



REGULAR MEETING OF THE WHITE BEAR LAKE CONSERVATION DISTRICT
7:00 P.M. WHITE BEAR CITY HALL
MINUTES of July 15, 2008

APPROVAL DATE: 8/19/08

1. CALL TO ORDER The July meeting of the White Bear Lake Conservation District was convened by chair Tom Hoffman at 7:05 pm.

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

3. AGENDA

Add item 6a. Committee assignment recommendations

Rename item 8a3. "aquatic plant update"

Norwick – Request putting committee appointments on agenda for future meeting so there is time to comment and discuss

MOTION #1 (Parenteau/St. Germain) Move to approve agenda as amended. 8 aye, 2 no (Norwick, Steinworth) Agenda PASSED

4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

add George to meeting minutes role call

Steinworth - change to wording on milfoil discussion under 8a. Add

"endocrine disruptor", add "use 2-4,D as it allegedly only kills milfoil".

MOTION #2 (Michaud/Cernohous) move to approve as amended. All aye, PASSED.

5. PUBLIC COMMENT TIME

Brian McGoldrick, Docks of WBL

Docks of White Bear is receiving grant to do shoreline restoration work over 2 yr period. Working with DNR to improve water quality by marina. They are in design phase with city right now. WBLCD will be copied on plans. If anyone is interested in being involved, they welcome the input. DWB will be providing matching grant funds for the project.

6. NEW BUSINESS

6a. welcome to Doug Danks, new representative from Birchwood

6b. committee assignment recommendations

MOTION # 3 (Hoffman/Michaud) Move to assign Doug Danks to Lake Education Committee, Mike Stawnychy to Lake Utilization Committee, Yale Norwick to Lake Quality Committee.

Discussion

Norwick – would like to have further discussion on number of members on committees. Understand conflict of interest issues and also feels having more members on committees can bring positive input. Why not have multiple committee assignments? Ask members what they can bring to the table, what they are interested in. Why can't chair consider appointing more people to committee?

Michaud – Think our bylaws state that the committees consist of 3 board members, with the chair sitting in on all. All meetings are open, encourage citizen members & other board members to sit in.

Norwick – at the city of Mahtomedi meetings, all board members went to all variance sites and meetings.

Hoffman – reading language from article 5 of bylaws: “Members of committees shall be appointed annually by the chairperson -- subject to the approval of the board and shall serve at the pleasure of the board. Members of committees need not be members of the board, but all committees shall have at least one member of the board”

Steinworth – bylaws do not limit more members, or more than one committee. Change can be healthy.

Hoffman – want to be sure we keep the focus. Is there opposition to the idea to board members serving on multiple committees? Anyone interested in serving on additional let Tom know.

Motion#3 Vote

All Aye, PASSED

St Germain – will additional members they have a vote ?

Kantrud – yes, if on committee, they have vote

Michaud – committee does background work, brings info to board, board votes on motion. It's an advisory role.

Norwick – agree, advisory role to board.

Hoffman – any other suggestions let me know.

Committee applicant from Janet Callahan for LQC.

MOTION #4 (Hoffman/Parenteau) Move to approve appointing Janet Callahan to LQC.

Michaud – she would be great addition, has been involved in many lake & local committee activities.

Janet Callahan, White Bear Lake

Feels its important to participate in community. Would like to have role in maintaining the lake.

MOTION # 4 Vote

All aye, PASSED.

7. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

8. REPORTS/ACTION ITEMS

8a. Lake Quality Committee

8a1. Water level: 922.2 today. Down 3.96 inches from last month.
Temp is 75 degrees.

8a2. Aquatic plant update (Parenteau)

-Both the DNR report and Steve McComas's report were sent out last month prior to last meeting. 3 hrs ago new received a new update from Steve. Print-out is here. Also printed an application form from website. Estimate of treatment cost was hard to get without defined area.

-Spoke with Greg Nybeck, LMCD has treated one entire bay with Triclopyr. Will not discuss results until end of summer. Corps of Engineers is also doing other test sites. Has produced results, but no answer at the moment. Chip Welling (DNR) said there is grant money available, but have to act fast.

-McComas said growth is not as prevalent as it was in '07. 2008, with late spring, has been slow. But there are "hot spots" coming to surface. Not overall threat, but areas that could be acted on. Best care of lake for users is to treat. In these areas it is not navigable. McComas was on lake today, there are treatable areas marked in current map. Area off of Neptune Ave & the peninsula area are easy to see if out on lake with the map. 3 management areas where action is required are peninsula, commercial bay, see map.

-Next step would be to apply for DNR permit with specific areas and bids. DNR would review for grant eligibility. WBLCD would treat, submit for reimbursement, we would know prior to treatment how much is reimbursable. If we wait longer it will be too late to treat these specific areas. One is 5 acres, one less than 5 acres, the other around 5 acres. Maximum of 15 acres would be treated. Also new area off end of Dellwood dock could need future watching. Max cost \$7500, reimbursement up to \$4000 plus. Would pay using LQC funds plus reserve.

Hoffman – clarification on map areas

Stawnychy – was out fishing, lots of thick areas

Steinworth – none of these areas are big, but would like to quote Steve's email "for most part it is not a problem, but 2 areas that could be treated. Areas A & C are within 4 feet of surface". There is no time to treat before regatta in July, could help in Sept. Steve is not recommending we treat these areas, he is saying we "could" in areas where it is 2 – 5 feet below surface. None are within 2 feet of surface. What is the timeframe for treatment? We're talking about a racecourse for sailboats, this is new criteria for this board. Criteria have always been to treat if it is a public nuisance. For 95% of boats, this is not a problem. This is specific group of users we are proposing management action for. We don't have money for, and using unknown chemical. The chemical used in the past is an endocrine disruptor. New chemical Triclopyr is a new product. Preliminary research indicates Triclopyr has hazards associated with it. We have no direction from consultant that we do this, he states "could". This is an action in our water body that kills organism - that lives as part of our community. Not the kind of thing we

should be playing with or experimenting with. These hot spots are not huge plumes. Mikes report was a sell job. Don't play god.

Hoffman – We are still discussing, there is no motion yet.

Norwick – what ever happened with yellow buoys?

Parenteau – used them to keep people out of areas

Michaud – intent was to keep people out to prevent fragmentation, which later was found that it didn't matter. Milfoil grows where it can in WBL.

Parenteau – 2nd page of Steve's report indicates "yes" on action required.

Steinworth – what is criteria for treating? Within 2 feet, 4 feet of surface?

Parenteau – within 2 feet of surface and is considered nuisance.

Steinworth – criteria are not met according to Steve's report

Michaud – we can use 2,4-d for treatment, it just can't be reimbursed

MOTION # 5 (Parenteau/ Michaud) Move to apply for permit to treat milfoil in designated areas indicated in Steve's report - 4 "yes" areas as recommended on July 15, 2008. Have applicators bid on Triclopyr treatment, accept lowest bid and go forward with treatment after DNR has approved treatment and grant money based on our application. Total cost not to exceed \$7500 .

Discussion

Stawnychy – report states there are plants within 2 feet of surface. Within parameters for treatment in that location

Norwick – history has shown we have less areas of growth than Lake Minnetonka. Concerned we would use chemical that is in test phase on 15 acres.

Too small of an area to be a huge problem and to try experimental treatment, majority of lake is usable.

St. Germain – 200' in to shore is treated by shore owners.

Norwick – milfoil is good for fish. In WBL it does not overtake entire bays as in Minnetonka.

Danks – is only treatment chemical?

Parenteau – due to location of launch ramps, etc, cost to harvest would far exceed chemical treatment. LMCD actually owns 3 harvesters and a barge, and still not sure it's cost effective for them. We just don't have that option here.

St Germain – are marinas treating with 2,4-d? Check with DNR on getting copied on shoreline treatment so we know what's getting dumped in lake.

Steinworth – disappointed Steve is not here. We are struggling with management decision on something we don't know enough about. Triclopyr , we just don't know how it acts .

Motion#5 vote

Aye, 1 (Parenteau), Opposed, 5 (Stawnychy, Steinworth, Norwick, Danks, Longville, Hoffman) Abstain, 3 (Cernohous, St. Germain, Michaud). Motion Fails.

Norwick – thank you to Mike for all his time and research on this issue.

8a3. Low water buoys.

Mike put some new markers out on rock bars, there is a new one in Cottage Park by rock bar. 5 new ones total. 1 buoy left to place, needs repair first.

Norwick – does water patrol provide these services?

Parenteau – they have never offered

8b. Lake Utilization Committee

Michaud – primary topic tonight was Dellwood dock conflicts. Idea to have workshop with city of Birchwood to review ordinances. Recommend WBLCD send a letter to invite city

MOTION # 6 (Michaud/Hoffman) Move to send letter to invite city of Birchwood to a workshop.

Discussion

Norwick – what will be the ground rules/ rules of engagement?

Michaud – open meeting for both boards. Maybe have open comment time.

Open meeting law just requires meetings to be open to all. “Rules of engagement” not accurate. Just want to clarify with them where jurisdiction lies.

St Germain – this has been ongoing problem, new board members need to understand problem and history

Hoffman – we’ll need an agenda

Stawnychy – unaware of the situation and would like to know more before asked to make decision.

Steinworth – rarity to meet with communities one-on-one, perhaps unprecedented.

St Germain – city owns the land

Steinworth – what is the objective?

St Germain – to discuss with city what they want on their property and be sure both sides understand what can be done and who has what jurisdiction.

Motion # 6 vote

All Aye PASSED

Michaud – who will send letter?

Hoffman – I will send

8c. Lake Education Committee

none

Jim Simney, Birchwood

Question regarding dock fees for this year. Association is paying for 12 boats but we can only get 6 out due to water levels. Can there be credit for next year or refund ?

Hoffman – understand the issue, but we can’t set precedent for issuing refunds. It’s part of your risk if water goes up or down.

8d. Treasurers report

MOTION # 7 (St. Germain/Michaud) Move to approve July treasurers report and pay checks 3844 - 3850. All Aye, PASSED.

8e. Board Counsel report

slow month in court, June sheriff report handed out tonight.

Norwick – where does fine money go?
Alan – citations are issued, as in any jurisdiction. System breaks it down, we get maybe 30%.

Norwick – we should look into
Kantrud – everything falls into Ramsey county

Julie/Diane will look into

8f. Administrative staff report

updates for contact list – let me know if any changes

9. CONSENT AGENDA

MOTION #8 (Michaud/St Germain) Move to approve consent agenda. All Aye PASSED

10. ANNOUNCEMENTS

none

11. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION #9 (St Germain/Parenteau) Move to adjourn. All Aye, PASSED

Meeting adjourned at 8:35.

ATTEST:

Administrative Secretary

Date

APPROVED:

Board Chairperson

Date