

Aurora Lake Association Meeting Minutes

Date: September 18, 2024

Location: Hawthorn Clubhouse

Start - End Times: 20:00 - 21:30

Aurora Lake Association Board of Directors			
Name	Role	Affiliation	Attendance
Matt Kolar	Chairman	HHOA	Yes
<i>Unassigned</i>	Vice Chairman		
<i>Unassigned</i>	Treasurer		
<i>Unassigned</i>	Sergeant at Arms		
John Vargo	Secretary	HHOA	Yes
Joe Leslie	Committee Director	ASHA	Yes
Mike Laur	Committee Director	HHOA	No
Joe Kovatch	Committee Director	ASHA	Yes
Dawn Kohn	Committee Director	ASHA	Yes
Dawn McLendon	Committee Director	HHOA	Yes

Schedule

- 20:00 - 21:30 - Public Session

If all 7 of us are present, we can have officer elections.

- Not all board members are present

Roll Registry:

Aurora Lake Association Meeting Guest Register

Date: Sept 18th, 2024

Location: Hawthorn

Start - End Times: 22:00-

[illegible]

Aurora Lake Association Meeting Guest Register

Date: Sept 18th, 2024

Location: Hawthorne

Start - End Times: 22:00 -

[illegible]

Agenda / Minutes

ASHA Board member change - Introduce Dawn Koh

Previous Meeting Minutes

- **Motion** - Approve May 29th 2024 Meeting Minutes (2024-05-29 ALA Meeting Minutes - Published) - Vargo/Laur
 - Approved by
 - Reminder: Minutes are documented and reviewed after the meeting, then ratified at the following public session, after which they are posted and made available publicly.

Follow up on action items

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AquaDoc Water Testing Results

Guest: Ed Kwietnieski - Limnologist Specialist, Certified Lake Manager

- Commissioned to update the 2018 Study
- 2018 Report Gaps
 - Depth profiles were missing among other data points from 2018 report
 - In Situ data probe data collection
- Nutrients Profile Updates
 - Focused on Phosphorus
 - Sediment and water column data
- Has provided guidance for collecting and organizing data
- In addition to a management strategy, developing a standardized data collection program to create a “timeline of data”
 - Ability to observe trends
- Data Analysis
 - Total Phosphorus - 80-100 mcg/ml
 - In eutrophic status - algae
 - Sediment nutrient levels have increased
 - Cannot determine if from recycling of nutrients or net new add
 - Dredging could be considered to address this
 - Noted the deepest point of the lake is 15'
 - Lake is relatively small for recreational activities which could “stir up” sediment
 - Observed two types of algae during in-person visitation
 - Did not see any plants
 - Plants are necessary because they compete for nutrients from algae
 - Drawdowns are detrimental to native species
 - Result in algal dominated system that is highly turbid
- Report will be finalized by ~EOY, will have a multifaceted plan

- Questions
 - Eutrophic: Rating that suggest the lake will support a high level of productivity - lots of submersed plants (macrophyte)/algae
 - Mesotrophic: supports productivity, but doesn't enable harmful blooms
 - Sustainable plants
 - Reduction of nutrients
 - Deepening
 - Removal of carp
 - Nets, electroshock program, bowfishing
 - Invasive hyacinth should be removed
 - Time of year of plant macrophytes
 - Research time of year based on plant type
 - Lilies, spatterdock
 - Bassweed/large leaf pondweed
 - Native nyad (didn't catch the name)
 - With better water conditions, impact of carp
 - Is letting water out (lowering the dam) after a heavy rain good for the lake?
 - Depends on the goals of the lake
 - Littoral zone - where plants grow
 - Some invasive species can survive this, while the ones we want cannot
 - Is a "sluice gate" better than a weir gate?
 - Regulation issues with this in letting stratified water downstream (which could be nutrient rich)--this may require a permit
 - Long story, short--need plants in the lake to compete with the algae
 - 2023-24 draw down was ~55"
 - What is impact of dredging on plants, fish
 - Typically targets specific areas
 - Barge approach usually comes with curtains to minimize extraneous (best practice) impact to the rest of the lake
 - Any alternatives to dredging?
 - This is the only option Ed will recommend
 - Bacterial options - his testing has not shown consistent results
 - Aerators - Not really lake techniques
 - How much would dredging be
 - 1 acre pond filled to the surface - \$75-120k
 - Focus on center area of the lake to avoid littoral areas
 - Lake is still recreational so this is more of a "in the future" recommendation - 25-50 years
 - Does Ed see other lakes maintain a maintenance budget line item?
 - Most lakes have zero level of preparedness
 - Short term plans (5-10 years)
 - Nutrient reduction (plants or nutrient inactivation chemicals)
 - Forebays
 - Depends on construction of forebay and available space

- Good if they're well-designed
- No grant options unless the income of the stakeholders is very low
- Anything unique about this lake why crappie population is larger than other species
 - Competition
- Willing to come out and offer seminars
- If you jump on a technique without data to support it, results may be ineffective and you may be wasting money

Financial Update

- Reviewed Treasurer Report
- ASHA does not intend to settle on 2021 and 2022 discrepancies/deficiencies
 - Something that cannot be accounted for
- For 2023 and 2024 - funds for ALA are now in a separate account
 - In the midst of a fund and reserve audit
- 2020 and 2021 IRS penalties have been waived
 - No outstanding debt to IRS
- Parole restitution payment - 1st installment (\$4500) was received
- Trailer purchased for \$2600

Lake Health

- Water Hyacinth planted in Elsa's Pond
 - Ed, very invasive and recommend to remove
 - ALA to draft letter to ASHA to notify of concern
 - Joe K will contact homeowner directly
- Spot treating algae
 - Joe L in favor under conditions that warrant a spot treatment
 - Joe K
 - Persistent wind condition to make it treatable
 - Negative impact of copper sulfate
 - Ed mitigated the concerns
 - Matt K investigated permit requirements
 - Joe K/Dawn K: **Motion** to establish a process to call Aquadoc to spot treat in a contained area for \$400 under the condition it hasn't dissipated
 - Was not approved
 - Discussed formalizing the conditions to make the decision to treat
 - **Action:** Vargo will email Ed for his guidance on the conditions
 - Joe K: Ask about specific species of plants to target, timing of planting

Carp Derby

- 21 fish removed, documented by photos

Boats Winterization/Maintenance/Storage

- Work boat
 - Asher's place
- Patrol Boat
 - **Action:** Board: Look for storage options
 - Maybe Geauga fairgrounds
- New trailer
 - **Action:** Kolar/McLendon: Title the new trailer
- Matt took possession of the boat/trailer title
- **Action:** Joe K: ask Bill Eden to winterize both boats
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Lake Related Updates

- Motion: Joe L / Dawn M: Donate boat sticker to ALA wonmens' club
- Boat patrol has completed for the season
 - No formal notices, only warnings
- HHOA regraded storm drain into lake at the Hawthorn boat ramp
- Hawthorn is getting quotes to redo the boat ramp
 - Building a cofferdam is being included to avoid dropping the lake
- Hawthorn recently added a gate at the top of the boat ramp
- Move forward with planning to install plants over off season
- Fish study
 - Joe L: Get a quote from enviroscience, aim to have scheduled per prior timing and get booked via motion over email
- Community supported fund-raiser
 - Considerations that we cannot support fund raising due to our 503(c)(7) status indicating all funds must come directly from members

Community Comment

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Motion to conclude meeting Leslie / Vargo - All approved

[END OF 9/18/2024 MINUTES]

