

Silver Lake Association Minutes of the Meeting Held September 1, 2012

A meeting of the Silver Lake Association was held at the Bank of Turtle Lake - Island City Branch in Cumberland, Wisconsin. The meeting was called to order by Jim O'Brien, President at 9:05 a.m. There were 34 people in attendance.

President O'Brien opened the meeting by introducing Matt Berg of Endangered Resource Services. The grant application the Association submitted to the DNR for the development of a Silver Lake Aquatic Invasion Plan and ultimately a Rapid Response Plan has been approved. Mr. Berg and his firm have been engaged to help create these plans. Mr. Berg then gave a presentation talking about why aquatic plants are important to the lake ecosystem and that Silver Lake was a classic glacier formed lake - deep, narrow and long running north to south. He reviewed the various plant species he has found in Silver Lake including a number of very rare and uncommon plants. These rare and uncommon plants are only found in locations where the water quality is very high. They are very sensitive to changes in water quality and should be monitored very closely as any disappearance of them is an indicator or red flag as to negative changes in the lakes water quality.

Mr. Berg stated that plants need sunlight to grow and will grow to a depth of 1.5 to 2.5 time the secchi disc reading. In Silver Lakes case that translates to a depth of 50 to 60 feet. He found no Milfoil in the lake.

Mr. Berg indicated that a full report describing all aquatic plant life found in Silver Lake will go to the DNR and the Association in the Fall or early Winter. This report will serve as the baseline for the development of the Silver Lake Rapid Response Plan.

President O'Brien thanked Mr. Berg for his work to date. His presentation was very helpful and educational. President O'Brien then told the Association that Dennis Lorenez has volunteered to be our Rapid Response Monitor. Mr. Lorenez has been working with Mr. Berg to date to gain a background and education of Silver Lakes plant life. He will continue to work with Mr. Berg going forward. Mr. Lorenez has already put in 20 hours on the lake surveying plant species and their locations. Mr. Lorenez asked Association members to keep a close watch on plants growing along their shoreline as well as the shoreline on either side of their property. Take samples of plants, put them in a ZipLock bag and give them to him. He will have the DNR identify them by plant species. Be particularly aware of any changes in the plant types along your shoreline. This is just one way of monitoring for exotic plants and getting an early jump on stopping their spread.

The minutes of the May 26, 2012 meeting were read by Gary French, Secretary. **A motion was made, seconded and approved to accept the Minutes as presented.**

The Treasurer's Report was presented by Steve Knudson, Treasurer. The Beginning Cash Balance was \$7120.79. The total Ending Cash Balance was \$5,752.44. A complete copy of the Treasurer's Report is attached to these Minutes. At this time we have 71 paid members. Mr. Knudson reviewed the transactions that took place since the May, 2012 meeting explaining each transaction. He pointed out that cash was down due to payment to the DNR for Grant matching funds. Eventually the DNR will be reimbursing the Association for the approved Grants sometime in the future. **A motion was made, seconded and approved to accept the Treasurer's Report as presented.**

President O'Brien then stated that the effective starting date for the Lake Shoreline Stabilization Grant (Grant #3) is today, September 1, 2012. Any cost incurred or work done before today is not eligible for reimbursement. He reviewed the terms of the Grant for the Association. Shoreline stabilization plans must be approved by the DNR before any work begins. All costs are to be paid by the property owner up front including design fees. Under terms of the Grant all funds must flow through the Silver Lake Association which means the property owner will need to pay the Association who in turn will pay his contractors for work done. Eventually the DNR will reimburse the Association who will then reimburse the property owner. The DNR will reimburse up to 50% of an approved project not to exceed \$5,000 per project. The total Grant amount available is \$100,000. Volunteer labor and equipment can count as project costs. If you do your own work on your own property you can claim \$8 per hour. If you volunteer to help on another's project that property owner can claim \$12 per hour.

The USGS report identified ("redlined") certain parts of the lake shoreline that were of most concern and in need of stabilization. These areas will be given Grant funding priority.

Wally King has volunteered to serve as the Association contact point and coordinator. If you have interest in applying for a project contact Mr. King as he has a form that will help to get things started.

President O'Brien thanked Ozzie Ostrom for his work in chairing the Membership Committee and urging people to get their dues in.

Terry Knudson update the Association on the directory and again urged everyone to submit and/or review their respective data for the directory.

President O'Brien thanked the Knudsons for hosting the Annual Picnic on July 28, 2012. The Annual Picnic was further discussed and the membership agreed to set the ongoing date for the Annual Picnic on the last Saturday in July every year. Next year the Picnic will be held on July 27, 2013. Mark you calendars now.

President O'Brien shared that an anonymous family has been very impressed by the volunteer work that is done by members of the Association and donated \$50 gift

certificates to go to Friends of Silver Lake. He then presented a certificate to Bob Wellhoffer and Bob Wenzel for their past efforts on behalf of Silver Lake. President O'Brien then brought up the idea of having an address for each residence on the lake side. The idea was so people could be given direction to someone's place via the water. This idea will be discussed further.

The website was discussed. Kari Chase has taken over the role of web master and has updated the website on the Google platform which was for free. Google allows for our own email. She gave an update on the overhaul to date and will do a "push" email to everyone once she has completed it.

President O'Brien updated the group that after reviewing the Wisconsin Lakes Association discussed at the last meeting it was decided to not join it.

President O'Brien updated the group on the Beaver Creek Preserve. They are located in Fall Creek and work in all kinds of conservation areas. We hired a new Park Monitor as of July 1st and he is paid through Beaver Creek Preserve. He is a retired USMC military policeman. We paid Beaver Creek Preserve \$1400 up front.

President O'Brien indicated that he had been notified by the IRS that we had not filed a report which is required of all 501(c)3 tax exempt organizations. Upon further research he was able to do so online. However, we have now been awarded DNR Grant money and this will cause us to reach a threshold that requires a more detailed annual filing with the IRS which will require the assistance of an accounting firm. After a lengthy discussion it was **moved, seconded and approved to spend up to \$500 for accounting fees to complete the necessary reporting to maintain our tax exempt status.**

President O'Brien then brought up Board member elections. He reviewed that the terms of himself, Wally King and Steve Knudson were up. The floor was opened for nominations. Jim O'Brien indicated that he would not serve another term. Wally King, Steve Knudson and Bob Wenzel were nominated. **A motion was made, seconded and approved to elect Wally King, Steve Knudson and Bob Wenzel to a three year term as board members to the Silver Lake Association.**

Consistent with the Bylaws the Board members present then adjourned to a separate room for the purpose of electing the officers of the Board. Upon their return it was announced that Bob Wenzel would be the new Board President, Wally King would be the new Vice President, Steve Knudson would continue to serve as Treasurer and Gary French would continue to serve as Secretary.

There being no further business to come before the Association **a motion was made, seconded and approved to adjourn at 11:35 a.m.**

Respectfully Submitted
Gary French, Secretary

