



Birch Lake Association

Board Meeting Minutes

June 25, 2018

Present: Gary Martin, Betty Martin, Mary Knautz, Gary Krimmel, Shirley Johnson, Sue Holthaus Rick Zaske, Jackie Schumacher, Paul Blomgren
Tim Funkmeyer attended as a prospective Board member

Call to Order: President Paul Blomgren

Secretary's Report: Paul Blomgren

Barb Harrington tendered her resignation as Secretary. See attached letter.

The Board expressed its gratitude for Barb's years of service. There was a motion to get a card and a gift for Barb, authorizing up to \$100 in expenses. M/S/A – Shirley/Gary M. The meeting minutes from the May 11, 2018 Board meeting were circulated and approved. M/S/A – Shirley/ Mary K.

Treasurer's Report: Shirley Johnson

- Family memberships were reported at 222 memberships by Rick Z. Discussion about the success of the Membership Committee and gratitude to Rick for his hard work and success.
- There were 2 Deep Portage scholarships awarded this year for \$425/person. We have not had kids apply in the past couple years. Rick noted that Deep Portage does a great job accommodating our kids even when the programs are full. Jackie changed the deadline date in the newsletter for scholarship applications to March 1st from May 1st.
- We have gotten \$132 in individual donations.
- Treasurer's report approved – M/S/A - Rick/Jackie

OLD/ON-GOING BUSINESS

- **Annual Meeting update.**
 - It begins at 5pm on July 28th at the Birchwood Char House
 - Paul will create the Board packet acting as Secretary. Committees will need to submit reports to Paul
 - Paul will confirm the reservation and menu with Linda at Birchwood. Menu is taco bar with no veggies.
 - Budget is the same as previous year at \$500.
 - Signs for the meeting should go in the same location as previous years and should be in place on Wednesday. Paul will put the signs up and note the location for subsequent years.
 - Notifications. Rick is going to ask the Chamber and the Walker Independent to run a notification. Jackie is going to send out postcards to members who get hard copy newsletters.

- Door prizes. Rick gave Gary/Betty a copy of the spread sheet for Walker businesses. They are going to help Rick solicit door prizes from Walker businesses. Paul is going to solicit Hackensack businesses and circulate to the Board.
- Grand prize is \$50 Swanson's gift card donated by the Blomgren's.
- Silent auction items. We are going to order 4 BLA flags from Mark Glende. 3 large and 1 smaller. A large and a small will be silent auction items. 1 large to go to Barb and 1 large for BLA usage at events. Motion for purchase of 4 BLA flags. M/S/A – Gary K/Rick
- Jackie is going to donate photos for silent auction and door prizes.
- **10 Mile Lake Association.** Paul relayed his contact with the TMLA. Suggested both Boards get together for a meet/greet to share ideas of how to work together. Paul noted that they did not seem interested in beaver trapping, but will ask officially.
- **4th of July Boat Parade.** Boat line-up is at 12:30 on the Little Birch side of the narrows to pass the city dock around 1pm. Paul persisted in trying to go clockwise in the big lake despite Gary M. noting this was the only negative feedback he received as president.
- **Save the Pier.** The Board discussed making personal donations to lead by example as this initiative aligns very closely with the Association's purpose. All members present agreed to submit personal donations to Paul who will collect them, note the Board member's participation, and submit the combined donations. Shirley noted again that the City had established a separate account for the funds.
- **Loons.** Rick saw 4 loon nests as did Jackie. There is still signage on the little island warning of the loon nest and asking to maintain distance. Jackie will put a section in the newsletter about appropriate behavior when observing loons.
- **Fire and Rescue donation.** We received a card thanking us for our donation to the Fire and Rescue. It was circulated for all the Board members to see.
- **Boating Safety Training.** Rick said there is boating safety training on July 5th for kids aged 12-17 at the Hub. Sue was going to put that on Facebook and website.
- **ACCLU.** There is an upcoming meeting regarding Lake Management Plans. These address a plan to be enacted in the case of AIS. Rick noted how important it was to catch an infestation early, and to act quickly. Gary M. is going to attend the meeting on behalf of BLA.

NEW BUSINESS

- **BLA Garden.** Betty M. and Shirley have been working with Barb's Greenhouse to create a plan to rework the garden emphasizing perennials and shrubs making it significantly lower maintenance. We are going to purchase the plants through Barb's, and in exchange Barb is going to work up a plan/design for the work. We still do not know the expense because the plan has not been finished. There was a group that planted, cleaned up, and laid mulch at the garden. Their work looks

great!! The group included Shirley, Jim Anderson, Jim Madland, Bev Madland, Vivian Palmer, Rick Zaske, Roger, Denise McCalla, and other. A huge thank you to the group for their hard work!!

- **Poquet Lake Name change.** A member on Poquet Lake sent an email asking for \$125 to pay the fee associated with having the county officially change the lake name from Paquet Lake, as it is erroneously labeled. The member is Corrine Bayden. The request was discussed, but the Board decided it needed additional information and discussion before taking action. Paul will respond to the email and update Corrine. The request was tabled until the next meeting.
- **Lake Management Plan.** Discussion regarding the need for an updated LMP. Paul is going to look for the old version. Gary M. is going to reach out to Chuck Swanum who created the old version to see if he had a copy we could work off. It was noted by Rick that the ACCLU has templates that we could work off. We will continue to work to create an updated LMP.
- **Boat Inspectors.** Gary M. commented that there were not boat inspectors at Birch Lake on the 3 day Memorial Day weekend. It is a very busy weekend with a lot of boats being put into the lake. He called the county and found out it was a scheduling oversight. He expressed disappointment as a BLA officer and lake owner. The Board commented that this error could be extremely harmful.
- **Martin Houses.** Gary M. counted 70 eggs, some of which are starting to hatch.

Next Director's Meeting Date/Time: The Annual Meeting - Saturday, July 28, 2018 at 5:00 pm at Birchwood Char House. Board members should try to arrive shortly after 4.

Meeting Adjourned by Paul

Respectfully submitted,
Paul Blomgren, President

June 20, 2018

Birch Lake Association
PO Box 125
Hackensack, MN 56452

Dear Birch Lake Association Board and Officers:

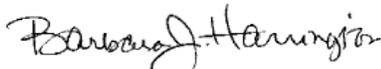
This will serve as my resignation from the Board and as Association Secretary. It was recently brought to my attention that I have not been keeping up with secretarial duties over the past several months. As this is an accurate assessment, I feel it only fair at this time to step down from the position of Secretary and from the Board after serving for about 10 years.

I have enjoyed working with you all. Some of my accomplishments as Secretary include bringing back the Birch Lake Boat Parade, initiating our booth at the Chainsaw Festival, and streamlining the Annual Meeting, now with door prizes!

To ensure an orderly transition, prior to your meeting on June 25th I will pass along to the current President all the materials I received from the previous Secretary and the past historian. I will also provide a flash drive with materials I created during my tenure as Secretary and Director.

Thank you all for you continued efforts to preserve and protect Birch Lake.

Sincerely,


Barbara J. Harrington