



ML LPOA WRIP and Board Meeting

January 19, 2019

Recorded by Julie Moore

Meeting called to order by Tony Graham at 8:35 AM at the Maple Lake Township Hall

Welcome by Tony Graham, President.

Tony Graham opened the meeting and introduced Greg Thomes.

**Greg Thomes Ice Fishing Derby Report:**

Greg shared the current ice report that this is up to 20" of ice on the Big Bay therefore the Ice Fishing Derby is on.

Greg mentioned to make sure to take home and help post flyers at work or wherever one seemed appropriate to encourage more activity. He shared there are some new things to this year's derby including People Trolleys that will travel the ice to help fisherman transport back and forth from headquarters etc. and the trolleys will run continually in a large circle around the derby. He also mentioned to make sure to keep traffic lanes open and caution tape will be used in this regard.

Betty Thomes Volunteer Coordinator – Fishing Derby

Betty shared that she is in need of 50 more volunteers to help with traffic and ticket sales. Please reach out to her on email if you can help.

**Tony Graham - Lake Meeting:**

Tony Graham took back the meeting to start the discussion on the AIS (Aquatic Invasive Species) Issue with our lake.

Tony shared information from NOAA (National Oceanic Atmospheric Administration) pertaining to the Great Lakes ecosystem that is aiding to our lakes addition of AIS. There are 184 species of AIS from Milfoil and forward. Currently 42 Wright County Lakes are experiencing milfoil in their lakes along with a new species, Flowering Rush, which has been recently identified in Maple and Granite Lake. Zebra Mussels came through the Great Lakes and St. Lawrence seaway. Most of these AIS are transported primarily from boating.

In the past several years, Starry Stonewort a highly dense invasive was found in Lake Koronis in Paynesville, Minnesota and most recently located in Lake Sylvia.

Currently spraying and treated lakes is not enough. Tony shared further information on WRIP or Wright County Inspection Program. The purpose of belong to the WRIP program is to ensure boaters are having their boats inspected and treated if needed before allowing water access to the lake.

He shared that there were earlier discussion on manning the boat ramps with employees at both ramps. The estimated cost of employing inspectors would run close to \$28,000.00 per year. The cost to join the WRIP is \$18,000.00 per year with a three year commitment.

Tony shared information from earlier board meetings with speakers Chris Hector from Lake Sylvia and other representatives from local lakes on their experience with the program.

The pilot lakes were Lakes Sylvia, Pleasant and John that utilized the WRIP. In 2019 added lakes will include Moose, Cedar, Bass and Sugar.

The inspection facility is located in Annandale. An inspector or inspectors, contingent on volume, man the inspection site to inspect the water craft and trailer. If deemed contaminated, a hot water wash is given to remove an AIS. A receipt is given to the boat owner that is kept on the dashboard and a seal that is broken from the trailer and dropped in a deposit box at the boat landing. Periodic visits will be made by inspectors to validate the trailers to ensure documentation is shown. Failure to abide by the inspection requirements, the sheriff will be called and the outlier will be ticketed as a misdemeanor with a possible \$1,000.00 fine.

Tony mentioned this is an inconvenience to him and many of the lake owners as most likely their boats are exclusively used in Maple Lake. Ideas to remedy this could possible look like a cooperative boat launch day for residents with an inspector on site, or a specific launch date for lake owners only – this is to be determined as to the best scenario.

Last year over 5,000 boats were inspected at the Annandale site. Inspections averaged 1 minute in length and of the 5,000 inspections, 10% had AIS issues.

The survey that was sent to the lake owners or 212 emails showed an open rate of 63%. Those that voted were 85% in favor of the WRIP or 89 yes, 15 nays and 29 no votes.

Tony heard from residents the quality of the inspections were weak and that Wright County was made aware of this issue and is working on more accountability to tighten up the program.

Some questions were presented – is the program working? The answer was yes, those lakes in the program last year were showing 92% compliance. Can the inspection site take on more volume? Yes, the County will make the applicable adjustments to accept the volume and keep wait time to a minimum while conducting a more thorough inspection.

Tony indicated that yes there are issues and there will continue to be issues that will need to be addressed. This is a new program with many areas to be sorted out and corrected. He will work with the group to continue to make suggestions for improvement. The current oversight of this program is with the Wright County Soil and Water commission.

Speaker from Lake Sylvia – Blaine Barkley

Blaine came to the meeting to present why their association joined the WRIP. He indicated that Starry Stonewort (SSW) was found in a less than 2 acre location on their lake in the past 2 years and have been

working diligently to eradicate this AIS. SSW has been in Lake Koronis and has taken over that lake. 2 of the 3 resorts on Lake Koronis have closed and is an invasive that grows in many different directions. SSW has the density of a hail bale and has ruined this lake. Lake Koronis spends 80k a year running a weed harvester on the lake. This weed smothers spawning beds and has destroyed the use of this lake. SSW was recently located in Medicine Lake in Plymouth.

Lake Sylvia was given a grant that will run out in 2019 and the money for that group will be exhausted shortly. There is no county money given to lakes for these issues. AIS is a constant challenge for our lakes. He indicated that a chemist is still reviewing SSW from both U of M and Clemson Universities for a possible chemical treatment.

Blair indicated there were money issues with DNR and that lake owners do really need to take control of management of their lakes.

Tony indicated that the WRIP wasn't the perfect plan but a plan to get something in place and improve upon regularly. He indicated that the board needed to make a decision to join the program and make funds available to move forward. The cost for Maple Lake is \$18,000 per year, whereas Sylvia is \$25,000.00.

Tony asked for a show of hands to move forward with the WRIP, there were 6 nays and 38 yays.

Discussion was made on how would we pay for this? Tony affirmed that between the LID, Derby and with the gambling license, we should be in good financial position to cover this cost as well as have money left in place to treat the lake.

Tony indicated that a gambling and financial report would be covered shortly and for those that wish to remain for the Board Meeting to stay or they were excused.

Tony Graham adjourned the meeting at 9:54 AM.

---

## January Board Meeting

Tony Graham, President, called the meeting into attendance at 10:01 AM

People in attendance: Tony Graham, Julie Moore, Bob Porter, Bob Johnson, Rob Pribyl, Betty Thomes, Greg Thomes, Mike Raiche Curt Forte, Jamie Heying, Tony Heying, Ted Pribyl, guests remaining from earlier town hall meeting.

Not present board members: Jay Sifferle, Paul Decker, John Jennings, Brian Peterson anyone else ?

Secretary's Report – The last Minutes report was delivered electronically to the Board for review and corrections. He reminded the group we are paper free and to please read the minutes on the website.

As we continue to work toward being a paperless environment, please utilize the link to read past meeting minutes:

- <https://www.maplelakepropertyowners.com/wp-content/uploads/2018/12/minutes>

A motion was made by Ted Pribyl to accept the minutes, seconded by Bob Johnson to accept the minutes, all were in favor. The motion passes.

Treasurer's Report – Treasurer Jamie Heying reports the following:

- a) Check book balance \$36,050.10 12/31/18
- b) Deposits made through 12/31/18 totaling \$8,100.00 (\$7,350.00 from Sponsors for the Derby, \$750.00 for food donations derby related)
- c) Expenses paid through 12/31/18 totaling \$5,122.52 (Derby related)
- d) Note – there are 2 Note Receivables totaling \$25,000.00 (20k for Gambling loan, 5k LID Note)

Jayne indicated that the financials were looking favorable and we have yet to deposit gambling receipts and fishing derby receipts.

A Motion was made by Greg Thomes to accept the Treasury Report, seconded by Mike Raiche to accept the Report. The motion passes.

#### **New Business by Tony Graham:**

There was a letter from the Chamber of Commerce asking for sponsorship for the St. Patty's Day Event. The estimated financial request was for \$500 as years past.

A Motion was made by Mike Raiche to continue the \$500 donation, seconded by Greg Thomes to accept the donation, all were in favor. The motion passes.

#### **Gambling Update – Mike Raiche:**

Mike shared that the gambling process is well underway. He along with Tony Graham and Bob Porter have passed all legal paperwork and now have renewable license. Mike indicated that monthly meetings need to occur and suggested the 2<sup>nd</sup> Wed. of every month and financial information needs to be shared and regular meetings with notes need to be maintained to stay in compliance.

The gambling now includes electronic and paper pull tabs at Madigan's, the weekly bingo game and meat raffle. These games and results are part of the record keeping requirements that will need to be maintained. Mike indicated as gambling manager this record retention along with money handling is part of the position which also includes a dishonesty bond on him. There are many regulated processes that need to be handled such as validating the pull tab boxes, both paper and electronic and counting cash at the end & start of the night. The bar is responsible for any shortages at the closure of a game.

Bingo is being run on Thursday nights at Madigan's. More participants are needed for the games to be financially successful. The Meat Raffle is on Thursday and Friday evenings. Currently the Youth Baseball Association is helping with coverage for this games. Bingo requires 5 volunteers and 3 volunteers for the meat raffle. Both of these are financial lost leaders. Bingo will end in May for the season.

The main financial winner is with the pull tabs, & electronics. The bingo games along with meat raffle can lose money but are part of the package. A financial proforma was run prior to taking on this endeavor and we can anticipate 30K to 40k in annual revenue to the MLLPOA. Mike indicated that payment for our 20K loan is forthcoming after start-up expenses. Close to \$9,000.00. Soon payments will be made to our receivable note with the Association, once he is more comfortable with cash flow as expenses, and he wants to create a war

chest for a while until revenue trends are solidified. We need to also pay / donate to the baseball association monthly for their assistance in the bingo and meat raffle. They plan on participating with us until the early part of May, when their league starts. A motion was made for Mike to pay this group approximately up to \$1,400.00 for next month. A motion was made by Rob Pribyl to approve this payment, seconded by Tammy Lawton. All were in favor. The motion passes.

The gambling has 4 paid positions: ( each licensed group pays differently )

Gambling manager at \$19 an hour

Assistant manager at \$16.00.

Coordinators at \$14.00

Mike also indicated if you were interested in volunteering to please reach out to him.

### **New Business – Tony Graham:**

Tony asked if there was any new business. There was none.

A motion was made by Bob Johnson to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Mike Raiche, all were in favor. The motion passed.

President Graham adjourned the meeting at 10:36 AM.

### Board of Directors:

Tony Graham	-President	Mike Raiche	Breuer Lisa	Decker Paul	Forte Curt
Rob Pribyl	-Vice President	Jenniges John	Johnson Bob	Porter Bob	Peterson Brian
Jamie Heying	-Treasurer	Pribyl Ted	Polencheck	Mike PP	Sifferle Jay
Julie Moore	-Secretary	Smith Mary	Thomes Greg	Thomes Betty	