



REGULAR MEETING OF THE WHITE BEAR LAKE CONSERVATION DISTRICT
7:00 P.M. WHITE BEAR CITY HALL
MINUTES of April 21, 2009

APPROVAL DATE: 5/19/09

1. CALL TO ORDER The April 21, 2009 meeting of the White Bear Lake Conservation District was convened by Chair Thomas Hoffman at 7:00 pm.

2. ROLL CALL Present were: Chair Thomas Hoffman, Vice Chair Luke Michaud, Directors Diane Longville, Mike Parenteau, Doug Danks, Mike Stawnychy, Yale Norwick, John Steinworth, George St. Germain. A quorum was present. Recording secretary was Julie Yoho. Absent was Sue Cernohous (excused).

3. AGENDA

Add items: 6c Recording letters in monthly minutes.

For discussion in May : Winter storage of docks in commercial bay.

MOTION #1 (Parenteau/Stawnychy) Move to approve agenda with addition above. All Aye, PASSED.

4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Clarification on page 3 under discussion by Danks regarding information on Birchwood dock associations. Change to “There are 52 non boating members in the dock associations.” ... “some residents have easement right-of-way language in their deeds”.

MOTION #2 (Parenteau/Danks) Move to approve May minutes as amended. All Aye, PASSED

5. PUBLIC COMMENT TIME

Tony Feffer, resident White Bear Lake

Has comments on the City of WBL letter the WBLCD received regarding Tally’s parking. Question over definition of “grandfathered”. City cannot claim 23 slips are grandfathered-in since zoning was in place in 1999. If City is not enforcing, WBLCD must enforce zoning laws. Request attorney look into issue, and place on May agenda.

Jim Greeley, Birchwood

Concern over the Dellwood Dock Association’s dock layout. Doug & Tom had a proposal that could have worked out. Discussion ended and a new layout was approved with no notice to neighbors prior to City of Birchwood meeting. How

can we work with Birchwood representatives when someone else approves a different layout?

Phyllis Robinson, lakeshore owner

Water level questions. Why is lake level so low and why is it taking longer to come back up? Other area lakes seem to be up.

Parenteau – lake level cycle in past has been approximately 5 yrs down, 5 yrs up. Bald Eagle is down. WBL has a higher elevation and a smaller watershed than other area lakes. Goose lake is in a different watershed, so water flows from other areas into it.

Steinworth – With it's small watershed, WBL relies more on groundwater. Topography defines amount of rainwater that enters. We can hope for rain, but it will take a long time for the levels to come back up.

Norwick – WBL is at the top of the watershed. Water is cleaner; but the lake is also more susceptible to drought.

Jean McBride 2939 South Shore Blvd.

Question over drainage along Bellaire - where does rainwater drain?

Norwick – typically goes thru a pond or wetland before entering lake

Steinworth – yes, the water flows into a pond by Bellaire to clean water, then into lake

6. NEW BUSINESS

6a. 2010 budget. Final version will be due in June. Tom would like to hold a workshop on May 12 from 6 – 8.

MOTION # 3 (Michaud/Stawnychy) Move to hold a budget workshop on May 12 at 6pm. Information will be posted. All Aye, PASSED

6b. WBLCD has received a letter from Docks of White Bear requesting reallocation of marina slips in commercial bay, and for a resolution pertaining to. Hoffman feels it is a legitimate request. Would like LUC to bring discussion together with interested parties.

Norwick – agree LUC should do a preliminary mtg. and bring criteria and recommendations to the Board

Danks – will this affect 2009 permits? Or for next year?

Norwick – Likely 2010

Steinworth – why are we doing this? What is the objective?

Hoffman – Objective is to look at letter to see if there is way to satisfy request

Steinworth – so we'll allocate slips according to land?

Michaud – request is from one. Does not mean Board necessarily agrees with.

Steinworth – what is the problem that is creating this request? We have one letter from someone who wants change based on unnamed criteria.

Existing situation we have permitted for decades... baffling that one person wants more and suddenly gets everyone involved.

Hoffman – thinks it makes sense to look at.

Norwick – sense of potential fairness. LMCD reallocates if density has been reached. This seems to be a reasonable request.
Steinworth – could open discussion all the way up, and increase boats.
Norwick – not increasing boats
Steinworth – thru decades we have permitted, now suddenly we change?
Michaud – we have received a complaint from a stakeholder. How would you suggest handling request?
Stawnychy – legitimate complaint. We should look at.

MOTION # 4 (Hoffman/Norwick) Move to refer letter to LUC. LUC to convene meeting for all permit holders in commercial bay. All Aye PASSED

Brian McGoldrick, Docks of WB
This is looking forward, not for this year. Agree with winter storage issue.
Would also like to apologize to George for behavior at the last meeting.

6c. Recording letters in meeting minutes. Would like to have record of documents that are sent in packets. Include list in meeting minutes for the record.

MOTION #5 (Hoffman / Norwick) Move to include record of documents in meeting minuets. All aye, PASSED.

7. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

none

8. REPORTS/ACTION ITEMS

8a. Lake Quality Committee

8a1. Plant Survey 2008 is complete. Will have report copies for all.
Steve plans to attend May meeting. We'll also post report on website.

8a2. Zebra mussels have been found in a few area lakes. Easily transported. Will coordinate with launch guards to keep boats clean.
Steve offered to do study of lake bottom to see where mussels would live if WBL were infested. Study would help indicate potential severity. He could do proposal for study. Would be good to know how susceptible we are.

8a3. Storm water runoff. Received a letter from a citizen regarding road salt runoff. There is a lot of information from U of M and PCA. This is a hot topic right now. Letter writer was concerned over salting of area roads.

St Germain – a few years ago, WBLCD sent letter out asking for minimal salt use.

Norwick – all Cities have to sweep streets within certain amount of time. There are designated spots for drop off and snow removal procedures.

8a4. Water temp. is 49 degrees. No depth gauge yet.

Steinworth – what is rock situation?

Parenteau – DNR was going to forward forms for permitting. Some large rocks that can't be moved are now appearing. We'll be putting buoys out when we have a calm day.

Steinworth – Is there a Committee meeting planned?

Parenteau – 5:00 LQC meeting in May, prior to Board meeting. Please send in any ideas or agenda items.

8b. Lake Utilization Committee

8b1. Event permit - WB Lions Club Pickle Barrel boat races in conjunction with Manitou days. First time for event. Pickle boats float from Veterans Pier to Lions Park.

MOTION # 6 (Michaud/St Germain) Move to approve Pickle Barrel Boat race permit with condition of naming WBLCD as also insured.

Stawnychy – waive fees for this event?

Michaud – no, need application fee.

Motion Vote

All aye, PASSED.

8b2. Bear Paws Frozen hockey tournament January 2, 2010. Benefits the WBL High School hockey association. All proceeds to association. The sheriff permit is done. Support from City, etc. They may add more food tents, etc that would require other permits. This permit is for the event itself, one day.

MOTION # 7 (Michaud/ St. Germain) Move to approve permit for Bear Paws hockey tournament. Waive fee.

Discussion

Steinworth – parking?

Michaud – on the ice and shopping center lot.

Steinworth – ice may not be thick enough.

Randy Birkinbine – event organizer - Signs will be posted to discourage lake parking. All proceeds go to the high school hockey program

Michaud – add waive fee to motion

Motion vote

All aye, PASSED.

8b3. Manitou Sprint triathlon.

MOTION # 8 (Michaud/St Germain) Move to approve permit conditional to proof of insurance and group obtaining any other permits needed. All aye, PASSED.

Michaud - Discussion regarding canopies and ordinance language.
Hoffman – would like more specifics on paper for May so we can proceed.

Michaud – language is specific to slip structure. Forward any suggestions.

Steinworth – is the language regarding color?

Michaud – bring language suggestions.

8c. Lake Education Committee

8c1. Lake map review. LEC recommends taking the business listing off. Maybe use space for invasive species information. Do we want to update the brochure?

Michaud – agree to eliminate the business information – put general info on amenities available in area, rather than specific names.

Hoffman – recommends making changes and printing prior to fishing opener

Danks – could leave invasive species off and include later, as that will take time to develop

8c2. Boat Cruise / Tour – June 18 at 6:00pm. Will be working on flyer and getting invitations out.

Hoffman – in past LMCD has been invited.

8c3. WBL Homeowners Association. Have \$800 in their fund balance, would like to dedicate to WBLCD since they are no longer active. They ask for the funds to be used for communication and education purposes. Ideas include posting speed limits, hours of operation, pumping information. Need Board approval to receive funds.

MOTION # 9 (Danks/Hoffman) Move to accept funds from WBL Homeowners association.

Alan - Resolution should be drafted and approved by Board. Spell out any conditions. Do motion now, then prepare resolution for next month. Note if money is requested to be tracked.

Motion vote

All aye, passed.

8c4. Governors Fishing Opener booth at community picnic. Banner? Vinyl 2’x6’ was \$210 estimate. Handout lead-free sinkers? Reprint lake map?

Hoffman – recommend a proposal to spend up to...

MOTION #10 (Danks/Parenteau) Move to spend up to \$500 for banner, revising map and printing.

Stawnychy – organizers are still looking for guides to take people out. See the website for info.

Michaud – funds from account 6050. Propose friendly amendment for spending up to \$1000

Danks – accept.

Motion vote

All aye, PASSED

8d. Treasurers report

MOTION #11 (Longville / Parenteau) Move to approve Aprils treasures report and pay checks 3897 – 3905. All aye, PASSED.

8e. Board Counsel Report

In the speeding snowmobile case, the offender asked that speed limits be posted around lake for winter use. He was unaware of speed limits.

8f. Administrative Staff Report

none

9. CONSENT AGENDA

MOTION # 12 (Michaud/Parenteau) Move to approve consent agenda. All Aye, PASSED.

10. ANNOUNCEMENTS

Michaud – with the low lake levels, we could maybe go around lake and identify residents with pumps to keep in file for future reference. Could permit pumps.

Steinworth – yes

Norwick – communicate with cities regarding pumping restrictions.

Hoffman – cities can notify

Steinworth – maybe a one time permit to track

Hoffman – there has been discussion about data base of residents around lake.

11. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION # 13 (Michaud/St Germain) Move to adjourn. All Aye, PASSED

Meeting adjourned at 8:30pm.

ATTEST:

Administrative Secretary

Date

APPROVED:

Board Chairperson

Date