

## **RALALA BOARD MEETING**

**August 17, 2018**

**Welcome by President, Linda Van Straaten at 9 a.m.**

Members present: Roger Brekken, Darril Weigsheid, Rollie Maki, John Rowell, Jackie Evans, Bob Lee, Ann Bonnerup, Mary Weirach, Kim David, Gary Langer, Mikie Walker. Mark Mosman absent.

### **Minutes:**

Minutes of the last meeting of the board on June 22 and minutes of the Annual meeting on July 19, were approved without correction. Bob made a motion to approve the minutes, John seconded and motion was approved.

### **Treasures report:**

Treasurer, John Rowell, reported that we are in excellent shape in the Milfoil account with \$12,599.24 in the account. We have support from the Crooked Lake Township and from the City of Emily that we can count on so we are able to cover expenses of treatment each year. Monies donated and designated for the treatment of milfoil are to be spent only for that. Bob Lee informed us that if we realize we have another invasive species to fight, separate funds will be needed for that. John reported that we are down several ads in the newsletter and we need to followup.

Roger Brekken moved that the treasurer's report be approved, Darril seconded and motion passed.

## **Committees:**

### **Membership..Darril:**

The reason our membership is at 192 and not the 216 from last year at this time is because of the active sales of real estate in the area, Darril says. The projected membership number of members for 2018 is 260, and he believes that can be met with no problem.

### **CLT/AIS...Gary Langer**

Kim David did the design of the new coasters that were approved at the June board meeting and they had just arrived. Samples were passed out to board members. Coasters will be distributed to area bars and restaurants. The possibility of printing them next year with advertising for RALALA on both sides was discussed.

Discussion followed as to possibilities for involving the community in activities to raise awareness for water related concerns and attracting a younger demographic were discussed. CLT has been extremely cooperative and willing to work with us. We could promote both their organizations and ours. Ideas are in the development process.

### **DNR....Roger**

#### **Signage:**

Darril is working on more buoys because we need more. The north part of Roosevelt is in Cass County and is in the Sheriff's jurisdiction. New buoys need county approval. We need signs for "no wake zones" and signs for high speed traffic.

Darril made a motion that a sign indicating the need to preserve the bulrushes in the shallows between the big island on the south end of Roosevelt and shore. Bob seconded the motion. Motion passed.

### **Raffle...Darril**

Darril reported that ticket sales have gone well this year. Six tickets per member household were sent out with a good response. Sales at the Raffle are expected to raise the number sold because people are so eager at the party to participate in the drawing.

We need an emcee for the Raffle Drawing on Saturday, September 1st at the Village Inn. The group will secure a booth next to the machine at the end of the bar at about 1 o'clock and ticket sales will go on until the drawing at 6 p.m. We need people to sell tickets in 2 hour shifts.

### **Social...Mary**

The "Meet and Greet" on June 23 at the Clearwater Lodge was a huge success. Plans were made to do it again next year. She would like to compare the list of people who came to the "Meet and Greet" to the list of members to see what could result in potential "new" members.

### **Publicity**

Ideas for advertising the Raffle party were discussed. Darril suggested that beverage companies be approached for signs that could be used each year and attached to existing billboards for the Village Inn both north and south of Outing since the Raffle party always takes place on Labor Day weekend. The board at the Outing Station was destroyed so we can't count on using that.

Bob Lee reported that the newsletter is almost ready to be sent out. There was discussion about getting a couple more ads for businesses included and an article written by Linda.

### **Sister Organizations**

A flyer was passed around advertising a "Connecting Waters" event – a Harvest Dinner on August 25. The organization draws farmers in to the discussion about AIS.

Other organizations were discussed. The idea that we need to be connected to the Pine River Watershed organization and the Leech Lake Land Trust watershed protection were discussed and what Crow Wing and Cass Counties are doing. Bob said that there are links in the newsletter for organizations such as WAPOA – but very few people use them. Linda would like to have an article written, highlighting these “sister” organizations for the newsletter. If it doesn’t get included in this current newsletter, it will be in the next one.

Mary updated us on the Enbridge meeting that took place with the Native Americans in Outing, of which none of us was aware. She said that she believes that the route for Line 3 replacement will take place well north of Outing and that there will be less danger to our Leech Lake Watershed. Darril said there is a meeting coming up in Alexandria and has sent an email to board members.

#### **Water Patrol:**

Koch’s are designated to be the chairs for the Water Patrol but nothing has been happening in that area for quite some time. The community has a very negative attitude toward having the Water Patrol out on the lake so it is very difficult to recruit volunteers. Discussion took place about having the Water Patrol boat parked at different docks around the lake.

#### **Old Business:**

There were only 33 people who attended the Annual Meeting on July 14. Linda led the discussion about signage, advertising and use of a sandwich board. She would like to see ads placed in the Northland Press – and for RALALA to “bite the bullet” and spend the money for ads hoping to promote attendance next year. Further discussion led to doing a survey, perhaps changing the format of the meeting, including sponsors for the event, picnics and go back to

having a potluck. Lake Washburn did their annual meeting at 8 a.m. the same day as ours with 12 attendees and the meeting took only one hour. "White Rock" was the issue.

Mary will be meeting with Paul Boblett, Northland Press, to see what options we have for advertising with them.

**New Business:**

John listed the lakes in RALALA: Roosevelt, Lawrence, Leavitt, Smokey Hollow. On surveys and when talking to people who live on these lakes, inquiry is often made as to what RALALA does for them. John proposed that we pursue a milfoil survey in each of these lakes. He had calculated the cost of the survey for Lawrence at \$822; for Leavitt \$528, and Smokey Hollow \$612.00. Cost is based on area covered by each lake. Total quoted by "Dave" from PLM was \$ 1,962.00. Motion to spend the money made by Mary; seconded by Jackie. Motion passed.

Discussion took place about the Volunteer Dinner. Linda asked for a list of the volunteers. Inviting donors was discussed, also inviting the CLT town board, Planning and Zoning Commission members, and the possibility of having the dinner at Clearwater Lodge with a buffet on September 8. RALALA would buy the meal – with a cash bar. Roger Brekken moved that we have the dinner on September 8 at the Clearwater Lodge and that RALALA purchase the meal and then provide a beverage ticket. Darril seconded. Motion passed.

Darril made the motion to adjourn, Roger seconded. Meeting adjourned at 10:45 a.m.

Respectfully submitted: Mikie Walker, Secretary