

**Silver Lake Association
Minutes of the Meeting Held
May 25, 2013**

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 Bob Wenzel, President at 9:00 a.m. There were 37 people in attendance.

The Treasurer's Report was presented by Steve Knudson, Treasurer. The Beginning Cash Balance was \$5,752.44. The total Ending Cash Balance was \$4,419.19. A complete copy of the Treasurer's Report is attached to these Minutes. The pay outs were reviewed and discussed. There was discussion as to the declining financial position of the Association. Our recent major expenditures have been related to very worthwhile projects, many of which have been supplemented with various DNR Grants but the fact remains that we are spending more than we are taking in. We have averaged about 70 members at \$30 per member per year. That only generates \$2,100 of income per year. The boat monitoring alone costs us more than that amount. **It was moved, seconded and approved to implement a tiered dues structure consisting of three levels, \$30, \$50, and \$100. These new rates will be effective for 2014 dues.**

The minutes of September 1, 2013 meeting were reviewed by Gary French, Secretary. **It was moved, seconded and approved to accept the Minutes as presented.**

Kari Chase was introduced and gave demonstration of the new Silver Lake Website she has been building. She chose to utilize the Google platform for several reason not the least of which is that it free to the Association. She then walked the members through the various features, functions and capabilities of the new website. There will be more emails sent to members via this website in the future. The website address is:

<https://sites.google.com/site/silverlakebarroncounty/home>

An easier way to access the site is to just google "silverlakebarroncounty". The full site address will pop up and then you only need click on it and the site will open. It was clear the a great deal of work had gone into building this site and the Association expressed it's appreciation to Ms. Chase for doing a great job.

President Wenzel gave an update on the FishSticks project. He reported that on February 12, 2013 40 trees and hauled to Grant Park, Zahrbock's, Fillmore's and Wenzel's properties, placed in the lake and anchored. These tress will then decay and generate food for fish that helps grow the fish population.

President Wenzel updated the group on Walleyes For Tomorrow and the annual mobile hatchery. He indicated that eggs hatched in the wild have a 3-5% success rate while

those placed in the lake coming from the hatchery have an 80% success rate. The ice went out of the lake on May 8 and the nets were out on May 9. When Walleyes For Tomorrow started in 2007 the fish size of those netted were 28-32" long. This year there were no fish over 22". This is an indication that the "brood stock" for the lake has declined. 75% of the fish netted this year were in the 15-18" range.

President Wenzel reported that the Native Americans had declared a spearing limit of 117 walleyes for Silver Lake this year. However, to the best of anyone's knowledge, there was no spearing this year.

There was discussion as to an impending change to walleye bag limit on Silver Lake. This change has been working its way through the DNR bureaucracy, referred to as a slot limit, and would allow only one walleye over 28". This would fundamentally rule out walleye fishing on Silver Lake. If no action is taken this would likely take effect in 2014. After a lengthy discussion **it was moved, seconded and approved to appeal this impending decision to the DNR and recommended the normal bag limit apply to walleye 15-20", that all walleye 20-28" must be released and allow one walleye over 28"**.

President Wenzel then discussed this year's arrangements for boat monitoring. He showed the new yellow vest that the attendant will be wearing. There are 32 days budgeted for monitoring on weekends and holidays from Memorial Day to Labor Day. The monitoring time will be split to when there is the greatest boat activity on the lake. We are again working this through Beaver Creek Preserve.

President Wenzel updated the status of the Invasive Aquatic Species Grant. This grant was for \$6,000 and will likely be entirely used up by the end of the year. He indicated that he will work with the DNR to see what can be done to extend this beyond 2013.

Discussion then moved to the Shoreline Restoration Grant. This is a grant for up to \$100,000 to restore shoreline damaged by the high waters in 2003-2004 and to provide for preventive steps to avoid the erosion problems in the future. This process is very confusing and difficult to understand for property owners. For those interested in pursuing rebates under this grant contact Wally King who can help facilitate the process. The key in getting started seems to be to have a designer who understands the project and can describe it in terms that will best satisfy the DNR.

The Summer Picnic will be on July 27, 2013 and will be hosted by Jonathan and Kathleen Hoistad. The picnic will start at 4:30 p.m. and food will be served at 5:15 p.m.

The water level will be posted on the website once the county completes its reading in the coming week or two.

There was discussion about the Association meeting dates. It was felt that changing the dates away from Memorial Day and Labor Day weekends would significantly diminish the meeting attendance. It was decided to leave the meeting dates as they have been.

There being no further business to come before the Association **it was moved, seconded and approved to adjourn at 10:55 a.m.**

Respectfully Submitted,

Gary French, Secretary