

MINUTES OF AUGUST 11, 2018 ANNUAL MEETING
AT HOME OF DENNY AND CONNIE DENK

Co-President Dave Quady called the meeting to order at 10:35 a.m. He thanked the Denks for hosting this meeting. Dave gave a report of fish stocking by the DNR over the past 6 years. Last year over 9000 small walleyes were added; an amount similar to another recent year. If 6-8" walleyes were stocked, fewer were stocked as their survival rate is better.

Dave called for approval of the May, 2018 meeting minutes. Hearing no objections, the minutes were approved.

Al Lechleitner, Secretary/Treasurer, reported that our current bank balance is \$3199.64. Included in that amount is \$964.57 in direct donations from members and the GoFundMe account. The latter amount is earmarked to cover in part the cost of the lake mapping project that will be completed within the week. Hopefully the study's report will give us a baseline of current lake bottom vegetation growth. We learned that the DNR has noted that Sand Lake is among the top 10 clearest lakes in Wisconsin; a status we hope to preserve through our boat landing monitoring and lake study projects. Al reported that a financial audit of 2017 will be done tomorrow, August 12th, 2018 by Jim Williams and Denny Denk.

Al also reported that our 2017 association memberships were at a 10 year low; 43. Mike Spencer and Jack Peskuski, our membership committee, will be making contacts with former members and new lake property owners/neighbors to share the efforts and values of our lake association and educate potential members about long term concerns about water quality. (At the beginning of today's meeting, our membership has already reached 52 members.)

First time attendees were welcomed and recognized: the family of Walt and Norma DeVore, Jim and Lindsey Jackson, and Linda and Steve McCarthy.

Dave Quady said a preliminary budget for the 2018 year will be presented at the Sept. 1 meeting at the Big Bend Town Hall. The meeting will begin at 9:00 A.M. Please mark your calendar and note the time change.

Dave and Marguerite Cook reported that the number of boats inspected up to and including July 4 is about the same as a year ago. Garrett Miller, boat landing monitor, asks lake visitors why they come here, where they are from and where they are staying. 34% of boat landing users live on Sand Lake and 50% of all visitors are here for fishing. Dave reported that our lake clarity is better this year; 15 feet vs. 8 feet last year.

Cindy Griffin restated the purpose of the lake bottom mapping: to get baseline information on vegetation types, location of weed beds, current water quality and moss types. Garrett Miller is facilitating this study with Dr. Lazarich of UW-Eau Claire.

Joann Walker, Social Committee member, thanked Connie and Denny Denk and Al and Marcia Lechleitner for hosting Coffee-On-The-Dock on July 21. Over 50 people attended for treats and socialization. She indicated that our goal is to schedule 2 such events in 2019; one in June and one in July. Our association provides the coffee, cups, napkins and plates. If interested in hosting or co-hosting, contact Joann via our web page.

Jana Morley reported her appreciation of having EMT's (Jim and Sandy Rassbach) nearby when her 2 year old granddaughter had a recent emergency. A donation bucket at the membership table resulted in \$71 collected for the First Responders of Rusk County.

Steve Johnson reported on the status of our upcoming fish crib project this winter. He is working with the DNR and the Wildlife Restoration Corp. of Rusk County to get the required permit and schedule a date for rehabbing 5 crib sites per year for the next 5 years. Young, strong volunteers will be needed to drill about 20+ holes per crib site and move rock into the holes to recreate fish habitat. Rocks and trucking will be provided at no cost to our association. If interested to helping, contact Steve Johnson or use our website. He also reported on the DNR fish creole survey in place 40 hours per week on Sand Lake this summer. Justin Parker monitors fishing activity at various times throughout the week. He checks on how long fishermen have been fishing and what they caught. He has no enforcement authority. The information will help the DNR determine restocking needs for the future. Steve also reported on the completion of the helipad at the intersection of Hwy 40 and Hwy D. No government money was used to build it but donations are appreciated by the Big Bend Town Board to cover maintenance and plowing. Having such a central emergency landing site will make transport and urgent care more efficient.

Dave Quady presented the idea of creating a Living Legacy option for anyone who would like to bequeath an estate donation to the Sand Lake Association for any particular project or activity of our association. Talk to Dave Quady or Mike Walker if such an option appeals to you.

Announcements:

1. End of season meeting will be Sept. 1 at 9:00 AM at the Big Bend Town Hall.
2. Our float parade on July 4 included 7 entries. Winners in rank order were Stumo's, Skamfer's, Morley's and Mihm's.
3. Next year's annual brunch/meeting will be hosted by the Motley family. In 2020, the Cook family volunteered to host.
4. The winner of the free 2019 membership drawing was Mark Smith. Congratulations.
5. Dave Stanton will again organize a fall Hwy 40 road clean-up in October. The date will be posted on our web site.
6. 93 participants attended today's bunch and meeting. Thank you everyone for attending and providing great food.

A motion to adjourn was made by Joann Walker and Dave Cook. Motion passed. Meeting adjourned at 11:14 AM.

Respectfully submitted by:
Al Lechleitner
Secretary/Treasurer.