



## **McKenzie Lakes Association, Inc.**

### **Board/Member Meeting 05/29/21**

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#### **Minutes of the May 29, 2021 Board/Member Meeting**

#### **Call to Order by MLA President, Sandy Swanson, at 9:05 AM**

**Determination of quorum:** There were 43 members present and a quorum was established; 6 board members were present, including Sandy Swanson, Jeff Larson, Lisa Kiener-Barnett, Swany Swanson, Jan Caldwell and Scott Ballantyne. Absent/excused were Ted Colangelo, Missy Isabella and George Kuechle.

**Welcome and “thanks to all participants” for a successful roadside clean-up.** Special thanks to Mike Carson for the use of his trailer again this year and all volunteers. Special thanks also to McKenzie Landing for the use of their facility. A lunch followed the clean-up effort. Rooney Lake joined us this year.

**Secretary Minutes:** Secretary Jan Caldwell distributed copies of the September 5, 2020 minutes for review and approval. Sandy asked for a motion to approve the minutes. A motion was made and seconded; a vote was taken, and the minutes were unanimously approved.

**Treasurer Report:** Treasurer Jeff Larson reviewed the Profit and Loss budget performance and Balance Sheet as of April 30, 2021. It’s notable that, while last year’s Booya event had been cancelled due to COVID, Ann Powers’ letter to members resulted in generous donations from many members, bringing Booya Income to \$5,790. Sandy asked for a motion to accept the report, a motion was made and seconded. The report was unanimously accepted.

#### **Ongoing MLA Programs:**

- Website – PayPal is being added and is targeted to be functional end of June. Once complete, membership may be paid online, mail-in will also still be an option. Please direct any questions or comments about the website to Sandy Swanson, Becky Swanson, or Jan Caldwell.
- Apparel fulfillment will soon be managed through the MLA website, and PayPal may be used for apparel purchases as well.
- Secchi Reading/Water Sampling: Big McKenzie 21.5 ft. clarity, Middle McKenzie 19 ft. clarity, Lower McKenzie 12.5 ft. clarity.
- Loon Watch – Loons are on the nest on Lower McKenzie, and on island on Middle McKenzie.
- Buoys – Thanks to Paul Sperling and Beth Squires the buoys are out on Big McKenzie to mark rock areas. The buoys are lighted this year. Extra/old buoys are on hand for spare parts as needed.

### **Aquatic Invasive Species Program/Grant Reports:**

- Purple Loosestrife – Julie Kollitz and Lisa Kiener Barnett report that it's too early for full assessment, but it appears the creek to Middle McKenzie has more plants than last year. Although there are no plans by the DNR to disperse beetles this year, the beetles and spraying have been determined to be effective.
- Zebra Mussel Monitoring Plates – Sandy reached out to volunteers 3 weeks ago and instructed clean plates to be placed. There are 15 plates in place on Big McKenzie, 12 plates on Middle and 6 on Lower.
- CBCW Boat Monitors – Sandy reported that 4 paid boat inspectors have been hired to cover the 3 landings on weekends and holidays. She reminded us that the DNR grant requires a match from MLA of volunteer time or money for the boat inspections. We need volunteers!
- Decontamination Stations – There are signs and bleach water spray stations at all 3 landings. Volunteers change/refresh the bleach bottles daily. Volunteers are still needed on Big and Middle for the weeks of Sept 20 and 27; and Oct 4 and 10. Both Burnett and Washburn counties have a law in place that requires boats and other watercraft to be decontaminated when launching your boat/watercraft and taking your boat/watercraft out of the lake. There is a fine for non-compliance.
- Healthy Lakes – Mike Pederson obtained the permit required to install fish sticks (fish/wildlife shoreline habitat) and 6 landowners have volunteered to allow placement of the fish sticks on their shoreline, to meet DNR criteria. Placement was scheduled for March 2021, unfortunately the ice was too thin for the equipment to place the fish sticks. The grant is good for 3 years, so we will attempt placement of the fish sticks next year.

### **New Business:**

- 2021 Booya – This year's Booya is scheduled for August 7. Ann Powers will again be serving as the committee chairperson and Lisa Kiener-Barnett will be covering for Ann on the day of the event. Thanks go out to Dan and Kim for allowing use of their facility for the event, and many thanks to George Kuechle for helping to cook again this year. Sign-up sheets were circulated, we appreciate all who donate and volunteer to assist. Donations are also being accepted for a Bucket Raffle to be held at the Booya. Please bring donations to Ann or Lisa at least 2 days ahead of the Booya so they can prepare. Need for a new, commercial grade, food processor was presented. Estimated cost is \$400-\$600. Motion was made and seconded. A vote was taken and the purchase of a new food processor was approved. Please contact Ann Powers with any questions about the 2021 Booya.
- MLA Bylaws – A committee was formed to review and propose updates to the Bylaws to bring them current with other similar lake associations. The current version was published in 2016. A few highlights include reference to social media being used to disperse information, aligning membership year and fiscal year to run June 1 current year – May 31 the following year, and an increase in annual membership dues from \$20 to \$25 to bring MLA current with other similar associations. Another notable change is that prior to the end of the current Treasurer's term a financial review will be conducted. Both the 2016 Bylaws and proposed 2021 Bylaws documents are available on the MLA website for review. A vote to accept will take place at the annual meeting in June.
- Northwest Wisconsin Lakes Conference will take place June 18 (virtual) - Fee is \$10 per person. MLA has funds in the budget and will reimburse the first 4 MLA members who register online. Ask Sandy for details. Registration and detailed information on the event is

available online at [www.nwwislakesconference.org](http://www.nwwislakesconference.org)

- Cabin vs. Campground – There is an informational campground work group looking for a point person to start a group in Washburn County. Reference the non-profit Burnett County group at [info@preserveburnettcounty.org](mailto:info@preserveburnettcounty.org).

Additional Information:

- Link to follow Burnett County Land Services/Zoning meetings, agendas, permits, etc. is [www.burnettcounty.com](http://www.burnettcounty.com) (click on Land Services Dept.)
- Link to follow Washburn County Zoning meetings, agendas, permits, etc. is [www.co.washburn.wi.us](http://www.co.washburn.wi.us) (click on Zoning Dept.)
- 2021 Calendar: – Upcoming meeting dates and events are listed below and are also available on the MLS website at <https://mckenzielakes.com>

2<sup>nd</sup> meeting – June 26, 2021 (Annual Meeting)

Boat Parades – July 4<sup>th</sup>, 2021

3<sup>rd</sup> meeting – July 31, 2021

Booya – August 7, 2021

4<sup>th</sup> meeting – September 4, 2021

#### **Additional Discussion:**

- **Walleye Stocking** – A former member inquired about the walleye fund that exists, and walleye stocking activity. The funds remain on hold and are reported to be \$7,117.26 per the Treasurer reported Balance Sheet as of April 30, 2021. Sandy reported that the walleye fund will remain separated from the general fund, as the money was donated specifically for walleye stocking. There was discussion on spawning beds, cribs, fish sticks, and stocking. Past discussions on these options can be viewed in past meeting minutes posted on the MLA website. Mike Pederson offered to connect with a local DNR rep regarding the various options discussed, and will report back.
- **Big McKenzie Boat Landing** – Members reported that the landing on Big McKenzie is in very rough shape and needs repair. Sandy informed that the Big McKenzie landing is owned by Washburn County Forestry. Mike Pederson will contact them to report the deteriorating condition of the landing.

Note: Progress updates on this topic can be found on the MLA Facebook page.

**Adjourned 10:22 AM**