



MINONG FLOWAGE ASSOCIATION

P.O. Box 167 / Minong, WI 54859
minongflowage@gmail.com

MFA Board Meeting Minutes

Date: July 8, 2023
Time: 9:30 am
Location: Pogo's Harbor Inn

Board Member Attendance: Harlan Johnson (President), Adrienne Banaszynski (Treasurer), Brian White (Secretary), Becky White (Vice President), Dave Vogt, Paul Gundersen, Marcia Vogt

Other Attendees: Dan Maxwell, Steve Johnson

** Denotes remote/virtual attendance*

CALL TO ORDER - Harlan Johnson, President

- The meeting was called to order at 9:30 am.

ATTENDANCE, AGENDA SPECIFICS AND CHANGES

- Review of attendees and guests, those present, remote, and absent.
- Harlan welcomed Marcia Vogt as newly elected Board Member after serving in an interim role since July
- There were no agenda change requests.

STANDING REPORTS

- a. Treasurer's Report - Adrienne Banaszynski
 - Revenue and Expenses through 07/07/2023 were reviewed.
 - Income totaling \$3,029.51 was only from dues.
 - Expenses were \$12,589.21; largest expense was \$10,758 for milfoil treatment.
 - The Check register was reviewed.
 - Current balance in MFA checking is \$21,864.36.
 - It was determined that we have received some partial/early grant payments. Dan will determine if we can receive the remainder of the grant money for other items, however that might not be the case. Steve agrees and that would result in grant money left on the table.
 - Dan mentioned that the DNR is getting more stringent on what is being counted for hours towards a grant. Harlan mentioned we should continue to submit all activities and see what sticks.

- b. Membership Report – Becky White
 - Current paid membership remains at 141. There was a previously reported discrepancy and Becky explain the reason behind it.
 - Becky mentioned that there is still a high number of invalid addresses from a number of bounce-backs received from distributing the newsletter. An idea discussed was to send out a mailing to member's lake home address to update their email and mailing addresses to see how much improvement we can get for valid information. We do have some phone numbers however would prefer not to call people.
- c. Lake Management Committee – Steve Johnson
 - Steve would like to defer his report to later in the meeting/agenda.

OLD BUSINESS

1. Recap and Review of 2023 MFA Annual Members Meeting
 - Brian state that we reported 61 members during the annual meeting however that was truly the number of attendees. We could assume roughly 50-60% of those were memberships as many attendees were couples.
 - Paul inquired if we had any new memberships at the meeting. Becky confirmed there were none.
 - Some very positive comments were received during the meeting and the resurrection of the picnic brought in additional members to attend.
 - Steve mentioned that water quality testing done by the Browns and how that works with the DNR. There was further discussion on how we might be able to collect information from the Browns to have it archived.
 - Meeting expenses were \$349.79 (see Treasurer's report).
 - Discussion on moving the Annual Meeting to the first Saturday in June. Bylaws would need to be adjusted and advance notice given to members.
 - Comment was made to have Wascott tourism promote our next Annual Meeting. Becky will follow-up.
 - Discussion that we will coordinate a dedicated person to take pictures new year.
 - Minutes from the Annual Meeting were reviewed. Adrienne motioned to approve, second by Brian. All present voted yes and motion was carried.
2. DNR Seminar Overview – Dan Maxwell
 - Dan recapped the DNR presentation he did at the NW Wisconsin Lake Conference in June.
 - Roughly 100 people overall at the conference; 15-18 attendees in Dan's session.
 - Presentation went well, but maybe too much information to present in the time allotted. Some attendees had specific questions and it was helpful to have Dave Blumer present for statistical reference.
 - Steve mentioned that building the relationships will be helpful going forward.
3. DNR Summer Activity on the Minong Flowage – Paul, Harlan, Steve
 - Steve will provide an update on EWM herbicides later in the meeting.
 - Paul provided an update on CBCW. The DNR is moving slowly on the decision for some cleaners that we can provide.
 - Paul provided an update on the Zebra mussel monitoring and working to coordinate amongst the key resources. Steve mentioned we could get additional grant money if we log

volunteer hours specific to this monitoring effort. Dan is going to get clarification from the DNR.

- Harlan mentioned that the creel survey is still in progress.
 - Dan talked about purple loosestrife being an invasive species. He doesn't think it will spread quickly on this lake but still pulls it when he sees it.
4. Washburn County Campground Task Force - Paul Gundersen
 - The task force focus has been on the Heartwood campground permit as well as other private campground expansions in Washburn County.
 - Paul provided an update that two lobbying groups are at a standstill. The groups are campground owners and the Washburn County Preservation Committee.
 5. Aquatic Plant Management Plan – update under 'New Business'
 6. Hazard Buoys and Signage – Dave and Paul
 - There is one more buoy to go into place this Thursday. It will be in the Pogo's channel.
 - Dan introduced the idea of providing maps or durable signs for personal watercraft and the 200 feet from shore rule (100' when going straight). The board agreed it was a good idea and will work to get some estimates for signage.
 7. 2023 MFA Member Activities – Activities Committee (Becky, Dave, Marcia, Adrienne and Harlan)
 - Volunteers from the members are large are Jan Pierce and Sandy Wallgren.
 - Completed events are the June 10th Annual Meeting Picnic, the July 4th Wascott Parade and random Ice Cream boat.
 - Dave provided an update on the Wascott Parade (previously incorrectly mentioned as the Minong Parade). They had a full fire truck with the MFA banners displayed for advertisement and will want to do this again next year.
 - Harlan stated the ice cream boat was a huge success. They looked for docks that had people on or nearby. There was good socialization and interaction. Some people wanted to pay for the ice cream treats even though this was a free giveaway event. Perhaps we should accept donations in the future. They gave away 180-200 ice cream treats. It was a fun event and some emails came in as a result offering to volunteer in the future.
 8. Bylaws Re-write – Becky & Harlan
 - Harlan revisited the bylaws update and asked that we read through again from the perspective of a member new to the lake to identify what we might be missing, etc.
 - Harlan brought up how to handle voting over virtual meetings and also how to handle proxy voting during a virtual meeting.
 - There was discussion and concern with how we handle members that are business owners, do they fall under a different membership status (sponsor vs member) and also how this affects our non-profit status with the DNR and grants. Harlan will research further.
 - Discussion about changing board term limits from 2 to 3 as there are pros and cons for both. This included discussion on how the Cranberry Lake Association handles term limits and various other articles of bylaws,

- We are very close to finalizing the updated Bylaws for a membership vote. Becky recommended that we have this done by fall before members leave for the season. The vote could be by email. Further discussion took place on how to handle any questions or concerns that might come up during the membership vote.

9. Misc Topics – Quick Updates

- None

NEW BUSINESS

1. Aquatic Plant Management Plan – Steve

- Steve mentioned that we did a treatment on 6/1. Early reveals looks as if it was working and the DNR confirmed as well and this is good news. Steve sent a note out to the stakeholders and the success of the treatment to keep open the lines of communication and keep it positive.
- Dave B. is really busy and really looking forward to retiring. He is working on 4 other area lake management plans. He is planning to have something ready for us by late July/early August. Steve will schedule another meeting with the stakeholders to present this final plan.
- Tribal resources have expressed interest in touring the lake. Steve will put out a call for help if he needs assistance to coordinate.
- Dave B. put beetles out this week to help with the containment of purple loosestrife.
- September 15th is the deadline for grant submission. Again, this is the final year for the current grant we are operating under. There are 2 types of grants - Education grant (like clean boats/clean waters). We do not need an approved management plan for this. The other type is a Control (or Patrol) grant. We are focusing on what other areas need treatment for next year. Need to meet to determine the areas in greatest need.
- A motion was made by Harlan allowing us to move forward with application for Education grant and to determine if the Patrol grant is necessary. A motion was seconded by Becky. Yes – 7, No – 0. The motion was passed.
- There was a discussion on what are our options to replace Dave B when he retires. There was a suggestion to ask Dave B. for referrals. Steve will follow-up with research and recommendations.
- Dan had nothing further to add.

2. 2023 MFA Member Activities – Activities Committee (Dave V, Marcia, Adrienne, Harlan, Becky)

- Harlan mentioned that we would have a presence at Minong Days.
- Dave V. and Marcia noted that we might need to move the Bingo event from 9/30. There was discussion about doing this on 9/23 as the best option and we will look for other area conflicts. Adrienne will look into game supplies.
- Discussion about another Ice Cream boat day before the end of summer is dependent upon weather and volunteer availability.

3. Private Company option for Lake Patrol

- Harlan mentioned there has been some membership discussions about lake patrol options. It has been difficult to receive calls back from both the Sheriff's office and the DNR. There

are some third-party services that can provide citations. We will check out costs, feasibility, etc.

4. Other Topics & General Discussion

- Steve mentioned his communications with the forester and that jack pine trees are infested with a bug or worm promoted by drought and they will likely die. The insect is specific to jack pines and shouldn't affect other pines, etc.
- The Annual Meeting Minutes were reviewed. A motion was made by Adrienne to approve the Annual Meeting Minutes. The motion was seconded by Paul. A vote was taken on the motion: Yes – 7, No – 0.

ADJOURNMENT

- A motion was made by Becky to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded by Brian. A vote was taken on the motion: Yes – 7, No – 0. The MFA Board meeting was adjourned at 11:54 am.
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MFA Board Standing Meeting Calendar

- Fall – October 14, 2023 – Location TBD
- Winter – January 2024
- Spring – April 2024
- Summer – Annual meeting tentatively June 1, 2024 (first Saturday in June)