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MFA Board Meeting Minutes

Date: April 13, 2024

Time: 9:00 am

Location: Jack Link's Aquatic & Activity Center, Minong

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

Other Attendees: Steve Johnson, Dan Maxwell, Dave Blumer (LEAPS), Jim Sakara (prospective new board member)

CALL TO ORDER - Harlan Johnson, President

- The meeting was called to order at 9:00 am.

ATTENDANCE, AGENDA SPECIFICS AND CHANGES

- Review of attendees and guests, those present, remote, and absent.
- There were no agenda change requests.

STANDING REPORTS

1. Treasurer's Report - Adrienne Banaszynski
 - Revenue and Expenses are through 4/1/24.
 - Total Revenue was \$100.00
 - Expenses were \$1,331.42.
 - Current balance in MFA checking is \$9,339.08.
 - The Check register, upcoming invoices and DNR reimbursement were reviewed at length.
 - There are several outstanding checks not cleared and anticipated funds from the DNR.
2. Membership Report – Becky White
 - Current paid membership remains at 141.

3. Lake Management Committee – Steve Johnson
 - Brief summary. Steve mentioned that finishing the APM plan is a priority.
 - Further discussion under New Business.
4. Minong Town Lakes Committee – Harlan Johnson
 - Committee is gelling. Not all 7 lakes represented have associations however have questions on how to start. Twin Lakes and Chicog are interested in sharing this information.

OLD BUSINESS

1. Bylaws re-write – Becky White
 - Final version sent to board for review.
 - Major edits had been defining board member term and adding Cranberry Lake in membership eligibility.
 - Harlan asked for an approval to vote. All in attendance voted yes.
 - The Board will ask members to vote to approve the revised Bylaws at the Annual Meeting on June 1. A copy of the Bylaws will be sent to members prior to the Annual Meeting for review.
2. Aquatic Plant Management Plan – Dave Blumer
 - The new APM Plan has been posted. There are no comments to this point and nothing else to do except wait.
 - Becky mentioned that as of the day of this meeting, 223 individuals have opened the APM email, 75 have clicked on the plan link. Update: Final count is 234 individuals opened the email, 98 clicks on the plan link.
3. Reporting/Data Received from DNR for 2023 Programs & Activities – Harlan Johnson
 - Harlan reported the 2023 data has started to trickle in. Fyke netting and shocking up the river were part of the survey.
 - Harlan would like to invite the DNR rep to our annual meeting again as well as to have handouts for the members. Harlan will follow up.
 - Creel Survey – Harlan tried to follow up but the response was ‘no idea’ when the data would be ready. Dave mentioned that this survey is a requirement of the DNR on ‘seeded’ lakes. This data is factored into any limits that may need to be adjusted.
4. Status of 2023 Grant Reimbursement from Washburn County DNR – Dan Maxwell
 - Dan did not have much more information to offer as mentioned earlier in the meeting. The check may be about another 7-10 days before we see it.
5. Campground Expansions – Paul Gundersen
 - Previously approved campground expansions in the area are underway. Seaman’s new campground is now open as well as the expansion for Cranberry Lake Resort.
 - Discussion took place regarding the number of new sites that have been approved as well as being pursued.

- The Board will continue to follow news on various campground expansions on the flowage as well as Cranberry Lake as increased usage has impact on numerous aspects on water quality as well as shoreline/island degradation.

NEW BUSINESS

1. MFA Spring Newsletter – Becky White
 - Last year we printed and mailed our newsletter. The cost in doing so has increased dramatically. Extras were available at our annual meeting, however only a few were taken.
 - As noted in our mailing last year, we will only send the newsletter electronically and have available on our website.
 - Becky only has two articles thus far, looking for others to submit to keep the newsletter well rounded.
 - The board discussed the various topics that are relevant such as APM, buoys, upcoming events.
2. Wascott Development and Tourism Association (WDTA) – Becky White
 - The WDTA meets monthly and their annual meeting is in March. Becky has been attending when possible.
 - Becky shared how we can leverage some of their marketing for MFA activities and initiatives. They are a great resource.
 - Their next area calendar for May – September will be published soon. The MFA's annual meeting has been added to the calendar.
3. 2024 DNR Programs, Activities, MFA Participation – Dave Blumer
 - The DNR Calendar is not available to anyone yet. No one is sure of the actual dates of planned DNR activities.
 - Dave emphasized we will have our new grant and provided handouts to review with the Board that breaks down how our activities correlate to grant monies.
4. Hazard Buoy Placement, Timetable – Paul Gundersen, Dave Vogt
 - Lance with Whitetail Waterworks will be placing buoys for us this year.
 - Paul contacted the DNR about regulatory buoys and hazard buoys. Regulatory needs a permit, hazard does not. Any individual can put out a milk carton type of buoys to represent a hazard. If the lake patrol doesn't like it, they will remove it.
 - The MFA signs around the lake need to be straighten or replaced. There might be a map of where all signs are place. Brian suggested we create a map if none exists.
 - Steve mentioned that all of the sign maintenance should be recorded as volunteer time.
5. 2024 MFA Member Activities and Fundraising - all
 - Annual meeting is set for June 1st at Wascott Town Hall.
 - The picnic following the meeting was a big hit last year. The MFA will do this again for 2024. Becky is creating a flyer.
 - There was discussion on various fundraising activities and which ones to drive forward on.
 - A discussion took place on the idea of procuring MFA merchandise and how to create and provide various items.

6. Other Topics & General Discussion - all

- Becky and Brian White have decided to not pursue second terms with the Board. They will work with Harlan on transition plans.
- Short-term rentals were discussed. Topics noted are that they are generally not treated as a commercial property and no one onsite to help oversee basic lake-life practices as opposed to campground properties where owners are present. Harlan reported that Sawyer County is working on a short-term rental ordinance. It is unknown if Washburn or Douglas Counties are following suit.
- General discussion on membership expansion, involvement, donations, and MFA signs and what other area associations, such as Cranberry Lake and Nancy Lake, provide for their members and how they engage with their members.
- Steve brought up the topic of boat launch fees. While the number of boats being launched at the county campground is increasing, donations are decreasing.
- Dan spoke again on the new volunteer hour tracking spreadsheet and the categories that are relevant. We will still allow non-board members to track on the website. Becky will work with Dan to update the categories.

ADJOURNMENT

- A motion was made by Becky to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded by Marcia. All voted yes. The MFA Board meeting was adjourned at 11:17 am.
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MFA Board Standing Meeting Calendar

- Summer – Annual Meeting June 1, 2024 (first Saturday in June)
- Summer – Tentatively July 13, 2024 – location TBD