

MINUTES OF LAKE WAUSAU ASSOCIATION
Wednesday, April 13, 2011
5901 Lakeshore Drive, 6:00 p.m.

The Minutes from the March 23, 2011 General Meeting and the Treasurer's Report were accepted.

Executive Board Members that were present were Bill Goetz, President, Nathan Birchler, Vice President, Kathy Beatty, Secretary, and Theresa Graveen, Treasurer. At-Large Members that were present were Dave Dalum, Russ Graveen, Holly Kohl, Jim Nauta, and Rick Parkin. Travis Wistrom was not present.

The first order of business was a discussion of the progress of the update of the ByLaws and the implications of the changes. Most of the changes being proposed will be changes in verbiage, including language related to more inclusive membership – getting rid of the associate membership – and a change to a 9 member Board of Directors instead of 7. Russ Graveen will set up a meeting with Jim Lowe, attorney who is overseeing the changes, so that he, Rick Parkin, and Bill Goetz can complete the proposed changes. The desired plan for ByLaw change completion is the end of April so that the ByLaw changes could be discussed and accepted by the Executive Board in May. The general membership could then be notified of the proposed changes in May so that they could vote on the amended ByLaws in June (possibly in a mail vote). This would allow the Board of Directors to be eligible to write a grant for an aquatic study of Lake Wausau by the August 31 grant-writing deadline. It was noted that even without a grant or study, the existence of blue-green algae could be reported to the Health Department. Nathan Birchler asked about the cost of the study and a discussion was held about grant sources, fundraising options, and in-kind donations – to be discussed further at a later date.

The second agenda item was a picnic for the general membership. The date and time of the picnic was set as July 31 at 1:00 p.m. Recreation Committee members Dave Dalum, Russ Graveen, and Holly Kohl will meet to work out the details of the picnic and report back to the Board in May.

It was requested that at the next General Membership meeting, members be encouraged to sign up for the standing committees, and getting the committees activated was a goal to work toward.

B. Goetz reported that the Lake Wausau Association will, once again, be a sponsor of the 2011 Wisconsin River Cleanup on Friday, May 13. Volunteers for boat driving and shore duty are needed. Call or email Bill Goetz to volunteer. The activity should be in the newsletter as well as the website. A motion was made by Bill Goetz and seconded by Russ Graveen to donate \$100 to the Cleanup activity. Motion passed unanimously.

Theresa Graveen, Treasurer, asked for the protocol for handling NSF checks for membership, as one was received – and there was a \$15 bank fee charged. There was agreement that our bank should be asked to waive the fee on our nonprofit organization – or the LWA should consider changing to a credit union or a different bank. The Treasurer should also contact the person who wrote the check and ask for the membership fee of \$15 in cash, plus possibly the payment of the additional \$15 to cover the bank fee.

Nathan Birchler and Theresa Graveen discussed the container of paperwork documenting past events and activities. They will arrange a time to go through and organize the paperwork. It was determined that these documents should appropriately be stored by the secretary.

Due to an incident of a fisherman leaving part of his ice fishing shanty and a variety of debris on the ice to fall into the lake, and the LWA being made aware of the shanty, and the ultimate retrieval of the shanty and debris by LWA members, a Letter To The Editor was written by Kathy Beatty to make the community aware of this inappropriate activity. After discussion, it was decided that Bill Goetz and Kathy Beatty would contact the City Pages to convey our message. The resulting article would then be placed on our website.

The Lake Wausau Association Newsletter format was presented by Kathy Beatty. The 4-page content with the addition of contact information for the Executive Board was accepted by the Board. It was decided that 3 newsletters a year should be sufficient. One letter in spring (May) to kick off summer activities, one in mid- to late-summer (August) to update members about summer activities and to plan fall/winter events, and one in winter (January) to update members about winter lake activities should be sufficient to stay in touch with the membership. To contribute content to the newsletter, the following areas or responsibility were discussed.

Nathan Birchler – What’s New on the Lake
Bill Goetz – Messages from the Executive Board
Kathy Beatty -Upcoming Lake Activities
Dave Dalum – Activity Profile
Theresa Graveen and Mary Kluz (UW Extension) – The Bigger Picture
Rick Parkin/Holly Kohl – Committee Profile
Kathy Beatty – Meeting Minutes
Bill Goetz – News Flash
Kathy Beatty – Upcoming Events

Articles for the topics for the first newsletter are due by May 7. Please email them to Kathy Beatty at jkbeatty@charter.net. A reminder was made to the Board members that they did not necessarily have to write the articles, but they had to make the contact with the person who would best write an interesting article and make sure the article was submitted by the deadline. Questions about articles and content can be directed to Kathy Beatty. The goal is to email all members with email addresses with an attached newsletter by the middle of May. Any members without email addresses will receive hard copies via U.S. mail. The newsletter will also be published on the website.

Meeting adjourned at 8:05 p.m.

K. Beatty, Secretary