

## RALALA BOARD MEETING MINUTES

Meeting via Webex

March 20, 2021

Welcome: by President Linda Van Straaten

Present: Linda VS, Bob Eddy, Bob Lee, Gary Langer, Mark Mosman, Jeff Caza, Darril Wegscheid, Kim David, Dave Johnson, David Lawson, Anne Bonnerup, John Rowell and Mikie Walker

Minutes of the last meeting: The minutes of the last meeting were corrected by spelling Wegscheid correctly and by clarifying that grants were being sought for ongoing expenses.

Treasurer's report: John Rowell discussed his financial report and the 2021 RALALA Budget of 3/19/2021. Discussion about usual short fall at this time of the year. Bob Lee pointed out that Minnesota Law requires that we separately track the payments into and out of the Milfoil account and that this has been a separate item in both the budget and financial statements since 2016. Lee moved that the financial report and budget be approved . Wegscheid 2<sup>nd</sup>. Budget and financial report approved unanimously.

Committee Reports:

Membership: Darril said that 303 requests for membership had been sent out. To date 143 had been received.

Linda announced that the Minnesota DNR had approved our grant proposal and has awarded RALALA \$1500.00. This will nearly pay for the annual AIS survey which usually costs \$1600.

Initiatives:

Water Quality Committee: members are Sara Parke, Gary Langer, Darril Wegscheid, Bob Eddy and Mark Mosman. Kick-off for Water Quality committee meeting will be next Saturday.

Anne announced that the Protecting Our Lakes (POL) initiative is concentrating right now on the Outing Dock Landing. There will be a presentation made to the CLT board on April 8 to get their approval. They are planning for a June or July planting of the shoreline. Signage is planned but production not going forward until grant awards are determined.

Lake Steward Program – there will be an announcement in the May newsletter. Anne announced that there would be training for the Lake Stewardship Program . Wegscheid asked if we could be more inclusive of the 5 water basins in our water quality efforts. Suggestions were made for volunteers on each lake to help in the effort.

The Parade of Shores will be announced in the July newsletter.

In the context of these shoreland improvement programs, Dave Johnson, who is also chair of the Emily Planning and Zoning Commission, mentioned that the City of Emily has decided to do away with the mandatory 5 year septic inspection program and has tabled it for 5 years. The requirement remains for a septic inspection when the property owner applies for a permit. Discussion followed about the possibility of home owners needing permits from the city in order to do work on their shoreline. Dave assured everyone that the City would work with people to keep them from having to spend too much in permitting to participate in the POL initiative.

A \$100 per homeowner incentive award program is being discussed that might add greater cost for the homeowners wishing to participate. Discussion that the septic issue will have no impact on the POL initiative.

Initiative groups are meeting every two weeks.

ILIDS: Committee members: Mark Mosman, Bob Lee, Bob Eddy, Darril Wegscheid and Gary Langer

IT/Website update: Bob Lee reported that he still is working on search engine enhancements on the website – and that Paypal (and other credit cards through Paypal) is the only way members will be able to pay their dues or donate through the website. We cannot use credit

cards alone because the fees and other costs to RALALA are simply too great. If folks have other issues with the website, they should contact Bob.

Newsletter: Kim announced that articles to be included in the May newsletter must be in this next week. A communications committee has been created to help with proof reading and any other issues for which they are needed. Members are: Linda VS, Bob Eddy, Mikie, Anne, Darril and Kim.

New Business:

Discussion about renaming the Environmental Quality Initiative (EQI) account. Bob Lee said that funds in this account have not been separated (ever) from other RALALA funds either donated from members or earned through raffles and other fundraising activities. A committee for EQI is designated in the by-laws but has never been created. Wegscheid moved that any mention of EQI in the bylaws be excised as well as all references to it. Bob Lee 2<sup>nd</sup>. Proposed name of “member donations” was approved.

Linda announced that the new e-mail address for RALALA is: [ralala.lakes@gmail.com](mailto:ralala.lakes@gmail.com)

Election of officers – board vote. Linda Van Straaten steps down as president. Bob Eddy is the new president. Motion by Anne. Second by Langer. Approved.

Emily Waters: Jan Mosman will stay on as RALALA representative for Emily Waters, working with the City for annual grants and communication.

Old Business:

A calendar is being created that will be on the new website. The first item discussed will be announcing the Annual Boat Parade that will take place beginning at 2 p.m. on Sunday, July 4, 2021. Discussion about same happening on all 5 basins .

Second item for calendar: Annual Meeting will be Saturday, August 7 at 9 a.m. at the CLT town hall. Langer will take care of scheduling.

Board meetings for the rest of 2021 will be announced in the May newsletter.

Meeting adjourned at 10:30 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Mikie Walker, Secretary