**LAKE WAUSAU ASSOCIATION**

**ANNUAL MEETING**

**October 1, 2015**

**Nueske’s at Gulliver’s Landing, 6:30 pm**

**Call to Order**

Russ Graveen, President of the Board, called the meeting to order. Board members also present were Holly Kohl, Rick Parkin, Mark Peter, Jim Wagner, Sherri Wagner and Al Weinkauf. Other members present were Steve Akey, Robert Alexejun, Julian Basuki, Nate Birchler, Don Brekke, Jim Campbell, Matt and Luanne Capodice, Steve and Mary Grams, Lee and Alyson Halbrook, Casey and Pam Jones, Ron Klimisch, Patti Linehan, Ed Marcott, Amanda and Frank Melville, Mark Moser, Sue Peter, Brenda Purdy, Dave Tylinski, Jim and Diane VanEyck, Kathy Weinkauf, and Ed Zagzebski.

**Approval of Minutes**

Minutes from the previous annual meeting on September 25, 2014 were reviewed. A motion to accept the minutes was made and seconded. Motion was approved.

**Treasurer’s Report**

Holly Kohl, Treasurer, presented the annual financial report. The report detailed cash inflows and outflows and compared 2015 YTD with 2014 YTD. The balance of the general checking account is $32,662.32. The balance of the restricted project fund account is $14,175.08. The total is $46,837.40. A motion to accept the treasurer’s report was made and seconded. Motion carried.

**Election of Directors**

3 board member seats are open for election this year. Russ Graveen and Sherri Wagner have accepted nominations for re-election. Ken Wilk has decided not to run for reinstatement. Mary Kate Riordan has expressed an interest to serve on the board. Her qualifications were read to the members present. After receiving no other nominations from the floor, a motion to cast a unanimous ballot for these members was made and seconded. The motion carried.

**Committee Chairperson’s Reports**

**Finance Committee**

Holly Kohl, Treasurer of the Board and Chair of the Finance Committee, presented a summary of the May 18, 2015 fundraiser. It was a huge success. This was held at the Rothschild Pavilion for the first time. Our budgeted profit was $17,1590. The actual proceeds were $20,279.79! A big thanks to all who helped volunteer or donated or attended the event. We sold 300 tickets and had 200 attendees. We had about 40 volunteers that night. Please contact the board if you are interested in helping out for next year. The fundraiser for next year is scheduled for Friday, May 20. This will be the first time we will have this on a Friday.

We also had some other fundraising events during the year that totaled $4295. Badger basketball tickets were raffled for $500 in February. Two pistols were purchased and raffled for $1418 profit. Also, a shotgun was donated by a member and raffled for $1810. Tonight we are selling tickets for a 45-quart Yeti cooler and $200 certificate from Custom Meats. We hope to make $567. If members would like to take tickets to sell they can do that tonight. Any other ideas for raffles would be appreciated.

We can use additional members on the finance committee so anyone that is interested let us know.

**Membership Committee**

Sherri Wagner, Secretary and Chair of the Membership Committee, reported that our total membership for 2015 was 173 members. For 2014 the total was 182 members. The committee developed brochures for the association that are set up at various locations around the community. They are available for members to take brochures to distribute. We placed an ad in the Central Wisconsin Water Walkers Ski magazine. We organized a booth at the Central Wisconsin Sports Show in February at the Convention and Expo Center. We are looking at getting signs and brochure holders for boat landings. There are sign up sheets for all our active committees for anyone that may be interested.

**Weed & Algae Committee**

Rick Parkin, Co-Chair of the Weed and Algae Committee, stated that this year for weed harvesting the early summer cutting yielded 350,000 lbs. of biomass being removed. It was felt that a second cutting was not needed this year. Our harvesting is restricted to invasive species only and we are not able to cut in areas that are less than 3 ft. deep. The second harvesting is mainly for navigational channels. This cost $15,000. Individuals have asked if private docks can be harvested. This was discussed with the DNR. If this information can be sent to the DNR in April for approval. Individuals will need to pay for this ahead of time as this cannot be paid for out of the LWA general fund and these areas would need to be mapped and flagged for the harvester. This will cost approximately $75 per dock. We are looking for someone to coordinate this effort. They will need to collect money, mark the areas on a map, and deliver flags to dock owners. Please contact us if you may be interested.

The committee also met with the Army Corp of Engineers and took them out on the lake along with the fishery biologist, as well as, UWSP and DNR scientists to look at areas they would like to see addressed to increase water flow. These areas were presented. This part of the project is waiting for approval for federal grants before the Army Corp can start their modeling. They are confident that they will get approval. We will need to file for an additional extension of our study to 2016. This has been frustrating for the committee to continue to be put on hold but feel that this is important data needed to develop the lake management plan. This is needed before any dredging could be done.

**Old Business**

* **Facebook Account**

We have opened up a Facebook account under the name of Friends of Lake Wausau since someone else has a Lake Wausau Association account already. We have 293 likes on the page.

Please feel free to post on this site.

* **Logo/Name Change**

This was talked about last year because we felt people thought they had to be a riparian owner to be a member. We have not have had a lot of time to work on this. We would like to develop the logo to have hats and shirts printed. If anyone knows a graphic artist or has an interest in working on this themselves, please let us know. We have been working with the marketing program at NTC. There was a suggestion to see if the local high school graphic arts programs would be interested in working on this. We could have a contest to get some ideas.

* **Blue Gill Bay Clean-Up Effort**

This project has been approved. Funds are being raised. This project should get started next year. Dredging will be done to the pond. The project will be presented in full at the Jefferson St. Inn on Oct. 5 at noon. Please plan on attending if interested.

**New Business**

* **New Web Page**

We have a new web page up and running. This has a new look and is more user friendly. It has a search function to help find things. We welcome any feedback to continue to make this better. We have more people that will be able to update information and keep the site current.

* **Healthy Lakes-Healthy Shoreland Project**

This project is through the UW Stevens Point. This is a big project going on at several lakes in the area. We are looking for volunteers to help with this for Lake Wausau for the next 2-3 weeks. It involves passing out brochures with information about how to maintain healthy shorelines to property owners. This can be done at your own time and pace. We can customize the handouts for our lake. Sarah Hall from UWSP is the person heading up this project. She sent a recent email summarizing what has been done lately. She visited 18 property owners in Rib Mt. that had smaller amounts of vegetation on their shorelines. They handed out brochures and had discussions with the owners. Some of them filled out pledge forms. The majority were receptive to the information that they provided and were grateful for someone caring about the health of the shoreline.

* **Staffing for Events/Sports Show**

We are looking for staff that will be willing to go and do events to promote the LWA. We have had booths at sporting/boating events in the area. We have attended seminars about water quality and lake health. It is difficult for members of the board to take off of work to attend all of these events. There is another opportunity on Wednesday, October 21 at 10:00 am in Madison. The Wis. River Alliance has been able to get a meeting with Cathy Stepp, the secretary of the DNR. They would like representation from lake associations to talk about the importance to take positive steps moving forward after the TMDL study. This studies the nutrient loads on the Wisconsin River. They are afraid that with recent budget cuts the momentum to do something with the valuable information derived from the study will be lost. Let us know if you are interested. Expenses will be reimbursed. We feel it is very important to have representation at this meeting.

* **P.O. Box Issues**

The post office closed our P.O. Box by mistake. Someone came in and closed P.O. Box 5037 and the office closed our box number 5073 instead. This was shut down for 2 months. It was working for a couple days and then we were aware that mail was returned undeliverable. We had to call to get it opened again but the person in charge is on medical leave. If anyone sent something to us and it was returned, please try again. It should be opened again in the next day or two.

**CALENDAR**

* The next annual meeting will be held in September 2016.
* The member social meeting will be held on Wednesday, February 3rd. If anyone has ideas for speakers let us know.

Door prize winners were drawn.

**Meeting Adjournment**

Meeting adjourned at 7:55 pm

Sherri Wagner, Secretary