



Big Wood Lake Association, Inc.

P.O. Box 495 Grantsburg, WI 54840 ~ www.bigwoodlake.org

SPRING MEMBERSHIP MEETING MINUTES Luther Point Bible Camp 9:00 AM, May 17, 2014

1. Pledge of Allegiance..... **All**
2. Welcome and Introductions..... **Gene Soderbeck**
 - a) Sign-up sheet (22 attendees)
 - b) New Clothing on sale before and after meeting (several new items since last year and more new coming for sale with flares scheduled for June 28 per Joan Soderbeck)
 - c) Eurasian Milfoil info handed out
 - d) Welcome packages provided for 2 new residents at the meeting.

3. Draft Aquatic Plant Management Plan.....**Cheryl Clemens**, Harmony Environmental

Original plan developed 2007

Why – need a plan if aquatic plant management is going to be done

Aquatic plants affect water quality, fish, watershed, and sensitive areas of the lake

Aquatic Macrophyte surveys done 2006 & 2013, and provide a full survey of all plants in the entire lake. In 2006, 41 species were identified, and in 2013, 46 species identified. A different surveyor found 15 species in 1993.

Native plants benefits water quality, fish and wildlife, stabilize lake shoreline, and prevent invasive species from getting started in lake.

Residents can remove (by hand methods only) native plants in 30 foot wide area in front of their property without any permitting.

The open public meetings have not identified any navigational concerns or nuisances due to aquatic plants in lake.

However, invasive species are a growing threat because they are present is several lakes nearby Big Wood Lake, and can affect recreation, jobs, fishing, wildlife, and property values around and on the lake.

There are two non-native invasive species present in Big Wood Lake – curly leaf pondleaf and purple loosestrife. Curly leaf pondleaf is somewhat helpful to maintaining fish population, and there is less

of it in the 2013 survey compared to more of it in 2006. It generally dies off by July each year. Only a very small amount of purple loosestrife has been seen, and is removed as soon as possible. Although a rather pretty flower is part of purple loosestrife, the plant is very invasive and chokes out native plants, so is highly undesirable.

There is no Eurasian Water Milfoil in Big Wood Lake, and monitoring will continue to be certain if it is ever found, it can quickly be dealt with.

Things BWLA doing: Resident and visitor education, prevention techniques, rapid response plan, active monitoring, reduction of sediment nutrients that enter Big Wood Lake, reduction/prevention of algae growth due to phosphorous.

The Plan is available at the public library and on bigwoodlake.org website.

Comments on the plan are solicited until 6/15/14.

Comments:

Chlorophyll level changes in lake causing DNR action to add BWL to state's impaired lakes list. A study to find out what's causing it maybe something the BWLA might want to consider.

Although not an aquatic plant, members should be aware of Buckthorn, an invasive species of land plant life that exists and may be spreading around Big Wood Lake.

Does plan include zebra mussels and rusty crayfish? These are coming up the St. Croix river and could come up Wood River into Big Wood Lake.

People should be careful when moving docks from one lake to another, to be sure no plant life or other aquatic life is attached.

4. Treasurer's Report & Budget..... **Stan Peer**

Handout provided and highlights reviewed:

5. Recognition..... **Gene Soderbeck**

- a) Cris Peterson; Wood Chips
- b) Doug Segelstrom; review of 2013 financial records
- c) Dale Halverson; review of 2013 financial records
- d) Glen Dawson; 2014 Buoy Placement Committee

6. Secretary's Report..... **Jack Church**

- a) Fall Meeting Minutes

Minutes provided as handout and highlights reviewed:

- b) Activities since the Fall meeting

Handout provided and highlights reviewed:

7. Summer Activities/Events..... **Gene Soderbeck**

- a) Flare & clothing sales scheduled for June 28, Flare display on 3rd of July, Flotilla on 4th of July, Picnic scheduled for July 26, and Fall Membership Meeting scheduled for August 23
- b) Directory will be updated by Fall 2014
- c) Association files – will become organized and paperless on Web

8. Membership Feedback..... **All**

Concern about trash from ice fishermen left behind on ice when ice houses removed – Gene Soderbeck confirmed that BWLA seriously looking at placement of dumpster at both boat landings approximately one week before last day fish houses must be removed from lake, with notification to fisherman the dumpsters are for their use to maintain water quality by preventing trash from getting into the lake.

Concern expressed buckthorn has been identified at several places in proximity to lake, and it is equally invasive as aquatic invasive species of plant life in lake. BWLA should consider providing info to lake residents.

Buoys will be relocated as necessary as soon as weather improves.

Meeting adjourned: 10:29 AM

Respectfully submitted by:

Jack Church

Secretary