**IRON COUNTY LAKES AND STREAMS PARTNERSHIP**

**January Meeting Minutes**

**1/30/2023**

**ROLL CALL**

Directors Present: Mike Golas, Tom Madden, Vicki Browne

Directors Present Via ZOOM: Joy DeNicola (just to say goodbye), Diane Kut, Laurie Netzow, Deb Twardowski, Sally Davis, Mike Bukovitz (joined later)

Directors Absent: Callista Bortolameolli (could not attend since we were not at the high school), Jim Novitzki

President Mike Golas called the meeting to order at 8:03 am at the Stambaugh Township Hall.

Mike G asked for a motion to approve the minutes of the December meeting. Motion by Vicki B, seconded by Tom M. Motion approved.

**TREASURER’S REPORT**:

On 12/31/2022 Checkbook balance $19802.

Expenses: Office Max for address labels 283 labels for $11.29; Walmart for 3 boxes of envelopes and thank-you cards for $28.42.

Deposits: $1695 + $1165 for memberships (120) and donations ($1720)

Current checkbook balance $22572.62

Motion to approve treasurer’s report by Diane K, seconded by Sally D.

Motion approved (7/7 ayes)

**PRESIDENT’S REPORT**:

All directors will be emailed notes from the president following the meeting with reminders and items to be attentive to. Please reply with comments.

Changes in directors: Joy DeNicola is resigning from the board to pursue her lifelong dream of having her art in galleries. Her art can be seen on her website: joydenicolafinearts.com

Dennis and Judy Kafahl are resigning because they feel they cannot really be present.

The email will also contain notes about how we communicate and the possibilities gained by our website, newsletters and Reporter articles; dates to look at for events; advocacy opportunities especially with the IC Parks & Recreation board; information about the money spent in 2022.

Sally appreciated Mike’s efforts to keep directors informed. She also suggested we get a computer for Deb so it is easier for her to update the website.

*ACTION: Deb will provide us with information about the optimal computer and its cost at the next meeting.*

**OLD BUSINESS**:

**Update to bylaws regarding indemnification clause**: Unable to get a response from Hannah Goodman.

**2023 strategy and actions**:

**Increase membership recruiting and participation**:

Diane K has access to the 140 residents w/addresses on the Paint River from Ken West (CFT Assessor). To get the list and labels will cost $70. She also got a list from Zack (Economic Development Alliance) of the 241 businesses w/addresses and primary contact in Iron County. Tom M has just over 200 December newsletters and membership forms left over from December mailing.

*ACTION: Tom M and/or Mike G will order more newsletters and membership forms. Tom will get envelopes and stamps. Diane will mail 381 newsletters and membership forms.*

Laurie N made a motion to approve funding for more newsletters and membership forms to be printed along with envelopes and stamps for this mailing to residents on the Paint River and all IC businesses. The motion was seconded by Diane K and unanimously approved (7/7 Aye votes).

**Sponsoring high school activities**: Callista absent so no update

**Vicki’s series of articles in the Iron County Reporter**: Some articles appeal to broad spectrum of readers. Some are more technical and may appeal to only 1% of readers, but this 1% comprise people we want to have as members/directors. To that end we need to include our website/FaceBook/email contact in the news articles. Vicki Bwill seek approval to include these.

*ACTION: Vicki B and Deb T will connect regarding the best format for the articles to be saved/archived on the website and a FaceBook post that directs visitors to those articles.*

**Specific plans for Erick Elgin and Jo Latimore visit July 24-August 4**:

After much discussion we settled on 4 days with Jo and Erick. Laurie N will host Jo and Erick for one day on Lake Ellen for a Score the Shore demonstration. All are welcome. The Lake Ellen Property Owners Association host and provide lunch for Jo and Erick that day. Vicki B will host one day for a lake tour and CLMP protocol demonstration (chlorophyll-A, dissolved oxygen, exotic aquatic plant ID) at Chicaugon Lake. Mike G will continue to host for two of their days. Other activities desired include: visits to Michigamme Reservoir (perhaps including representatives from WE Energies and Jen Ricker from Iron-Baraga CD), Fortune Lake, Buck Lake, Lake Mary, Stager Lake (native plant identification activity). Also an event at West Iron Library and Crystal Falls Library with possible topics including shoreline, lake health, and conservancy.

Deb added that we need to build in time for Jo and Erick to have down time/relaxation.

**Make arrangements for Annual Membership Meeting** (date, style/objectives, venue and content): The directors feel that June would be best to have the meeting as part of a social event.

*ACTION: Mike G will contact Cindy Johnson on Ice Lake to see if we can use her barn*.

**Establish a preliminary budget for potential overall 2023 spending**

All directors, please consult President’s email for 2022 spending and make comments.

**Continue supporting grant applications of others while declining to apply for our own grants:** No action.

**Enhance and leverage our relationships with WRISC, ISCCW, Conservation Districts and other organizations and stakeholder groups** No action.

**Economic value of lakes study**

Laurie N is continuing to pursue a MI Tech professor regarding finding a graduate student interested in this topic. Diane K has property owner data from Iron River Townships, is pursuing data from Mastodon Township and was told that this information in Bates Township cannot be queried from the database. Diane is also pursuing property owner information at the County level with the assessor and clerk.

**Other:** None.

**NEW BUSINESS**:

**Funding 2023 CLMP at “orphan lakes” and new lakes**

Possible lakes: Brule, Ottawa, Fire, Porter, Deer, Bone, Shank, Iron. The discussion included possibility of getting high school students to do the monitoring, contacting the Kinship Organization to see if this is something they are interested in partnering with us to accomplish, and the need to determine which lakes and who will do the monitoring. It was noted that volunteers doing data collection should always go out with a partner or two.

*ACTIONS: Tom M will contact Forest Park Schools to see if there are HS students interested. Mike g will contact West Iron County Schools to see if there are HS students interested. Laurie N will create a waiver form in case for volunteers who are gathering data on ‘orphan’ lakes*.

Laurie N made a motion to approve up to $1000 for sponsorship of CLMP monitoring of ‘orphan’ lakes. The motion was seconded by Tom M and approved unanimously (8/8 aye votes).

**Lake Ellen’s suggestion**

to fund equipment for algae studies given the growing threat of algal blooms, particularly harmful algal blooms (HABs). Laurie N found a 30-minute video on HABs which she can share. Lake Ellen is doing research about the costs for equipment and testing.

**Other**

Tom shared an article from the Green Bay newspaper about a company called AntiMussel that plans to harvest zebra mussels for the calcium chloride.

**Next Meeting: February 16, 2023**

ADJOURNED: 9:41 am