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MFA Board Meeting Minutes

Date: January 25, 2025

Time: 9:00 am

Location: Wascott Town Hall

ATTENDANCE

Board members: Adrienne Banaszynski (Treasurer), Harlan Johnson (President), Jim Sakara (Secretary),
Dave Vogt*, Marcia Vogt*, Zoe Wisnoski*

Lake Management Committee: Dan Maxwell

Others/Guests: Dave Blumer (LEAPS), Becky White* (former MFA Vice President)

Absent: Paul Gundersen, Steve Johnson (Lake Mgmt Committee)

** Denotes remote/virtual attendance*

CALL TO ORDER - Harlan Johnson, President

- This meeting was called to order at 9:00AM

ATTENDANCE & AGENDA

- Quorum satisfied.
- Introductions: Dave Blumer from LEAPS
- Agenda change requests: We voted unanimously to add our past Board member, Becky White to our Board as an Interim Board Member and resuming her role as Vice President.

STANDING REPORTS

a. **Treasurer's Report** - Adrienne Banaszynski

- Revenue and Expenses are through 1/23/2025.
- Total Revenue was \$21,875.00
- Recently received checks from the DNR:
 - \$2533.50 for 2024 CBCW grant funding
 - \$1599.37 for 2024 boat launch fees collected at Totagatic County Park
- Expenses were \$4,397.00. Notable expenses were \$2,743.00 for LEAPS.
- The check register and upcoming invoices were reviewed, no errors or concerns
- The current balance in MFA checking is \$20,012.

b. **Membership Report** – Becky White

- We added several new members at the membership drive at Viewpoint. Current members hover around 145. Marketing Ideas to follow under New Business.

c. **Lake Management Committee-** Dave Blumer, LEAPS

Aquatic Plan Management Plan 2025 Status

- Soon we will be working with Ben Schleppebach at the DNR who reports to Pam Toshner.
- We will receive \$14,207 as our third and final reimbursement from our last Drawdown.
- Dave Blumer shared our 2025-26 Flowage EWM map taken 09-10-24.
- As Dave Blumer closes LEAPS it will be incumbent upon us to find someone to step into Dave's shoes.
- Dave told us his clients are all out looking now for a replacement to LEAPS.
- Dave Blumer will no longer be available to us as a resource at the end of 2025.
- We are in the middle of our Feb 2024 Grant, which has been extended to the end of 2025, but things still need to be done:
 - Share information with our constituency before 03-31-25 via Email or Newsletters.
 - Board review and approval of our "Point Intercept Report"
 - Plant Survey Reports regarding Milfoil
 - Purple Loosetrife Report
- Links to above maps and reports will be available on the MFA website.
- We would not be reimbursed for our Expenses until we spend the money. In the past, Washburn County was known to provide cash flow support, so we may need to reach out to the County if we wish to enhance our Cash Flow.
 - For 2025/2026 we have applied for a "Large-Scale Grant" seeking \$130,000; \$97,000 of which comes from the State. We must match with at least \$33,000 of our own in 2025.
 - Steve Johnson will coordinate our Action Steps included within our Grant Request for 2025/2026 and 2026/2027.
 - Steve Johnson will ensure the MFA will abide by the terms and conditions of the specific DNR grant program.
 - Some of the actions recommended by Dave Blumer that we are considering are:
 - Divers to remove EWM in 11.9 designated Acres. Volunteer 'rental' of Pontoons or Kayaks will count toward our 2025 Volunteer Hours goal.
 - Mechanical Removal only in Serenity Bay encompassing 13.6 acres in 3-4 days of work. Around \$3,000.
 - Herbicides require Permits and Public Notices. While effective, this may clear up to 1/3 of the EWM in the lake. Per Dave, in the past we spent \$37,000 to clear 45 Acres. Any money spent for Herbicides in 2025 would not be reimbursed until 2026.
 - A plethora of additional requirements must also be addressed.
- Dave Blumer told us we must also decide:
 1. Whether we should contact the Tribes as we apply for Permits.
 - Although the DNR is theoretically at least working with the Tribes, we agreed we will involve the Tribes with every step in good faith and as a back-up to total reliance upon the DNR.
 2. What does the MFA want to do in case our Grant Request is not approved?
 - For future Board discussion.

d. **Aquatic Plan Management Plan – Dan Maxwell**

Dan Maxwell commented that our 5-year APM plan remains under review by the DNR until our APM plan is approved. An extension of the 2024 APM plan has been filed to conduct certain lake management tasks in the summer of 2025

e. **Minong Town Lakes Committee** – Harlan Johnson

(Oversight committee of the 8 largest lakes within the Town of Minong, including the Minong Flowage)

- Standardized Wake Boat Restrictions against the use of “Wake Boat Mode” via ongoing discussions on potential local ordinance has met with resistance as the Town of Wascott, and other towns, have no way to enforce any ordinance.
- Steve Johnson has volunteered to act as MTLC liaison with Wascott.
- Harlan Johnson was elected as Chair at the January 18, 2025 quarterly meeting (was Vice-Chair and Acting President prior to this election) Paul Gundersen is the second MFA representative to the MTLC.

OLD BUSINESS

1. **CBCW needs a new MFA lead person** –

- Sadly, Elayna Armstrong, whom many know from our Boat Landings, recently passed.
- Paul Gundersen has stepped down from his role as Coordinator of our CBCW work.
- Harlan has been in contact with an individual who has an interest in maintaining the important work of the CBCW. Dave Vogt is also interested in assisting. Last year we generated around \$3,500 for the MFA from Boat Inspections.

2. **Draft of printed promotional collateral** - Zoe Wisnoski

Zoe and Becky will work together on marketing. Some of the pieces being discussed are:

- Donation postcard
- Membership postcard
- Annual meeting postcard
- “Know the Lake” brochure for VRBO

3. **MFA logo merchandise** – Adrienne is still researching.

4. **Non-Profit Postal License** - Harlan Johnson and Adrienne Banaszynski

It may be less expensive to simply utilize the USPS for delivery of promotional material than our spending up to \$650 for a Non-Profit ID number with the USPS. Adrienne will follow up.

NEW BUSINESS

1. 2025 Proposed Member Events - Everyone

- Possible meat raffle at Seaman’s Resort
- Social gathering? (EWN Removal and Membership drive)
- Submit MFA activities to WTDA (Wascott Tourism and Development Board) to get on their printed calendar (deadline?) Becky will resume her role as liaison.
- Ice Cream Boat, July 4th holiday weekend
- MFA Annual Membership Meeting – scheduled for Saturday June 7, 2025, at Wascott Town Hall. BBQ lunch provided after the meeting. All Board members and committee members need to be present.

2. Other Topics and General Discussion

- Tax exempt status has been renewed.
- Harlan’s cabin street address is used for certain tax and governmental requirements when a PO Box is not accepted.

- Volunteer Hours - Dan forwarded suggestions simplifying our Reporting requirements.

ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made to adjourn the meeting by Harlan at 12:15. Seconded by Adrienne. Vote: Unanimous Yes

Respectfully Submitted by Jim Sakara – MFA Secretary 01-30-25

Calendar

- Next MFA Board Meeting: Saturday April 12, 2025, 9:00AM
- Next Minong Town Lakes Committee Meeting: Saturday April 26, 2025, 9:30AM:
- MFA Annual Membership Meeting and BBQ lunch: Saturday June 7, 2025, SAVE THE DATE
 - Coffee & pastries at 9:00
 - Meeting starts at 9:30
 - Lunch at 11:15
- Board members are encouraged to attend a Town Meeting to see how the local government operates, meet the leaders, and show community interest from the MFA.
 - Wascott Town Board meetings are held the first Tuesday of each month at 7:00PM at the Wascott Town Hall (in Wascott)
 - Minong Town Board meetings are held on the second Monday of each month, 6:00PM at the Minong Town Hall (Nancy Lake Rd)
 - When writing your name on the sign-in sheet, write MFA next to it please.
- Future, required MFA Board Meetings – Please reserve these dates on your calendar
 - April 12, 2025 MFA Board Meeting
 - July 12, 2025 MFA Board Meeting
 - October 11, 2025 MFA Board Meeting