



Roberts Lake Association
... the general promoting, improvement,
and protection of the property, natural beauty
and resources of Roberts Lake.

Roberts Lake Association Spring Membership Meeting Minutes

Date: Saturday, May 25, 2024

Time: 9:00 am

Location: Roberts Lake Association Clubhouse, Krahn Court

• 9:06 a.m. Call to Order/Pledge of Allegiance: Bob Nack, President

• Condolences to the families of:

- Patricia Abitz
- Mike Beranik
- Delores Kettenhoven
- Jean Tierney
- Welcome new members to the lake:
 - Michelle and Andy Curro
- Moment of silence for all veterans who have died
 - Recognition of all veterans in attendance and “thank you for your service”

• Secretary’s Report: was emailed in the fall and is online at robertslake.com

- Please note: meeting minutes will no longer be read at the beginning of each meeting. The previous meeting’s minutes were attached to the spring email newsletter. They are also posted on robertslake.com and the Roberts Lake Facebook page.

• Treasurer’s Report: Rick Dietzler, Treasurer

- Fisheree Report
- Balance Sheet
 - Fiscal years ends June 30, 2024
 - All-in-all a good year
 - Received \$7500 of the \$10,000 grant the association received for mitigation plan to combat Eurasian Watermilfoil

• Old Business: Bob Nack

• Loon Report: Jim Borsche

- 3 nesting pairs on the lake last year (Turtle Bay, Reed Bay and Switzer’s Point / Bay)
- 3 hatchlings made it through the summer last year and migrated in the fall
- 2 pairs right now (one on each of Switzer’s Point Bay and Turtle Bay)

- The pair in Reed Bay haven't netted yet
- 90% of the loons are generally retuning birds from the Gulf of Mexico
- Please be aware of loons on the lake. They usually are on the nest for 28-30 days. (There's always a parent on the nest if there are eggs.) Hatch around mid-June.
- Thank you to Rob Gezella, Mike Dunlap and Jim Borsche for being the "loon people."

- **EWM and Fish Rehabilitation:**

- **Eurasian Water Milfoil (EWM)/Lake Management: Brett Kaehne**

- Brett gave an overview of EWM on the lake - what it is and how long it's been noticed on Roberts.
 - Since it was first noticed in 2015 the Association has averaged \$10,000/year in mitigation and management efforts
 - Surveys, hand harvesting and Diver Assisted Suction Harvester (Onterra and Aquatic Plant Management)
 - At this point continuing those methods are pointless
 - Users of the lake are asked to help stop the spread:
 - Spread by fragmentation
 - Jet skis - launched from shallow water tear up EWM and help it spread - you can help by launching out in deeper water
 - Trim motor - pull it up when backing up
 - The colony by the Wild Rose Resort is beyond hand harvesting and DASH
 - EWM is visible on the surface by the resort
 - Wait till you get out on the lake, past the EWM, to put your motor down
 - Colony is developing along Hamilton Drive
 - Discussion of possibly cutting that colony off from the larger Wild Rose colony
 - Brett reviewed the timeline for current and future grant applications and mitigation strategy implementation
 - Brett has been working closely with Onterra and Wisconsin DNR (Onterra has been invaluable with help writing the grant)
 - The grant RLA received for 2023/2024 was the most competitive year ever for DNR grants (grant was for the Management Planning Project which includes Field Data Collection, Data Analysis and Reporting and Plan Meetings)
 - RLA was awarded \$10,000

- RLA received \$7500 advanced payment and will receive the rest in the future
- A second (Aquatic Invasive Species or AIS) grant application is due in 2025
 - If we are awarded that grant whatever mitigation methods that have been RLA approved will begin in 2026
- Brett mentioned everything we're doing is more extensive than most other lakes
 - Tony Abitz mentioned speaking with someone on Arbutus Lake, which will apply an herbicide this summer - consider their results
 - Lee Lamers - will speak with someone on Lake Metonga - they've used herbicides in the past
 - Stakeholders survey will be coming after the plan is further in place
 - A successful plan really depends on individual lakes (biology and science are used to develop a tailor-made plan for the lake)
 - The AIS portion of the grant will involve some volunteer work.
- Brett and Gus Nordholm have been trained to do water clarity testing and zebra mussel counting by Sandy Wichman from WDNR
 - She would like to train someone on water sampling testing - Volunteers?
 - Jim Borsche volunteered to help
- **Fish Rehabilitation Project: Gus Nordholm**
 - Walleye rehabilitation making progress - informal surveying of fisherman by Gus indicates walleyes in the 13"-16" range are fairly common
 - Gus expressed continued thanks to Mike Preul and the Mole Lake Tribe for all their assistance
 - They have awarded RLA \$30,000 in grant money since 2016!
 - Gus relayed a report from Greg Matzke DNR
 - Stocked fish:
 - DNR stocked 6500 fish (approx. 7"-8") last fall
 - Mole Lake donated an additional 3800 7" fish
 - Mole Lake also donated an additional 8000 fingerling (5 ¼") fish
 - Fall DNR survey:
 - Forage fish - many available
 - Natural reproduction of walleyes is low
 - Large mouth bass low

- Abundance of bluegill and pumpkin seeds (fisher people should keep all bluegill, pumpkin seed and northern they catch to continue to decrease the population)
- Plan is to return Roberts Lake to a Type A walleye and musky lake (under 100 musky are now in the lake)
- Lee Senso inquired about the genetics of the planted fish

- **Fisheree**

- August 10, 2024 (the second Saturday in August)
- Volunteer sign-up sheets were passed around the group, posters are available.
- A chairperson for the dice game is needed.
- Mary Nack had \$50 worth of raffle tickets available for each association member to sell.
- Fishing contest from 7:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. Awards given at 4:30 p.m.

- **4th of July Boat Parade**

- Wild Rose is music and fireworks on Saturday, July 6. The boat parade will be that day at 3:00 pm. There will be a band before and after fireworks. Fun raffles before.
- Donation was requested to help the Wild Rose Resort pay for their fireworks display. Motion made by Jim Kampo for RLA to donate \$1000 to the Wild Rose for fireworks. It was seconded and passed by a voice vote.

- **New Business:**

- Roberts Lake / Trump Lake Golf Outing will be Saturday, Sept. 7, 2024 at 1:00, see the website or Facebook for further details.
- Bob Nack is retiring as president as of September 2024. Candidates are needed to run for the office.
 - Other offices up for election in September 2024: secretary, treasurer, and Board Members positions of Ken Blaadow, Brett Kaehne and Charlie Klasen
- Vi Lamers thanked the clubhouse committee for all their work: She also thanked these members for added work on the remodel: Jeff Van Grinsven, Tony Abitz, Jack Klug and Lee Lamers. Joan Van Grinsven volunteered the committee to do spring clean-up each year.
- Thank you to Joan Van Grinsven, Bill Brunner, Don Schroeder and Mark Calliari for spring clean-up work this year.
- Diane Pendergast, speaking as a town board member, reminded people Town of Freedom's recycling center is getting more strict because of abuse. Last year they were fined \$125 for inappropriate recycling. Please remember "no black plastic can be recycled." She made recycling information flyers available.
 - The burn pile at the center can only accept clean wood (painted or treated wood must go in the trash).
- A mention was made that legislation for wake boats is being considered.

- **For the Good of the Association:**

- The winner of the \$10 attendance drawing was Jeff Van Grinsven.

- **Adjourn**

- Brett Kaehne made a motion to adjourn at 10:20 a.m. It was seconded and approved by a voice vote.

Email Address Requested

Roberts Lake Association correspondence is sent via electronic communication. Please share your email address with us in order to receive your newsletter online and save the cost of printing and postage. Also check robertslake.com or the Roberts Lake Facebook page for current updates. (Accommodations will be made for those without Internet access.)

Annual Dues

Dues are \$10. Please pay Treasurer, Rick Dietzler.

Officers and Board of Directors

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