

NSTLRA BOARD MEETING

8:30 AM

May 25th, 2016

Phelps Chamber of Commerce

Guest speaker Celeste Hendrickson (Director of the Phelps Chamber of Commerce)

MEETING MINUTES

The meeting is adjourned by Roger Ganser. He started by having members introduce themselves and their role in NSTLRA. Breakfast was provided by Joyce Wade and Marsha Fritzsche.

Mike Wade introduced our guest speaker from the Phelps Chamber of Commerce. Goal is to have more of a relationship with the Chamber. She is in tune with social media. She shared materials presented by the Chamber. She shared what the Chamber has been up to-4 events per year. Triathlon which is a paddle on NT, bike ride. 4th of July celebration, musky classic, and Maple Syrup Fest. Donations go to local companies, this year the school district. Christmas Crunch Bazar starting this coming year. Susan will add Chamber to our email list so that info sent out to our members also filters into the Chamber. Celeste also suggests adding Vilas County Chamber to our email and she will get that info to Susan.

Vilas County EDC will host a speaker in fall discussing the advantages of lakes.

She would also like to coordinate some events that the town of Phelps share with the Association. (example: Poker Run last summer with music in downtown Phelps last summer). Chamber guide is printed in Feb. of coming year so she would like our info by October. Membership is now 110 for Phelps Chamber which is much greater than it ever has before. Bob B. noticed in the Chamber Visitor's Guide that there is a spelling mistake that needs to be corrected. Members did searches and found that we cannot link. We are not included in their listings and it is assumed their web designer added it incorrectly. It will be changed for next issue.

Suggestions made by Celeste of how we can increase exposure through the Chamber: volunteering for chamber events, wear N/S Twin shirts to events to talk about association, sponsor a booth at events (free) to network. She has also found that a few members of ours are not engaged and do not know what is going on with our organization. She suggests using tools in conjunction with the Chamber to remain engaged (Facebook page with members only or regular Facebook page, through Chamber office Facebook page etc,) Roger asked the impact of the GHT and the chamber: adding trail segment to the Triathlon. There is also a Vilas County Chamber, and a coalition between Conover, Phelps, and Land O lakes. Communicate with member through the website. Guides may be distributed at some of our annual events.

Members Present:

Roger Ganser, Bob Bailey, Joe Fritzsche, Cap Pedersen, Denise Pederson, Ron Ottoson, Kay Ottoson, Joe Wallace, and Susan Pamperin

1. Additions to Agenda

- A. Upgrade Chamber membership to \$150. Cap Pederson made motion and Mike Wade seconded.
Unanimous
Motion carried.

B. Schedule meetings

June 15 , 8:30 Wednesday at Phelps Chamber office

July 7, 8:30 Thursday at Chamber office

Aug 18 8:30 Thursday at Chamber office

Sept. 6 8:30 Tuesday at Chamber office

- C. GHT update, opening May 29 in Conover ribbon cutting. Very close to raising money for second leg, about \$150,000 short. It would be helpful if any of us can turn up to support this event. 2nd leg will go up to Song Hill Rd.

2. Minutes of September and December, 2015; Jan 2016: Susan P.

Minutes are not to be found due to change in officers and minutes were lost in the exchange. Committee members will send their reports to Susan and between Roger and Susan we will try to piece it together. Joe made the motion to approve the minutes and Bob seconded the January minutes. November meeting minutes were shared and approved.

3. Treasurer's Report: Joe Fritzsche

a. Membership fees/AMEN received to date

Fiscal year July 1 to June 30. Membership year ending June 30 240 members. Joe submitted a report with specific balances, contributions, and expenditures. There was a substantial increase in the AMEN fund this year due to December mailings and the crisis our lakes were in due to milfoil.

b. Cash balances/cash flow See attached report

Bank that is now being used is charging some fees. Joe is looking into having fees waived for the non-profit sector. Joe is asking for the authority to making a banking decision for a no-fee bank. He has requested that BMO be available to him.

c. Proposed Resolutions re signatures and bank

Joe proposed resolution that he has the option to change banks. Motion made to accept the resolution and it was passed unanimously. Regarding signatures for writing checks, Joe proposed amending the by-laws to delete the requirement for two signatures on checks above \$100 and implement an Expense Authorization Protocol requiring Officer approval of expenses at specific dollar levels before a check is written. Joe will send Board members a revised resolution and an Expense Authorization Protocol for review and approval. Discussion was held about the expense authorization process will serve as an internal control and provide an audit trail for Association expenses. See attached resolutions

- d. Joe presented a resolution that specified the names of Board members who are authorized to sign checks on the Association's checking account. A motion was made and seconded to drop the wording that required two signers on all checks above \$500 to align with the By-Law. The Resolution was passed.

After making the changes recommended by the Resolution to amend the by-laws, Article III Section 4 will read:

Section 4 TREASURER: The duties of the Treasurer shall be as follows:

- a. To maintain the financial records of the Association; sign all checks following a Board approved process for authorizing the payment of the Association's incurred expenses.
- b. Jointly with Membership Chair, to notify the Association membership of annual dues payment/renewal and to collect all monies due the Association.
- c. To deposit the funds in the name of the Association in a depository approved by the Board of Directors.

- d. To present, at each stated meeting, and whenever so requested by the Board of Directors, a detailed account showing the financial condition of the Association.

The expense Authorization Process approved by the Board authorizes the Treasurer to approve expenses up to \$500; then requires that the Treasurer and one other Officer approve expenses above \$500; and that the Treasurer and two other Officers of the Association approve expenses payments of \$5,000 and more.

- e. Next year membership mailing: have an option for people to pay membership dues with a credit card but there is a \$1+ fee for each. It has been noted that people do not respond to membership notices via email as opposed to a print mailing. Board is in favor of keeping a paper but potentially going to an either/or option for renewing and joining. Email receipts are sent for contributions if email is provided, mailed receipt if no email. Receipts are going out to everyone. Suggestion: An email notification will be sent early March and if there is not response a paper mailing is sent for membership purposes. Board may act on this later.
- f. Question is why we are only charging \$25 for dues. What are people getting for this? Newsletters and operating expenses. Cash flow is adequate. Decided to keep dues as is and possibly funnel any overages to the AMEN fund at end of year.
- g. Insurance coverage. Does not include any participant coverage. Members agreed they did not want their personal liability insurance to have to cover. Association does have insurance at \$275 year but the coverage is very limited. Any events that are sponsored by the NSTLRA does not cover participants for injury. This is an issue we need to look into. Joe Fritzsche is person who brought up issue and may get more information from insurance agent as to \$ amount for increased coverage. Personal liability waiver was suggested but dismissed because it does not really release liability.

4. Lake Treatment – Cap Pedersen:

Onterra People coming to take samples but waiting for water temperatures to warm. Treatment will proceed with plant growth which is around 60 degrees. Hand pullers are arranged for 1st week in July. Mike questioned a process involving sucking but it is not what we will use since it is very expensive. Possibly in the future. Question was raised about containment of hand-pulled milfoil since it can restart more growth. Possibly chemical treatment will start in 2 weeks depending upon the temperatures. Concentration is .35 rather than .4. 162 acres to be treated.

2 buoys needed to be repaired. Memorial funds were to be used for buoy repair.

Clean Boats and Clean Water program is to make people aware of the transference of milfoil.

*Roger will send a blurb to Susan to include in email blast about someone who will take over Mary's job of Clean Water to see if someone will take over the job and coordinate. Send to all members and AMEN contributors.

Workshop at Trees for Tomorrow June 24 9-12 AM for lake management plan implementation Vilas County/DNR. 2 members are needed to participate. No volunteers were noted. Since that meeting, Michael and Joyce Wade have volunteered to participate.

Question: can we have ads in our newsletter? It was agreed that we would take their money. This was tabled and will be addressed at another time.

5. Lake District: Michael, W.

Two handouts were shared and will be attached to this document.

Will you support the establishment of a lake district? 78.8% people supported. Survey reported that if a lake is in crisis people indicated they would support it.

22% of people who did not support: examples

-people want to know the cost of a lake district

-it is the DNR's responsibility

-Phelps and Conover budgets should be tapped

-lake restrictions imposed

-equitable tax levy based on waterfront footage

Mike presented a large list of ways to address these issues as well as Lake District Resources available to NSTLRA. Many opportunities for partnerships with other public sponsored organizations are available and they are included in the meeting attachments. Question was raised if any successful lake districts have been interviewed as to what has been helpful in forming and maintaining the organization.

Mike is asking as to where the board is presently as to forming the Lake District? Are we ready to move ahead or are we going to hold for a while?

A motion was made to pursue the Lake District. It was voted to go forward and start determining how to proceed. First step is to determine the boundary for the Lake District. Proposed boundary is lake property owners that directly are on the shores of North and South Twin. The motion was carried. Long Lake is probably the closest Lake District to us and Cap will speak with someone on May 26 as to advice and information on how they went about forming and maintain their Lake District.

Handouts are available to be reviewed by all interested parties.

6. Updated Member/Owner Directory: Bob Bailey

247 members 2015, 172 members this year to date. 15 new members, 6/15 were not members in 2014. 9 totally new members. 81% of members have given us email addresses. Report is available for all interested parties to review.

7. Digital Directory for members: Bob B.

83% of members have email address and have received this directory. Those without email will not have the directory and Bob could have a few copies at annual picnic. New directory will be done at end of summer.

8. Newsletter: Margot
No report

9. Clean Boats/Clean Water: Mary Schindler

Mary was unable to attend the meeting because of a prior commitment.

CBCW Student Interns will begin work Memorial week-end. Their orientation is Fri. May 27 12:00 – 4:00 pm at Trees for Tomorrow. Next Intern meeting is June 1, from 1:00 – 3:00 pm at the Vilas County Justice Center Lower Level Conference Room. I plan to attend the first meeting to be up to date on the current training and meet our intern. The next meeting covers more info on SWIMS entry and other issues that arise. I do not plan on attending that meeting.

We have NO Lake Association volunteers to man our landings. I would like someone to assume the CBCW issues since this is the last year I will be doing so. I have been submitting the grant request and following up on it until the annual process is completed for a number of years. Perhaps the new CBCW person would be able to attract some volunteers for our landings which I have been unable to do. Volunteers require training which is given by Catherine Higley, Vilas County Invasive Species Coordinator. [715-479-3738](tel:715-479-3738)
cahigl@co.vilas.wi.us

She has the information of when and where those training sessions will be held

10. Annual Meeting 2016: Roger
 - a. July 9, 2016 Conover

11. Marketing-Publicity: Kay Ottoson

All events are planned and are in the newsletter. Kay will also alert the local newspaper. Kay will get something to Susan for an email blast regarding planned events. Etched wineglasses will be available for sale at the annual picnic.

12. Social Committee plan for 2016: Ron Ottoson

- a. Golf outing July 29, reservations are to be done asap 10:00 AM
- b. Poker Run July 16

Meeting adjourned at 11:30

Documents from meeting submitted by Committee Members:

Robert Bailey
Joe Fritzsche
Michael Wade