

SAND LAKE ASSOCIATION, INC FALL MEETING
SEPTEMBER 4, 2021 BIG BEND TOWN HALL

Co-President Dave Quady called the meeting to order at 9:03 A.M. with 26 attendees present. He asked for any updates or concerns to the posted minutes. Hearing none he called for a motion to approve the minutes of the August 14 Annual meeting. Steve Cook made a motion to approve, seconded by Randy Devendorf. Motion carried unanimously.

Treasurer Al Lechleitner gave a financial report following the Annual Meeting's balance of \$10,398.66. Since 8/14/21 \$495.00 was deposited and debits of \$194.52 were deducted for a current balance of \$10,699.14. Of that balance \$4000 is within the CW/CB account of which none was spent due to the lack of a dock inspector to hire. Motion to accept the treasurer's report was made by Steve McCarthy and seconded by Steve Cook. Motion passed unanimously. Al also gave a report of 53 paid memberships, 5 fewer than the total memberships of 58 in 2020. Membership dues for 2021 can be credited until Dec. 31.

In the absence of Dave Cook, Co-President Quady reported that no new beaver dams have appeared in the last 6 weeks. This spring trapping was suspended since there is no value in beaver hides and the trapper was concerned about the safety of dogs and children in the proximity. State law allows landowners to shoot beavers causing damage on their own property. Dave Miller proposed our Association hire a trapper as the population of beavers will continue to grow without it being managed. The trapper charges about \$35 per beaver. The members want to manage the beaver population on the lake utilizing winter trapping. Dennis Ferstenou suggested we hire a trapper but limit the expenditure, to no more than \$350. Motion made by Steve McCarthy and seconded by Steve Cook to hire and pay as proposed. Motion carried.

Dave Quady urged all members to review and update their personal directory information on our website. By doing so, we can assure all listed members are getting necessary information and we have their current contact info.

Steve Johnson gave a report on our fish crib project. He invited all to attend a meeting on October 9, 9:00 AM at the Big Bend Town Hall hosted by the Rusk County Wildlife Association, the group that has funded and supplied materials for past fish crib projects. Meeting discussions will include mutual projects that could be initiated by Fireside, Island, Potato and Sand Lake groups. Reviving the fish rearing ponds near Island Lake after a 10-year shut down will be one of the topics. This would require harvesting fish eggs and sperm and incubating the young for distribution into participating lakes. He also talked about the sinking of whole trees, anchored by cement blocks onto the ice so they stand like trees on the lake floor. Efforts would be made to keep the tree tops 10' feet below the water surface for boating safety. Jerry Carroll of the WRA has more logs and rock to sink this winter to create spawning habitat for the fish. Since our DNR fish crib permit is still active, a motion was made to keep project options open for this coming winter. Steve Johnson made the motion, seconded by Steve Cook and motion was passed unanimously.

Lauri Buchner expressed concern about some vegetation that was growing near her property. After viewing photos of invasive plants, none matched what she is seeing. She was asked to bring some samples to Dave Cook for identification.

Dave Quady reported on the progress of DNR grant opportunities as presented by Andrew Gullickson of TSB at the annual meeting. So far 6 members have submitted surface water proposals that include native shoreline plant beds or rain garden plans, each request meeting a minimum of 350 sq. ft. and \$1000 subsidized by the DNR if approved. Dave submitted the proposals by the deadline of Sept. 2. Participants will be notified in March if their proposal is approved and funded. He learned of other grant options available that could include improving the boat landing. Dave expressed concern about the language in our association by-laws that currently does not include input from the general public as required by DNR rules. The words "general public" needs to be included in order to be eligible for other grant opportunities. He read a draft of some immediate language changes needed. These changes are urgently needed now to qualify for the recently submitted water retention projects. Additionally, it was noted that our by-laws are in need of other updates; e.g. numbers, officer job descriptions, committees, including members-at-large participation. He asked for a motion to revise the basic language needed to qualify for funding of water retention projects. Steve Cook made a motion to approve the inclusive "general public" language, seconded by Laurie Buchner. Motion approved unanimously. Steve Johnson suggested a committee be appointed to study and propose other by-law language changes to be presented at a future meeting. Also, of immediate urgency is to identify a Grant Project Resolution committee that includes one officer to authorize the current proposals. Dave volunteered to be the grant resolution person and Al Lechleitner as the signer of any proposed grants. Motion made by Steve Cook and seconded by Mike Spencer to have Dave and Al serve in those capacities. Motion passed unanimously.

Julie Rogers asked about the possibility of dredging out the channel between Sand and Goose Lakes to improve fish movement between the two lakes. Steve Cook made a motion to check with the DNR about dredging options and funding. Motion seconded by Jude Peskuski. Motion approved.

Dave Quady called for a motion to adjourn. Jude Peskuski made the motion, seconded by Steve Cook. Motion approved and meeting adjourned at 10:20.

Respectfully submitted by:

Al Lechleitner, Secretary/Treasurer

9/11/21