



Minutes of the June 25, 2022, McKenzie Lakes Association Annual Member Meeting

Call to Order by MLA President, Sandy Swanson, at 9:00 AM

Determination of quorum: There were 44 members present and a quorum was established to conduct Association business; 8 board members were present, including Sandy Swanson, Jeff Larson, Lisa Kiener-Barnett, Swany Swanson, Scott Ballantyne, Missy Isabella, George Kuechle and Jan Caldwell. Board Director Ted Colangelo was absent and excused.

Welcome and thanks to all members in attendance. Special welcome to the new members in attendance.

Secretary Minutes: Minutes from the May 28th, 2022, Member Meeting were distributed and with no additions or corrections, was approved unanimously.

Treasurer Report: Treasurer Jeff Larson reviewed the Treasurer's Report, informing that the report will not be final until June 30, due to our fiscal year running July 1 – June 30. The miscellaneous income is high due to PayPal transactions that had not yet been identified. These will move to 'Dues Paid' when identified. On the Balance Sheet, Jeff proposed a transfer of Grants to P&L from Liabilities & Equity lines. Grants typically begin and end on calendar year, so they don't always align with the MLA's fiscal and member year. Annual dues can be paid directly to Jeff at the meeting or online on the MLA Website. The Treasurer's Report was approved unanimously.

Ongoing MLA Programs:

- Website – The Shop is up and running on the website. Option to purchase Booya Mugs has been removed until the next batch is available in July. If you ordered mugs, please pick them up today or at the next meeting. There was an overrun of 7 mugs that will be available for cash purchase following the meeting. Apparel sales have been low but we anticipate an increase in sales over the summer months. Becky will be stepping away from the webmaster role to pursue other volunteering opportunities. Julianne Farrell has volunteered to take over for Becky. Julianne will not be taking over apparel sales, Miss Isabella and Lisa Kiener-Barnett will be managing the apparel line. Special thanks for Becky for the great work on the website.
- Secchi Reading/Water Sampling: Lower McKenzie reading was 12 feet, Middle was 16b feet as of 2 weeks ago, and Big was 11-12 feet with a note that strong winds made it difficult to get an accurate reading.

Aquatic Invasive Species Programs:

- Zebra Mussel Monitoring Plates – Scott Ballantyne has placed a ZM plate in the creek between Middle and Lower and one in the culvert on Section One Road. Sandy has one additional plate to place in Lower and will connect with a resident to request participation.
- CB/CW Boat Monitors – There are 14 people, between paid and volunteer, who rotate working weekend shifts at the landings on all 3 lakes. Some high-level stats captured show that up to the current weekend 247.5 hours had been clocked, 501 people interactions at the 3 landings, and 183 boats. Volunteers are always needed to help ensure we match volunteer

to paid hours for continued grant qualification. Thanks to all volunteers who have already signed up. Please text Sandy if you have 4 ½ hours to spare to volunteer to work on a Saturday or Sunday over the next couple of months.

- Decontamination Stations –Thanks to those who have volunteered to empty and replace the bleach solutions regularly at each of the 3 landings. We still need a few more volunteers, so please contact Sandy if you are willing to help out.

Booya Fundraiser:

- The 2022 Booya is scheduled for Saturday, August 6. Thanks to Ann Powers for her years of dedication to this important fund raiser event. Lisa Kiener-Barnett has volunteered to take over as the Booya Chair.
 - Volunteers - Sign-up sheets for volunteers and donations that will be routed during the meeting and will also be posted on the website. Please consider contributing, there are many ways you can help. (We always need help with clean-up!)
 - Donations - We welcome all Bucket Prize donations. Please note that Lisa asks that you get them to her at least a couple of days before the Booya so she has time to organize and label all prizes. Food donations can be dropped off at The McKenzie Landing any time, although we ask that you avoid peak bar hours for obvious reasons.

Thank you to all who help with this important event, and special thanks to McKenzie Landing for allowing us to hold it there every year. The Booya is a fun-filled day with great food, raffles with prizes, and it's a wonderful way to meet your neighbors and other members.

Old Business:

- Walleye Stocking – The DNR stocks walleye in Big McKenzie and Middle McKenzie every other year. In 2020 there were 12,409 released into Big McKenzie and 5,271 released into Middle. The latest muskie stocking on Big McKenzie was done in 2021, with released 207 by the DNR.
- Big McKenzie Boat Landing – Per Mike Peterson, Washburn County Forestry, the grant we applied for in 2021 was not approved, so no improvements are possible this year. A grant request will be submitted in 2023. Mike informed that an engineer will be scheduled to review the sight. Discussion on placing signs that read 'No Power Loading', the signs have been placed yet as the ordinance has not passed yet in Washburn County. Please refrain from power loading as it causes holes and dunes to form at the landing, which makes it difficult to launch and load boats.

Board Members Election:

- There are 3 new board members elected each year, each to serve 3 year terms. Board members Scott Ballantyne and George Kuechle, whose terms are expiring, graciously agreed to stay on and were reelected. Jan Caldwell, serving as Secretary pro tem, holds the 3rd board member position whose term is expiring. There was one nomination from the floor, Kim Duchene, who accepted the nomination. Vote by acclamation, the 3 names accepted were:
 - Scott Ballantyne - Reelected
 - George Kuechle - Reelected
 - Kim Duchene - Elected

Budget 2022-2023:

- Treasurer Jeff Larson reviewed the proposed budget. Income stable to last year. Expense notations included pending invoice for buoy lights, the plant study was not paid last year so will be paid in 2023, some additional web expenses are anticipated. Member raised question on whether the MLA wanted to donate to 4th of July fireworks, decision was against. A vote was taken and the 2022-2023 Budget was approved unanimously.

Calendar 2023:

- The following dates were suggested for MLA events:

- April 29 – Roadside Clean-up
- May 27 – 1st Member Meeting
- June 24 – 2nd Member Meeting – Annual Meeting
- July 4 – Boat Parades
- July 29 – 3rd Member Meeting
- Aug 5 – Booya
- Sep 2 – 4th Member Meeting

The 2023 calendar was approved unanimously.

New Business:

- Ideas for Growing Membership:
 - Becky Swanson recommended a fresh new brochure about the association that features member benefits and suggested we consider making it available at the 3 boat landings, in addition to on the website. Becky will draft for review by the Board. Julianne will coordinate with Becky on brochure & website.
 - Member discussion around locality - people that live within close proximity of one of the 3 lakes can become members. People can join even if they do not own lakeshore property.
 - Member discussion on if/how realtors can help get word out about the association. In the past the MLA had packets available to hand out to new property owners to inform them about the association. This should continue.
- Volunteers needed – Door-to-door campaigns were highly successful in the past. This should be resumed, but we need volunteers, if interested please see Sandy. Thank you!
- Educational Topics/Priorities for 2023 – Discussed the following:
 - Post online what can/can't do with shoreline, how to prevent erosion, what products can be used, suggested flowers and other native plants.
 - Fire safety tips – what to do with property to keep it safe, fire alarm programs, fire routes.
- Members were asked to bring more ideas to the next meeting.

2022 MLA Calendar:

- July 4 – Boat Parade
- July 30 – 3rd Member Meeting
- August 6 – Booya
- Sep 3 – our 4th Member Meeting

Adjourned 9:57 AM