



## ***Big Wood Lake Association, Inc.***

P.O. Box 495 Grantsburg, WI 54840 ~ [www.bigwoodlake.org](http://www.bigwoodlake.org)

### ***SPRING MEMBERSHIP MEETING Luther Point Bible Camp 9:00 AM, May 18, 2013***

1. **Pledge of Allegiance..... All**  
Gene Soderbeck led all in attendance in Pledge of Allegiance
2. **Welcome and Introductions..... Gene Soderbeck**  
Gene Soderbeck led all in attendance to introduce themselves, with their location and ownership experience on the lake
3. **Recognition..... Margie Champlin**  
Gene Soderbeck presented Margie Champlin with a plaque recognizing her leadership as past president, involvement with the Board of Directors and the Big Wood Lake Association.
4. **Secretary's Report..... Jack Church**

(Handout provided)

a) Communications

Jack Church reported that BOD wants to utilize more electronic communication with BWLA members and reach out to the lake area community – increasing use of Web Site, Wood Chips, Face Book, and Twitter.

- Wood Chips (communications)

Cris Peterson is new Wood Chips editor and will be increasing articles of interest from BOD and DNR, lake ecology education, updates on water quality monitoring, our Lake Management plan and other ongoing projects. Some new topics will be things to do in the surrounding area, where to find services & other non-lake recreation activities.

- Web Site (communications)

Nicki Peterson is new Web Site administrator with the following major categories - Membership, Events, Clothing, Homeowner info, History, Blog, Area Contacts, and

Advertisements. Nicki is presenting a live demonstration of how to navigate the website later in meeting.

b) Lake Stewardship

Jack Church reviewed the Purpose & Objectives of BWLA

Purpose - Protect, maintain, & enhance environmental & recreational values to lake & surroundings. Promote, encourage, & represent collective interests of members. Obtain & provide members information of concern to owners & activities to maintain and improve the ecology, water quality, fishing, & recreational use. Conduct fund-raising & other activities appropriate to the purpose.

Objectives - Promote sharing of info & experience on scientific, administrative, & financial aspects of lake & watershed management; Assist in development of local lake restoration & protection programs; Encourage support & development of local, state, & national programs; Promoting lake & watershed management.

- DNR Grant Intensive Survey 2011
  - Original Lake Management Plan developed in 2006 in response to discovery of Eurasian Water Milfoil in surrounding lakes
  - Monitoring in BWL continuous since then
  - Plan required periodic updating as part funding requirements
- DNR Grant (New for 2013-2014)
  - Hired two consultants to update our Aquatic Plant Management Plan
  - Contingent on getting DNR grant for 75% funding
  - Intensive Survey 2013 by Matt Berg (Endangered Resource Services)
  - Management Plan 2014 by Cheryl Clemens (Harmony Environmental)
  - Total Cost approximately \$12,991.50 (DNR grant 9,875.00 & in-kind match 3,116.50)
  - In-kind match consists of
    - Handouts, mailings, articles
    - Web Site AIS info
    - Member meeting AIS discussion
    - AIS discussions at events
    - Boat Landing

5. Treasurer's Report & Budget..... Stan Peer

(Handout Provided)

Stan Peer reviewed the financials for the year 1/1/12 thru 12/31/12, consisting of income of \$7,245.79 & expense of \$6,322.52, resulting in slight increase of assets and BWLA net worth (Assets of \$20,098.45 & Liabilities of \$0) to \$20,098.45. Stan Peer also presented 2013 budget with most income & expense similar to 2012 and major change in budget due to the Lake Management Plan (with offset in expense by DNR grant & BWLA in-kind contribution).

6. Membership Goal ..... Chris Witzany

Chris Witzany presented the following (with additional demonstration in navigating the website later in meeting):

- a) Increase membership – BWLA has 173 lakeshore owners and 123 paid memberships with dues currently at \$25 annually. There is potential for significant membership increase. There are only a handful of Friends of BWLA at \$50 annual contribution, which has even greater potential for an increase. Both are tax deductible. The BOD has been discussing ways to increase membership & Friends contributions by increasing communication thru personal contact, an updated website, and increased newsletter content to provide the advantages of membership.
- b) Increase e-mail membership – in addition to increasing membership, the BOD has undertaken an update to the Website (domain name is BigWoodLake.org) and encouraging as many people (members and non-members) as possible to use it. Advantages to having people utilize the website - get the newsletters and other info as more timely communication, online membership application & membership renewal, clothing ordering, area activities, etc., and decreased postage cost in mailing copies of the newsletters (newsletter will still be mailed to those members who don't use the internet)

7. Navigate the New Web Site..... Nicki Peterson

Nicki Peterson provided a live demonstration of all the features of the updated web site and reviewed all the sections with a narrative of what is provided in each section, also explaining the features yet to be incorporated.

8. Summer Activities/Events..... Lisa Carver

- a) Flare & clothing sales on 22<sup>nd</sup> of June from 9 AM until noon at Thoreson Park, Flare display on 3<sup>rd</sup> of July (last minute flare sales available July 3 – watch for signs announcing times & location, Flotilla on 4<sup>th</sup> of July (registration process to be announced) & awards presented at annual BWLA picnic, Picnic 27<sup>th</sup> of July with social at 4 PM & eat at 5 PM, Photo contest with two categories of “Nature Scenes” and “Life at the Lake” with winners receiving \$25 gift card (to local

business) at Fall Members meeting, and Fall Membership Meeting 24<sup>th</sup> of August starting at 9 AM (breakfast at 8 AM)

- b) Picnic is a chance to promote more participation, interaction at a reduced cost.
- c) Educating members on AIS is a mandatory requirement of in the DNR grant for Aquatic Plant Management Plan, and BOD will be doing a door-to-door canvas of all lake residences with Boating rules, AIS info and Membership benefits/Application info the afternoon of 18<sup>th</sup> of May.

9. Membership Feedback..... All

- Geese continue to be a nuisance – BOD to look into ways of discouraging geese from feeding on lawns
- Membership meeting signs don't say where the meeting is being held or the time of the meeting – BOD will be sure this info is included in the future

10. Adjournment

By Gene Soderbeck at 10:20 AM

Respectively submitted by Jack Church, Secretary