

**Deer Lake Watershed Association
Board of Directors Meeting
December 4, 2023**

The meeting was held at the Carpenter Town Hall. Board members attending: Todd Reynolds, Bruce Steege, Gail Blackmer, Andy Gregorich, Sara Gregorich and attending through on-line connection were Travis Mangan, Vaughn Duitsman, and Bob Gibbons.

President Bruce S. called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. The agenda was approved on a motion by Todd, seconded by Andy.

Secretary's report – minutes from the October 26 meeting was provided by Gail. Upon review, the minutes were approved as written on a motion by Travis, seconded by Sara.

OLD BUSINESS

Cookbook – Todd reported on the information from the publisher of the DLWA cookbook regarding price and quantity for a reprint of the cookbook. There was interest from board members in having additional copies made with the inclusion of additional recipes in order to allow more of our members to be involved, and to continue selling them as a fundraiser and to gain exposure for the organization. Discussion included consideration of keeping the \$10 price per copy the same, and the deadline for submission to the publisher in order to have them printed in time for next spring/summer. Gail made a motion to advertise among DLWA members for 50 more recipes to be submitted by a March 1 deadline and to order an additional 200 copies of the cookbook. Motion seconded by Sara, motion carried. An email will be sent to the membership requesting additional submissions of recipes. Todd and Dawn will collect and transcribe the recipes again to be sent to the publisher.

Conditions at Deer Lake outlet – A trip to the rock dam was made in October by most board members and additional volunteers. The beaver dam above the rocks was manually removed in order to allow better flowage through the creek. After a couple weeks it was noted that the water level at the gauge lowered to 3.8. Water is flowing well under #525. It will be monitored to determine if beaver trapping is needed next spring, with the intention of controlling the number of active beavers, not elimination.

Todd reported on efforts to contact the DNR to move forward with cattail control in the creeks. It was noted that Lorraine Lake has high water, with a dock becoming submerged. Todd has been researching opinions from individuals knowledgeable in aquatic plants and has asked about permits for herbicide pellets, sprays, or hand pulling the cattails to allow better water flow and navigation for small boats. There may be someone able to make a site visit to assess and inform us. Todd's research on this is appreciated.

Water Protection Fund – Discussion held on resources needed to interpret the water sampling data and the information from RMB lab to put into context that will show any trends in water quality from our history of submitting samples. Bruce handed out printed summaries of water quality characteristics for Deer and Mirror lakes obtained from RMB lab. Costs for the sampling will be billed by the end of the year and will be paid out of the designated fund. We should continue to seek grants to replenish this fund to continue water sampling projects.

Newsletter – We plan to get a DLWA Newsletter out again this winter. Sara will lead the composition of the newsletter with Board members submitting articles to be printed. Travis will send Sara the templates for the newsletter which have been used before. Board members should get articles to Sara by end of December. This is a big project and Sara is thanked for taking it over.

NEW BUSINESS

Board meetings – we will plan a schedule of board meetings in person when possible on the first Monday, every other month. We will meet at the Carpenter Town Hall at 6:00 p.m. Internet or phone connection has been possible most of the time for members unable to be there in person. The next meeting is scheduled for February 5, 2024.

Events for next summer – we will continue to consider a 5K Run, but understand it should be less formal, not likely to be timed, or require an outlay of money from our treasury. We thought a cap for participants would cost less than a T-shirt. Will be considered next meeting if there is interest from the membership.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 6:57 p.m. on a motion by Sara, seconded by Andy .Next meeting will be February 5, 2024 at Carpenter Town Hall.

Minutes by Gail Blackmer, DLWA Secretary