we need to send out letters for any donation over \$250 for the donors income tax purposes. Joe Fritzsche suggests that if we send acknowledgement letters to all donors it would give us more visibility and encourage people to donate. Joe suggests looking at all donations \$50 and above and see what the work load would be.

Roger Ganser reports that he had received information from member Mike Wade, who worked for IBM, and was interested in being on the board as Treasurer. Roger spoke with Mike yesterday and told him that Joe Fritzsche is taking over as Treasurer, but that Mike has talents we could use. Roger will talk to him at the dinner on Saturday. Denise says we have 11 Board members and we can have up to 13.

Roger mentions that in the past we have discussed a NSTLRA membership plaque and that someone new on our lakes mentioned to him they were surprised we didn't have them. Kay Ottoson suggests Laura Babe could add these to her merchandise. Roger will get Laura's input.

Joe Fritzsche, learning that we keep all our accounting records manually, spoke with a friend who is a CFO of a company. He suggested Joe look at QuickBooks. Joe did and suggests we subscribe to QuickBooks Online Plus. Joe feels this is an expense that we can absorb and maintain. Roger suggests that if we might be going down the path to explore a Lake District, this would be very helpful. Dick feels we're beyond having this done manually, especially for forecasting. Roger feels QuickBooks would help in drafting a budget for next year, also. Kay Ottoson makes a motion to authorize Joe to subscribe to QuickBooks Online Plus, Steve Bahrke seconds, and the board approves the motion.

Lake Treatment: Cap Pedersen reports that hand pulling finished on Friday. He passes around the report he received from the hand pullers. Cap reports we have a \$9129.20 invoice remaining for hand pulling. The pullers removed 9,700 pounds of milfoil on North Twin. We will be reimbursed by the DNR for 50% of the cost of hand pulling this summer. Cap reports that Onterra says we can apply for a permit and chemically treat next year. They are doing a Quantitative Analysis which will help decide which chemical should be used for treatment. Onterra feels we cannot get a grant until at least 2017. Onterra feels we would need to do a whole lake treatment every 5 to 6 years. Susan Pamperin asks if there is a way to spread the cost out to all property owners. Joe Fritzsche suggests we might want to do a communication just on milfoil to members; is there a way to solicit additional contributions while we have such a visible problem.

Lake District: Roger tells the board that the last time a Lake District was attempted we were stuck at 49% approval and that over 51% of the ownership names are needed. That means we need 700+ names; there can be one lot with 6 names on the title. Roger suggests perhaps we try a South Twin Lake District first as there seems to be more support on that lake; then we could expand to North Twin. Roger suggests we do an email survey offering three scenarios: nothing, a North/South Twin Lakes District, or a South Twin Lake District. Mike Schindler suggests another option: those willing to contribute to the annual expense of treatment without a Lake District. Joe Fritzsche will draft a survey; Roger suggest we see who is supportive of a Lake District for regular treatment of the lakes, or who is willing to commit to a 5 year, \$100 tax deductible donation to fight milfoil. Roger suggests having Ginny Parker and Jim Fruth come to our next meeting as they were involved with the past Lake District attempt.

Bob Bailey show a membership directory he has put together from his database. Bob says there are 86 members from 2014 who have not paid for membership this year. Roger asks about emailing the directory. Bob will coordinate this with Denise.

Clean Boats/Clean Water: Mike Schindler says the program ends this month and asks if we want to fund it again for next year. Ron Ottoson motions we fund the program for next year, Bob Bailey seconds and it is approved.

Roger mentions that Katherine wrote an email regarding the Annual Meeting and Picnic. It is included below:

2015 NSTLRA Picnic "Kitchen" Committee Report

* Joe and Suzanne Wallace, Margaret Best, Judy Heimerl and Dorothy Menker were this year's volunteers and as usual they did a terrific job-- opening up the kitchen and getting the beverages in the cooler, setting out and organizing the dishes brought, overseeing the food line and insuring that there plates, utensils and napkins and finally cleaning up the kitchen at the end. Volunteers come a bit early, eat after everyone else, stay later. I really appreciate these seasoned helpers giving their time to make the picnic a success!

* We had plenty of food and a good variety. There were even a few desserts left. Some members mentioned to me that they thought we should have more hot dishes/casseroles but given that most of the salads were completely gone, I think the balance of foods brought is fine. Yes, the hot fried chicken was gone in 5 minutes but I don't think it's possible to have enough for the 80 people in attendance :).

* The primary expense for this year's picnic is soda and water as surplus paper supplies were purchased last year. Of the 5 twenty-four bottle pack of water purchased, 3 remained. Eleven 12-packs of soda/pop was purchased and there were the equivalent of 5 twelve packs left. The soda options were: orange, lemonade, root beer, coke, sprite, diet pepsi, diet sierra mist, cream soda. Based on what was left, no type of soda was particularly popular but there were fewer cans of lemonade and sprite left. The cost was approximately \$50 which I am donating.

* I asked my committee if they had suggestions for next year. Judy provided the following ideas not only on how we manage the food but the meeting in general and publicity:

-Make two food lines. Have a few people go into the kitchen to go through the line so people can reach from both sides. This would help shorten the time that is needed to give people to get their food before the meeting starts. (KN-I plan to try this out next year)

- Ask people to put the Twin lake on which they live on their name tags. For newer members, it's still hard to know who anybody is or where they live.

-Would it be possible to do quick introductions of everyone at the meeting-- who you are and where you are located? For example, North Twin by Holiday Lodge.

- Have every business owner in attendance from Phelps and Conover introduce themselves.

-Although repetitive, explain where dues go. Also explain what the Amen Fund is for and how the money is used.

There always seem to be new faces and sometimes people don't like to ask questions. Repeat this basic info in all the newsletters.

- Could the newsletter be more specific about volunteers? For example, in addition to "Hospitality" possibly add..."someone to help out at the picnic." Maybe by breaking down the specific tasks, more people wouldn't find it to be such a commitment.

-Can newsletters be posted/placed at local businesses? The more exposure the better.

Katherine Naherny

Social: Ron Ottoson reports that Friday, July 29, 2016 has been set as the date of next year's Golf Outing. Saturday, July 9th will be the Annual Meeting/Picnic in 2016 and the Poker Run will be July 16, 2016. Roger will contact Conover as it is Conover's turn for the Annual Meeting/Picnic. Kay Ottoson reports that our Golf Outing is featured in today's Vilas County News Review. 73 members have signed up for Saturday's NSTLRA 20th Anniversary Party. We have items for a silent auction and raffles, and will have a 50/50.

Swimmers Itch: John Hyde has talked to Vilas County Lakes and Rivers and doesn't hear anything about swimmers itch. John reports that the DNR is just now starting to keep a log on swimmers itch. Lac du Flambeau lakes all have swimmers itch and the reservation is going to do a study. Quita, with the DNR, said it would be helpful to know if swimmers itch has had a negative impact on property values on our lakes; if so, the DNR would be more apt to get involved. John has only received one email this summer regarding swimmers itch, although the Wallace and Hyde families on South Twin both had members with swimmers itch. Susan Pamperin reports she has a neighbor who hasn't been up for 2 or 3 years because of swimmers itch. Dick Donarski feels some properties are for sale on North Twin because of this issue.

Roger asks if we can have our final meeting on September 15 rather than September 22nd.

The meeting is adjourned at 10:40 AM