

**Minutes**  
**Dunkirk Dam Lake District (DDLD)**  
**July 17, 2024 Quarterly meeting**  
 Location: Dunkirk Town Hall

**In Attendance:**

<b>DDLD Commissioners</b>	<b>Attendees</b>		<b>Guests</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Laura Davis*, Chair</li> <li>• Becky Dakin*, Secretary</li> <li>• Lauri Hodge*, Treasurer</li> <li>• Dan Jenks, Dunkirk Appointee</li> <li>• Michael Engelberger, Dane Cnty Appointee</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ted Christman*</li> <li>• Jack Lyon*</li> <li>• Doug MacKenzie*</li> <li>• Mary Ellen Mackey*</li> <li>• Jason Mackey*</li> <li>• Kathy Peterson*</li> <li>• Justin Adsit*</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Rich Morris*</li> <li>• Marie Matejka*</li> <li>• Marty Zweifel</li> <li>• Nick Schmuhl*</li> <li>• Amy Nordin*</li> <li>• Tom Nordin*</li> <li>• AJ Hammond*</li> </ul>	None

\* DDLD property owner/resident

<b>Topic</b>	<b>Discussion</b>	<b>Action</b>
	<b>DDLD Quarterly Meeting DRAFT Minutes – 07.17.24</b>	
<b>Call to Order</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Laura Davis called the meeting to order at 6:33pm.</li> </ul>	None
<b>Minutes</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Becky summarized the April minutes, which were approved with no changes</li> </ul>	Becky, repost the approved minutes to the website
<b>Treasure's Report</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Lauri reported the balance in checking, expenditures, and income. She also explained anticipated upcoming expenses. She mentioned that she paid the Lemke Fencing invoice in full but has yet to receive the balance of Tom Reiss' donation for this project. Laura will look into this. Lauri commented that the budget for next year will be much less. Laura and Lauri will discuss next year's budget details before the Annual Meeting.</li> </ul>	Laura to check on Tom Reiss' donation Laura and Lori to discuss next year's budget in preparation of the Annual Meeting
<b>Dunkirk Update</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Dan Jenks reported that the Township website has been completely updated. The Town has entered into an annual agreement with the website person who will manage it.</li> <li>• The Town has approved an ATV/UTV Ordinance for all town roads. Mike explained that county roads are not covered by this ordinance and require a separate permitting process.</li> <li>• The Township Parks Committee is installing their first new playground equipment. Nothing has been updated in our parks for many years.</li> </ul>	None

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Township has approved a Slow-no-Wake Ordinance from the Dunkirk Dam, north to Stoughton. (The Safety Committee will report on these details later in the meeting.)</li> <li>• The Township Rural Preservation Commission meets monthly and will soon complete another land requisition. The announcement will be made in the near future.</li> <li>• The Town’s Comprehensive Plan Committee is meeting to update the 20-year plan. Laura mentioned when the committee discusses the Environmental Component of the plan, she would like to see a plan to develop a Parks and Open Space Plan.</li> </ul>	
<b>Dane County Update</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Michael Engelberger representing District 35 reported that the Dane County Exec, Joe Parisi retired. Jamie Coon is the Interim County Exec. Four people are running for this position in November. Mike discussed the different committees he currently serves. He has also received quite a few complaints about the water quality of Kegonsa Lake. Mike asked the group about the quality of the river water. Members said “yuck,” “disgusting.” He stated the blue-green algae is caused by high heat and high water. The group discussed the high water level of the river.</li> <li>• Jack Lyon asked if the DNR water meter box was going to be put back up. Becky said that she has been in communication with the DNR guy and he has assured her that this is on their to-do list. Becky will bug them again.</li> </ul>	Becky, contact DNR again about re-installing DNR water meter box by the dam double gate.
<b>Old Business: Lyon’s Park Expansion</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Laura said she was reporting on behalf of the Stewardship Committee. We are awaiting news to see if we are awarded the DNR grant. We will find out on Aug 20. The Town of Dunkirk already paid \$9,000 for the cost of the consultant to prepare a development plan. Now that that plan is in place, if awarded, the DNR grant will provide 50% of the cost of Phase I. The 50% balance will be provided by DDLD and the Township. This portion includes in-kind work.</li> <li>• Phase I will include an ADA accessible pier with kayak/canoe launch. We will also add a longer boat barrier in the millpond.</li> <li>• Phase I costs \$77,500. This includes prepping the site, launch, landscaping</li> <li>• Next steps: On Aug 20, Laura will make a 3-min presentation to the Waterways Commission. There are quite a few other grantees being considered at that meeting. At the conclusion of the meeting, the awards will be given.</li> <li>• Laura will clarify if construction needs to start this Fall or can wait until the Spring.</li> <li>• Phase II should be less expensive. The details of this have yet to be developed.</li> <li>• Jack Lyon asked why a simple “driveway” type of put-in was not considered. Laura clarified that the DNR funding requires that the put-in be ADA compliant. Jack expressed concern that the floating pier will require the Township to put-in and take-out each</li> </ul>	<p>Laura will attend Aug 20 meeting with the Waterways Commission. If any members would like to accompany her, please let her know.</p> <p>If grant is awarded, Laura will clarify if Phase I construction will start in Fall or Spring.</p>

	<p>winter. Nick commented that the proposed pier is like the one at Gibbs Lake.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Laura emphasized that the shoreline needs protected. A “driveway” style put-in would not protect the shoreline.</li> <li>• A member asked if DDLD has the funds for their portion. Laura said yes.</li> <li>• If we are not awarded the DNR grant funds, we start over and go back to the drawing board.</li> <li>• Dan added that Dunkirk will just “wait and see” the outcome of the grant application. If the project requires the Town to provide the money this Fall, that would be a challenge.</li> </ul>	
<p><b>Safety Committee Report</b></p> <p><b>Slow-no-Wake Ordinance</b></p> <p><b>Upgrades to Fencing</b></p> <p><b>Vandalism of fence</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ted Christman spoke on behalf of the Safety Committee.</li> <li>• Dunkirk has approved a Slow-no-Wake Ordinance on the Yahara River from the Dunkirk Dam north to Stoughton. The term “Slow-no-Wake” means that speed at which a boat moves as slowly as possible while still maintaining steerage control. The reason for this ordinance is to lower the speed of boating on the millpond and to protect the shoreline as wake is tough on the shoreline. Enforcement of this will be by the Dane County Sherriff’s Recreation Patrol and by Matt Koshollek the Conservation Warden. However, these two resources are very limited in their ability to launch their boats in our two-mile stretch of the river.</li> <li>• Becky asked who she and Ted should contact to receive permission to place a “No-Wake” sign at the 8<sup>th</sup> street put-in. Dan said to contact Stoughton Public Works.</li> <li>• Ted discussed the upgrades/repairs that were made in June to the Dam signage and fencing. The big double gates at the dam have been replaced by “stout” 10’ gates. There is now also a 8’ fence on both sides of the lower end of the powerhouse. Ted also stated that the picnic tables have been secured with deep posts bolted to the table thanks to John at Dunkirk.</li> <li>• Ted shared that the “bad news” is that the fencing and signs have been vandalized. The Front Gate Wing has been pushed and now all fasteners are broken. The West Wing below the Powerhouse has been completely pulled down – pulled out of the cement – posts knocked over. The East Wing below the Powerhouse has been pulled completely out of position and is now leaning against the fence. This allows the anglers to sit on the cement ledge as they have pushed out the fencing. The sign on the backside of the powerhouse by the sluice has been pulled out and thrown into the river. Ted retrieved the sign and has it as his home.</li> <li>• The reason for the added “wings” below the Powerhouse was put in place at Tom Reiss’ insistence stating that the discharge from the turbines is dangerous. Tom has observed</li> </ul>	<p>Ted will order two no-wake buoys and will install with Jack Lyons’ help.</p> <p>Ted and Becky will contact Stoughton Public Works to gain permission to place a “no-wake” sign at the 8<sup>th</sup> St put-in.</p> <p>Ted will get two “no-wake” signs made to place at 8<sup>th</sup> St and the millpond.</p> <p>Laura/Lauri will follow up on the balance of Tom Reiss’ donation for the fencing.</p> <p>Becky will call Lemke to extend the repair bid from 30 days to six months.</p> <p>Ted will reinstall the</p>

	<p>many anglers with children standing on the cement ledge above the turbulent waters.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Safety Committee proposed a 4' fence on either side of the Powerhouse to allow fishing "over" the fence. Tom was adamantly against this as it not prevent fishing in this dangerous area.</li> <li>• Ted stated that Lemke Fencing has provided a repair bid to put things "back like they were" with the addition of welding the wings to the fencing and adding a welded arm to provide additional support (instead of brackets). The fencing posts would be driven in 4' to deter the west side fencing being knocked down again. The bid is for \$3900.</li> <li>• The group discussed the different options to remedy the damaged fence.</li> <li>• Justin asked what FERC requires. Becky said their regulations are pretty general and state that fencing and barriers are required to provide for public safety. The regulations do not describe any further details.</li> <li>• Laura showed a video where a family was walking on the property behind the Powerhouse. They, along with a toddler all jumped the sluice and stumbled on the large rocks.</li> <li>• Another member asked what our liability is – do we only need to provide signage that people can decide to comply with, or not. OR, do we need to fence them out.</li> <li>• Laura shared that at one point we asked, "Why can't the anglers just walk over the dam?" The anglers really want to access the west side of the river. Tom Reiss had previously stated that this was not an option because the public would have access to the mechanical workings of the dam. Tom had also stated that if access at this level was allowed he would lose his liability insurance.</li> <li>• Laura reviewed some language in the Dam Lease and it states that the Dam belongs to the members. It is up to the members to keep it safe. Tom Reiss leases the dam operation from the members.</li> <li>• Rich asked Dan why the fencing at the Stoughton Dam has just changed. Dan stated it was because of the high water levels right now.</li> <li>• Laura shared that she had previously spoken with Brett at Public Works. The Stoughton Dam does not have barriers. You can't walk on top of the dam – people occasionally get on top, however. Brett stated that they just make sure they have good signs including "under surveillance."</li> <li>• The group discussed if surveillance cameras would be a good idea. The group did not come to any conclusions but leaned toward the thinking that it would not really help and would probably be vandalized.</li> </ul>	<p>downed sign that belongs on the dike by the sluice.</p> <p>Becky to contact Exec Dir of the Lake Districts to discuss liability.</p>
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<b>Adjourn</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The meeting adjourned at 7:47pm</li> </ul>	