

Long Lake Association Annual Meeting Minutes

August 22, 2011 at 5:30 PM

Boone's Long Lake Inn

Board Members present: Jo Marie Marks, Dennis Wiand, Tanya Berg, Kendra Balderach, Dan Marks, Pug Rundio, Joy Tobin, Gerald Chefalo, Jake Kaberle, Walter Kraimer, Makayla Vitous.

Absent and Excused: Dean Templeton

Call to Order and Welcome – Jo Marie Marks, President

- Appreciation to Boone's for use of facility
- Introduction of current board members
- John Tobin and Jake Kaberle will conduct official vote count for board nominations after 6:00 PM deadline for ballot submission.

Acceptance of 2010 Annual Meeting Minutes

- J. Marks requested acceptance of minutes from the 2010 LLA annual meeting (August 23, 2010). Motion by Tony Winger. Second by Hugh Simmons. Motion approved.

President's Message – Jo Marie Marks

- Encouraged LLA members to remain vigilant and alert for potential threats such Eurasian Water Milfoil, Phragmites, Zebra Mussels, and other invasive species. Report any concerns to the lake management committee or any board member. Together we can continue to protect our lakes, quality of life, and property values.
- Recognized departing board members Joy Tobin and Dennis Wiand for their years of tireless service and many contributions to the Long Lake Association.
- Will further explore the suggestion to begin sending a welcome and informational packet to new association members upon joining.

Treasurer's Report – Makayla Vitous, Treasurer

- Reported a total of \$42,152 in LLA deposit accounts. Copies of a detailed financial report were made available to members at the meeting.

Audit Report – Ron Albers, Past LLA Board Member

- Confirmed independent verification of LLA financial records, including account balances, and that all records are in order.

Water Safety – Gerry Chefalo, Committee Chair

- Explained primary purpose of water safety committee and the \$3,000 annual budget for additional marine patrol on Long Lake.
- Informed members that Long Lake has more marine patrol hours than any other lake in the area, including Grand Traverse Bay. A more detailed report of total hours logged, stops, and citations is available from Gerry upon request.
- Asked for feedback from members on how important it is to continue to invest in extra patrol.
- Several members provided comments both in support of the extra patrol and some who felt it was bothersome. Members providing comments included Bill Miller, Emita Hill, Pete Chernel, Stan Genshick, John Cartwright.

- When asked for a non-binding show of hands, the vast majority of members in attendance supported continuing the extra patrol.

Lake Management – Dennis Wiand, Committee Chair

Eurasian Water Milfoil:

- Lake Management Committee proposed treating seven sites totaling approximately 30,000 square feet of Eurasian Water Milfoil (EWM). Six sites were chemically treated on July 13, 2011 (one property owner opted out of treatment).
- These sites were treated with granular 2,4D with mixed results. Little to no change was observed in the treatment sites so a follow up treatment is scheduled for September 9, 2011.
- Two larger areas of EWM near Long and Fox Islands that had diminished greatly in size in 2010 have increased to about half the size they were in 2009. The committee will continue to monitor these sites to determine what actions, if any, will be needed in 2012.
- An updated map of EWM locations and amounts for the 2011 season will be posted on the LLA website in late fall.

Phragmites:

- In early August 2011, the Lake Management Committee surveyed the five phragmites sites that were treated in the fall of 2010. Treatment was very successful leaving only a few stems of the invasive plant that can be easily eliminated. These remaining stems did not show any evidence of developing a seed pod this season.
- In late 2010, two newer stands of phragmites were discovered on the properties south of the Girl Scout Camp and the property owners have been contacted about an approach for treatment.
- Wiand encouraged riparians and others to continue to be on the lookout for phragmites and to report it to the LLA board if found.
- Member Tim Peterson thanked Dennis Wiand for quickly addressing the phragmites issue.
- Member Mark Cerny asked if there is treatment prioritization between the lakeshore and the islands. Wiand indicated a number of factors determine the recommended treatment approach, including levels and locations of infestation, if weevils have been planted in an affected area, and if boat traffic is likely to spread EWM to other areas of the lake.

Water Quality:

- The Great Lakes Environmental Center performed water quality testing with their hydro-lab in July 2011 and will be performing the second part of this task in late September or early October. The Lake Committee is revisiting the schedule for the frequency of this water quality testing for Ruth and Mickey Lakes.
- The board is exploring the possibility of renting hydro-lab equipment to conduct water quality so the lake management committee can conduct testing on its own. This may allow for both cost savings and more frequent testing.

Community Affairs – Pug Rundio, Committee Chair

- Encouraged LLA members to visit the Long Lake Township website to get information on board and planning commission meetings and to attend when possible.

Membership/Nominations – Kendra Smith, Committee Chair

- Reported 292 paid LLA members as of 8/22/11. Stretch goal for membership is 400.
- YTD paid dues total \$15,000 (including extra contributions).
- Membership is up from 254 members in August 2010.

- A follow up membership solicitation post card will be mailed this fall.

Fishing and Loon Management – Kendra Balderach, Committee Chair

- Large pike taken in Ruth Lake recently. Loons appear to be doing well this season.
- As we typically experience each season, some boaters and jet skiers have been seen harassing loons on the lake. Please report such incidents to marine patrol or the board and if possible, include the watercraft's MC number.
- Will explore passing out loon protection information to renters on Long, Mickey, and Ruth Lakes to help educate them on how to respect and protect loons.

Island Maintenance – Walt Kraimer (Committee Member)

- Acknowledged Dan Marks for all his clean-up and repair work this season. Islands continue to be monitored for litter and other issues.
- Reminded members that fires are not allowed on any of the islands.
- Collaborating with the Grand Traverse Land Conservancy to install a path and signage on Fox Island that leads to restroom.
- Long Lake Garden Club did great clean-up work on South Island this season.

Communications and Long Range Planning - Joy Tobin, Committee Chair

- Communication with members and potential members is an essential part of our mission and continually evolving.
- Introduced an updated look for our *Long Laker* newsletter which was mailed in the spring along with the annual membership envelope. To maximize the time and cost efficiency of our mailings, we continue to combine the newsletter and annual membership materials into a single mailing.
- The board has approved an email program that Tanya Berg will be exploring further so members may receive timely information electronically. The board continues to use electronic communications more and more frequently to share information and ideas among board members.
- Jake Kaberle launched our new website early this year. Please check it regularly for updates and photos. Contact Jake with suggestions or photos for the website. Dennis Wiand has proposed installing webcams in various locations and linking to the website so visitors can see our lakes real time and appreciate them in all seasons.
- We are aware that not all members use the internet or email for communication and we don't want to fail to communicate with those members. Beyond the spring newsletter and annual membership mailing, we need to find a practical way to keep all our members in the loop. We appreciate any suggestions in that regard.
- As a board, we periodically revisit the priorities identified in the membership survey completed several years ago. For the most part, those priorities are still appropriate. However, the identification and potential impact of invasive species has increased and our membership has declined.
- **Invasive Species:** We are fortunate to have Dennis Wiand and Ron Albers invest the time they do to protect our lakes. Their analytical, information and evidence-based approach has served us well. While we still have no zebra mussels, phragmites has become a serious threat. It is essential that we work together to support the efforts of the association to identify, research, assess, and treat invasive species that may threaten our lakes and property values.
- **Membership and Participation:** Membership needs to grow. Generous donations beyond membership dues help fund the work of the association, but since every riparian benefits from the work of the association, every riparian should support the association. It would benefit us all to have more members actively engaged in the work of LLA. The board encourages your participation

on committees and projects and we welcome your suggestions concerning the health of our lakes and our association.

Election of Officers:

- Confirmed 52 ballots were cast and votes were verified. All nominees were elected.
- President: Jo Marie Marks
- Vice President: Gerald Chefalo
- Devin Hill – Three year term
- Pete Zirnhelt – Three year term

General Member Comments:

- Inge Kraimer asked when and why the annual meeting was moved from Saturday morning to Monday evening.
- Hugh Simmons indicated it was 6 years ago when the Welcome Back to Paradise event was introduced. Attendance at Monday meetings at Boone's has approximately doubled from the attendance at the previous Saturday morning meetings at the church.
- It was suggested that LLA should periodically revisit meeting dates and times to confirm what works best for the majority of the membership. A show of hands indicated that the majority of those in attendance at the 8/23 annual meeting preferred a Monday meeting date.
- It may be appropriate and beneficial to survey the broader LLA membership periodically through email to confirm the most convenient days and times for future meetings.

President's Closing Remarks and Motion to Adjourn– Jo Marks

- J. Marks thanked new, current, and departing board members for their service and members for attending.

Adjournment at 6:55 PM

Respectfully submitted by Tanya Berg, Board Secretary