

## 2019 ANNUAL LMBIA MEETING

### Lake Minnie Belle Improvement Association at Beckville Lutheran Church

Saturday July 20, 2019 @ 10:00 am

**WELCOME:** After everyone was registered, served coffee and rolls and seated, Chairperson Steve Stepien welcomed about 60 people to the Annual LMBIA Meeting. Due to the rain the meeting was moved to the Beckville Church.

**Annual Meeting:** Steve called the LMBIA Annual Meeting to order. He introduced the board members and the positions they serve on the board. Laurie Boll read the secretary's minutes from the July 21, 2018 Annual meeting. Steve Stepien asked for a motion to approve the secretary's report and Richard Peterson so moved and Diane Baril 2<sup>nd</sup> it. Todd Kuechle explained the treasure's report which was in the handout to all present. He explained the push to raise funds for AIS. He informed everyone that the Schmidtbauers print the LMBIA newsletters and directory free of charge. AIS training costs have risen. We as a board are not just holding onto your money. We want to have a reserve ready when and if zebra mussels and or starry stonewort come to our lake. Todd went on to explain the treasurer's report that there is a Meeker County reimbursement of \$8,807.57 yet coming to cover AIS expenses. No further questions, so Steve S. asked for a motion to accept the treasurer's report and Linda Larson so moved and Julene Schatz 2<sup>nd</sup> it.

**Election of Board Members:** Steve Stepien and Steve Hatlestad terms have expired and they have chosen not to run for reelection. Todd Kuechle's term also has expired and he has agreed to run again and be on the ballot. The names on the ballot were: Todd Kuechle, Jeff Bullert, Glenn Magoon Robert Krueger and Kristin Jaquith. The floor was opened for more nominations. No additional nominations were received. Questions from the floor were received: Dawn Huepenbecker spoke up and asked why 2 people from the same family were on the board. Steve went on to explain that Kristin Jaquith has been serving as Newsletter Editor and is willing to be on the ballot to serve a 3-year term if elected. He also explained that there is nothing stated in the LMBIA By-laws stating that 2 family members cannot be on the board. The election then was conducted. Three positions were open. Steve Stepien instructed everyone present to vote for 3 persons on their ballot. Ballots were counted. Steve Stepien

announced the newly elected board members: Todd Kuechle, Jeff Bullert and Kristin Jaquith.

### **AIS Activities**

#### **Clarke Survey & Treatment –Steve Stepien**

Steve Stepien talked about why the lake has been so weedy recently. The rapid turnover this spring brought up nutrients that are normally stored on the bottom of the lake. This caused higher than normal growth and more weeds were observed reaching the surface. This was seen on all the surrounding lakes. He said that on the east side there is a hybrid milfoil that was found 2 years ago and it's taking over the Eurasian Milfoil. It does not grow as tall or in as shallow of water and it's not being treated. Dr. Ray Newman from the Minnesota AIS Research Center (U of M) has collected 100's of samples over the past 2 years and they are studying it in their lab.

#### **Boat Inspections-Steve Stepien**

Steve Stepien informed everyone that there have been about 1500 boat inspections so far this year on Lake Minnie Belle. He explained which lakes in near-by counties have zebra mussels and their expansion into additional lakes. Meeker County has been successful in preventing the spread for the past 5 years.

#### **West and East Landings-Steve Hatlestad**

Steve Stepien introduced Steve Hatlestad to take the floor. Steve H. said that we need to take steps to prevent zebra mussels and starry stonewort from arriving in our lake. We use the monies we receive from donations and the county for inspections. The west landing is a problem. He stated he had gone to many Greenleaf Township board meetings in regards to closing the west landing. The township decided that they wanted to prevent boat launches from the west landing and direct people to the DNR Landing where boat inspections are taking place. They are allowing access to property owners around the lake. Question from the floor from Dawn Huepenbecker, her concerns were that there was no prevention to stop those with access to giving the key to friends and family or just anyone who want to use the landing? Steve said there is a lock combination that should be used only by the west side of the lake and back lot owners. Steve Hatlestad said that the East landing is also owned by the Greenleaf Township. At the July 9<sup>th</sup> township meeting, they decided to treat the East Landing the same

way that they are handling the West Landing. There was discussion as to how this will be enforced and how to install a chain across it. Steve Stepien explained that there are meetings coming up to close extra landings on lakes on August 1<sup>st</sup>. A motion came from the floor from Kurt Egertson that the township should be informed that the position of the members of the association is that the township should close the landings. Glenn Magoon brought up his concerns that a lot of people use the west landing extensively during the winter for ice fishing. A vote was taken by all members present and all were in favor. Steve Stepien said that DNR will be hosting an open discussion about lake access later this summer.

## **Water Quality**

### **Nutrient Levels & Secchi Readings-Stan Kittelson**

Stan said that when water quality readings were taken in May, the Secchi-disc reading was only 19 feet. He will take more readings within 3 months. He explained that when the weeds are the highest and there is a lot of plant life there is better clarity.

### **Limnopro Survey – Stan Kittelson**

Stan informed everyone that the company Limnopro Surveying will be out doing an extensive survey of plant life in August. A survey hasn't been done for years.

### **Lake Water Levels-Board Members**

The Meeker County Sheriff made a decision earlier this summer to have the No-Wake Zone within 500 feet of shore. When the lake receded by about 14" the Sheriff Office asked for the board's position on lifting the restriction. A vote at the June **meeting** was to have the No-Wake Zone lifted by July 1<sup>st</sup>. Questions from the floor: Debra Field asked about the east side close to their cabin. She said there is runoff into the lake from the culvert that was installed by the township under 200<sup>th</sup> street. She also asked how to control the weeds due to all this runoff. Stan Kittelson said he will contact the township concerning the culvert runoff.

## **Outlet Issues**

Steve Stepien said the water levels are high on the (MBO) outlet on the north. He spoke about the dredging that yet needs to be completed. DNR and the Army Corp of Engineers are involved in getting permits. The dredging can be attempted again this winter or modify the permit to dredge around the swamp. He stated

that he understands that everyone is experiencing high water levels. The Lake Level was established by the DNR Hydrologist back in the 70s when the drop culvert outlet was installed.

**Gift Certificate Door Prizes:** Drawing of 5 Gift Cards took place. Given were 1 each from the Bonfire, Parkview, Peter's on Lake Ripley, Mimi's Café, and Herradura Mexican Restaurant were given out.

**Adjournment:** Steve Stepien asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting and Kristi Ties so moved and Dick Baril seconded the motion. The meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted, Laurie Boll

**Post LMBIA Board Meeting followed the Annual Meeting.**

Outgoing Chairperson, Steve Stepien called the meeting to order. Absent were Tom Rotz, Don Kotila and Robert Hantge. Present: Laurie Boll, Julene Schatz, Jeff Bullert, Kristi Ties, Stan Kittelson, Todd Kuechle, Kristin Jaquith and Karen Peterson. Steve S. asked for nominations for Chairperson. Laurie came forward and nominated Julene Schatz. There were no more nominations. Steve asked all in favor, all agreed for Julene to be the newly elected Chairperson.

Julene Schatz took over the meeting. She asked for nominations for Vice Chair. No nominations were received. With some members missing Todd made a motion to fill the Vice Chair position at the August board meeting and Stan 2<sup>nd</sup> it.

Julene asked for nominations for Treasurer. Todd was asked by all present if he would take the treasurer's position again. He so agreed to take the position. Kristi made a motion that Todd be the treasurer and Karen 2<sup>nd</sup> it.

Julene asked Laurie if she would remain on as Secretary and she agreed. Julene made a motion that Laurie be the secretary and Karen 2<sup>nd</sup> it.

1. Karen explained the importance of a strong Chairperson and to follow the rules of order.
2. Julene asked Steve Stepien to help in the future. He said he is going to put his files on a thumb drive.

**Adjournment:** Motion to adjourn was made by Kristi and 2<sup>nd</sup> by Todd. Next LMBIA monthly meeting will be the 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesday on August 27<sup>th</sup> at 7 pm.

Respectfully submitted by Secretary, Laurie Boll