



MINONG FLOWAGE ASSOCIATION

P.O. Box 167 / Minong, WI 54859
MinongFlowage@Gmail.com

SUBJECT: MFA's Fall Board-of-Directors Meeting Minutes **Rev. B**

Date: October 8, 2016

Time: 9:00am to ~ 11:00am

Location: Viewpoint Lodge – 16640 South Flowage Road, Wascott WI 54890 (715/466-2447)

Attendance:

- Present: Dan Maxwell, Dave Moline, Dave Perrin, Peggy Bruzda, Joe McGrath, Rockne Johnson,
- Absent: Bob Budden & Wayne Johnson

Guests:

- Dave Blumer – Lake Education And Planning Services
- Steve Johnson – MFA member

President's Report: Dan Maxwell

- Most of my stuff is itemized below.
- Presented my resume and opened discussions about pursuing options for some sort of paid-person option for draw-down research project due to it's importance and time-commitment.
- Concern for board member insurance coverage was briefly discussed.
 - Rockne Johnson is in the insurance industry and will review our policy for current coverage and possible requirements.
- Rockne Johnson knows "the float plane guy" and will ask him if he has aerial photos of drawdown and/or flood.
- The Viewpoint venue:
 - Bobbie was ready for us and the site worked fairly well.
 - I like the idea of supporting and featuring venues on the lake.
 - The U-shaped bar enabled most of us to face each other.
 - The distance across the bar was a little too far for some voices to carry well.
 - A refrigeration motor in the back of the room was an inhibiting noise.
 - Their 11:00am opening time forced us to keep the pace of the meeting moving, which is both good (efficiency) and bad (inhibited thorough discussions).
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- Tested www.FreeConferenceCall.com video & audio.
 - Nobody was calling in, so that feature wasn't put to the test.
 - My voice "boomed" into the recording. Dave Blumer was nearby and sounded clear. Most others are "fair", or "poor". Turning the computer towards the group so the microphone is directed to the group may tame my voice and augment all others.
 - Most of the audio was recorded. Any board member who would like to hear it can request access to the link from me. I won't make it available to the general public.

Secretary's Report: Dan Maxwell

- Annual Meeting minutes were approved via email vote
- Opening for new Secretary: Primary roll is managing the minutes of each meeting.

Treasurer's Report: Dave Moline

- Very little activity since his report to the Annual Meeting last June.
- Cash flow data- sheet submitted to the board and approved.
- While the funds on hand are substantial, they are not likely to fully support any major herbicide treatment program, thus requiring financial support via DNR grant(s) or fund-raising activity.

MFA Membership Report: Peggy Bruzda

- 135 paid members.
- Past membership numbers were significantly larger which was likely supported by the "Area Captain" program.
- The member/non-member list is managed by Bob Budden and it's information is available to all board members, but only for use in support of MFA membership and MFA programs.

- Keeping members apprised of their impending dues renewal is cumbersome and will require some sort of proactive communication effort that is still to-be-determined.

MFA Website Report: Peggy Bruzda (for Bob Budden)

- PayPal: light usage so far, but still expected to be useful long-term.
- Volunteer hours log usage by board members and general volunteers is important, but needs consistent input.
- Submitted an assortment of graphs showing summer website activity. No surprise that visits spiked during the flood event, but very interesting data.

Grants Status: Dan Maxwell

- 2016 Clean Boats/Clean Waters: **Dan Maxwell (for Wayne Johnson)**
 - DNR Landing 2016
 - Campground Landing for 2017 = MTLC continues
 - 2017 grant request is due n.l.t. December 10th.
- 2016 AIS Control Grant – Minong Flowage
 - Dave Blumer supplied graphics of AIS & buoy GPS locations.
 - To-Do items include: Property owner survey & Stakeholders meeting
 - Dan Maxwell will process year-end summary & refund request: ~December.
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- 2016 AIS Control Grant – Cranberry Lake & Cranberry Flowage
 - Brief discussion about their EWM treatment & No Wake buoy placement.
 - Communications are progressing well, which should augment any future joint efforts.

Events and activities of note – general discussions: Dan Maxwell

- Governors Fishing Opener
- 2016 Annual Meeting
- Flood
 - Beyond the obvious high-water issues, the key damages to property & shorelines are thought to be from folks ignoring the no-wake requests. Many of these folks are suspected to be non-property owners.
 - To legally control emergency no-wake issues, an ordinance needs to be created in advance.
- AIS Education Event discussed.
- Weevil Education Event discussed.
- MFA membership 2nd annual survey topic (2015's focused on drawdown effects feedback).
 - Dan Maxwell will initiate the 2016 survey project.
 - The emphasis will likely be to learn “how folks use, or would like to use, the lake”.
 - We may be able to get “professional advise” from the DNR once a rough draft is created.
- MFA Fall Newsletter to be issued in November/December pending:
 - Plant survey data.
 - Fish survey overview.
 - Stakeholders meeting discussion on November 10.
- 2017 Annual Meeting ideas:
 - “On the lake”, rather than at Town Hall. Possibly at Swift Nature Camp.
 - The MFA could supply beverages, brats and burgers augmented by attendee Pot-luck for salads, chips, etc.
 - Include the 2017 AIS Education Event?
 - Specific planning will begin in January.
- 2017 Annual Meeting location possibilities:
 - Minong Town Hall
 - Issues for 2017 pre-booking site as a “Lake Assoc.” vs. “residents”??
 - Dan Maxwell’s email (10-5-16 on rental issue) to Linda Featherly was endorsed.
 - Joe McGrath may be able to attend the Town Hall meeting on Monday night to represent our organization if questions/issues should arise.
 - Swift Nature Camp
 - Gordon Town Hall
 - Campground pavilion
 - Pogo’s
 - Viewpoint Lodge (Bobbie says they couldn’t offer enough space if weather drives us in-doors)

General topics: Dan Maxwell

- Citizen Lake Monitoring is going very well and is genuinely appreciated.
- Buoys management:
 - Dave Perrin will investigate Slow/No Wake buoys for southern narrows in 2017.
 - Current managers are doing well and their efforts are genuinely appreciated
- Signage at boat landings: improvements/additions will be discussed in January.
- 2017 task descriptions, approximate hours projection and volunteer recruitment:
 - Dave Blumer provided a 2017 task list for AIS activities and efforts. It projects 224 hours of volunteer efforts.
 - Dan Maxwell will develop a broader based projection for 2017 this winter.
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2016 Fish Survey: Dan Maxwell

- Craig Roberts' general observations, "The gamefish and panfish populations remained relatively stable in the Minong Flowage when compared to the 2010 fisheries survey... Overall, it appears the (2013) drawdown had minor effects on the fish Community".
- Lake Nancy newspaper article regarding bass and walleye population change.
- General discussion.

Aquatic Plant Survey: Dave Blumer

- 2016 findings:
 - Matt Berg intends to perform our lake-wide aquatic plant survey tomorrow (Sunday, October 9th).
 - Wild rice crop: 2016 flood decimated the crop, but this plant is resilient and thus likely to rebound in coming seasons without man-made assistance.
 - Matt Bergs plant assessment of the rice area found Eurasian Water Milfoil actively growing in the rice beds. Detailed report to be issued later this year.
 - Curly-leaf Pondweed survey found limited numbers of this AIS plant.
 - Purple Loosestrife survey found limited numbers of this AIS plant.
 - Most plants were removed.
 - Inaccessible plants may offer options for weevil introduction.
 - Japanese knotweed survey did not find any evidence of this AIS plant.
 - Giant reed grass survey did not find any evidence of this AIS plant.
- 2017 AIS expectations pending Matt Berg's 2016 plant survey.
- 2018 AIS expectations to be inferred from Matt Berg's 2016 plant survey.
- Ongoing AIS control tools discussions
 - Herbicides. Extensive use is expected to be unlikely.
 - Winter draw-downs:
 - Detailed research & evaluation required.
 - Dan Maxwell researching dedicated, paid project manager.

Minong Flowage Stakeholders Meeting: Dan Maxwell

- Thursday, November 10th
- 9:00 – 11:00am
- DNR – Spooner conference room

MFA tentative calendar: Dan Maxwell

- ***** 2016 *****
- November 10, 2016 – Minong Flowage Stakeholders meeting
- ***** 2017 *****
- January 28, 2017 – MFA Board Mtg. (tentative date)
- April 22, 2017 - MFA Board (tentative date)
- June 10, 2017 - MFA 2017 Annual Meeting
- August 26, 2017 – AIS Education Event (tentative date)
- October 7, 2017 – MFA Board Mtg. (tentative date)

Loose Ends:

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Post-Meeting Discussions

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