

**DEER LAKE WATERSHED ASSOCIATION
21st ANNUAL MEETING
SATURDAY, AUGUST 6, 2022
CARPENTER TOWN HALL**

The 21st Annual Meeting of the general membership of the Deer Lake Watershed Association took place at the Carpenter Town Hall on the first Saturday of August, as stated in the bylaws of the organization. The meeting was open to all members of the DLWA. Twenty-one members signed in at the meeting. Snacks and beverages were available for attendees, as well as handouts of the minutes of the previous year's annual meeting, a Treasurer's report, agenda for this year's meeting, and samples of logo apparel.

DLWA President Bruce Steege called the meeting to order at 5:01 p.m. He introduced himself and the other board members present: Travis Mangan, Jim Clarke, Gail Blackmer, Todd Reynolds, and Vaughn Duitsman. The agenda for this meeting was approved on a motion by Larry Salmela, seconded by Bob Gibbons.

REPORTS

Treasurer Vaughn Duitsman presented a written report of account balances, revenue, and disbursements for the fiscal year of July 1, 2021 through June 30, 2022. Following discussion, the Treasurer's report was approved for filing on a motion by Dawn Reynolds, seconded by Lisa Hansen.

Secretary Gail Blackmer presented secretary's report on the minutes taken at last year's annual meeting held 8-7-21 and recorded by Loey Master and Val Cromell. Bob Gibbons moved to approve the minutes for filing, motion seconded by Dawn Reynolds, motion carried.

COMMITTEE UPDATES

Updates on the activities of various committees and events were presented to members as follows:

- Membership committee – Bruce is tracking paid household memberships and reports that DLWA has 131 memberships at this time. He also noted that the board has been discussing the impact of the lifetime membership category, suggesting that a limit of 20% of total members be in that one-time payment category in order to maintain budgeting capacity for renewing memberships.
- Events – Gail reported that the MN DOT Adopt a Highway program has continued, with volunteers cleaning up a two mile stretch of Hwy #1. Also, the annual Fourth of July Flotilla was held again with a boat parade on Deer Lake followed by fellowship with hot dogs and ice cream to celebrate 20 years of the DLWA being an active organization.
- Water sampling – Bruce reported that water quality sampling had been accomplished on Five Island and Pickerel Lakes this year. He described the sampling process and laboratory requirements, along with the grant we received from the Round Up program which helped to fund testing fees.
- Outflow update – Todd reviewed efforts to keep Deer Creek flowing out of the lakes and how vegetation, bogs, and beaver dams inhibit water movement. Volunteers have gone down the creek to help clear it, noting that a surface drive motor allows for better navigation. Bill Cromell has loaned use of his motor while DLWA has been fund raising to purchase such a motor. Higher water this year and last year's beaver trapping efforts to reduce the beaver population have helped to keep water flowing through the creek this year.
- Cookbook update – Todd also reported on the cookbook project which he and his wife Dawn have spearheaded this year as a fund raising effort. Their work on getting a cookbook compiled and published has been successful in raising an estimated \$1200 profit for the organization.
- Apparel update – Jim Clarke, chair of logo apparel fundraising, reports that orders for shirts, hats and vests have been delivered and that this also has been successful with nearly \$550 worth of clothing sold.

- Ice out contest – Mark Smith coordinated an informal ice out contest this past spring, bringing in \$400 to the organization and cash for the winner who picked the date for Deer Lake to be ice-free, Emmy Dunlap.
- Website update – Vaughn Duitsman, website coordinator gave update on maintaining the DLWA website. Information that would be useful to the membership can be forwarded to Vaughn for inclusion on the website.

ELECTIONS

The annual meeting is also the date for elections for the Board of Directors of DLWA. The positions held by Bill Cromell, Bruce Steege, and Todd Reynolds are expiring at this time. Bill is not running for another term. Bruce and Todd have indicated they self-nominated themselves for re-election to another two year term. Bruce Steege called for nominations from the floor, calling three times for any other nominations. Larry Salmela moved to close nominations, seconded by Audrey Johnson. Audrey then moved to elect Bruce Steege and Todd Reynolds to the board of directors, seconded by Marilyn Gibbons, motion carried.

The floor was then opened to nominations for Alternate Members. Alternate members attend board meetings and may vote in the case there is not a quorum of regular members. Bob Gibbons placed his name in consideration of alternate member. Bruce called for any other nominations three times. Audrey moved to close nominations and to elect Bob as alternate member, seconded by Marilyn Gibbons, motion carried.

Bruce spoke to the membership to recognize the contributions of retiring regular and alternate board members, Bill and Val Cromell. Bill has served as president and has devoted much time and effort to both the organizational requirements of a lake association and the tasks involved in the outflow committee, water sampling, and events, and Val has served as treasurer and membership chair to develop well organized financial and member tracking procedures. Both have served to make our newsletter a polished publication. Many thanks to these individuals!

NEW BUSINESS

Bylaw addendum – Secretary Gail Blackmer informed the membership that the board of directors has proposed an addition to the bylaws that would provide the procedures to be followed should the organization find it necessary to dissolve. This addendum includes notifying the Secretary of State and proper distribution of assets in the event the DLWA decides to disband and is an important part of any responsible organization. Following discussion, Audrey moved to adopt Article XVIII - Dissolution to the full set of DLWA Bylaws. Motion seconded by Val. All in favor, motion carried.

OTHER

The floor was opened for any other discussion and the membership was invited to enjoy fellowship and food and beverages provided.

Audrey asked that consideration be given to repair the information signs and photos that are in the CCC camp area. This area is used by local people and tourists and is a valued historical remnant of the Civilian Conservation Corps.

Door prize winner was Lisa Hansen who had the paper plate with a symbol on the underside – she won a diamond willow walking stick.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

Minutes respectfully submitted,

Gail Blackmer, secretary