

## Summary of Healthy Lakes Committee August 3rd, 2023 Meeting

### Reports:

#### BLCA

- out of over 600 properties around the lakes, only 224 are currently BLCA sponsors(members), encourage neighbors to join, helps with grant money
- The next BLCA meeting will be Sat. Aug. 12th. Board meets at 8:30, general meeting at 9:30, speaker at 10:00. Steve McCommas, The Lake Detective, comes highly recommended, with expertise in water quality management. Bring your questions.

#### TLID

- Annual meeting is Aug. 19th, much work has been done to make sure properties are assessed correctly. Contact a TLID board member if you think your tax statement has an error. The proposed budget for next year will be approved at the meeting.

#### ALUM feasibility study grant

- Water testing and monitoring is underway. Water temperature(at 3 levels), phosphorus (at 2 levels), and oxygen are being monitored. There is no oxygen at the bottom of Julia Lake. Discussion and speculation as to the cause took place. Core samples of the lake bottom and a carp survey are yet to come. Final signatures on the work plan are expected soon and then the first grant money from the state will arrive. Data will be analyzed in the fall/winter, and a feasibility report is expected next spring (where we find out if our lakes are candidates for an alum treatment to bind the phosphorus at the bottom of the lake)

#### Gentle Footprints/HL Plant program

- Several projects are in the process of using grant money from the SWCD and the BLCA for shoreline restoration, run-off/erosion control, and adding more native plants

#### New Business:

##### Concern over increase in filamentous algae

- Might be caused by two years of heavy spring flooding (increasing nutrient load), current heat helps algae grow, more people living on the lake year-round, heavier use of our lakes in the last couple of years, Aqua Thruster misuse
- Recent study by MN Lakes and Rivers points to decrease of natural shoreline around the state. The report states that lawns that are mowed to the shore contribute 7-9 times more pollution than properties with natural shorelines.
- Things we as individuals can do: reduce/eliminate fertilizer/chemicals on our lawns, don't blow grass clippings/leaves toward the lake, pick up trash/dog poop when ice fishing, add native plantings at our shorelines, make sure septic systems meet code
- Things HL team will explore: possibility of UV treatments for controlling algae, contact PLM and other companies regarding algae treatment costs/effectiveness, find out how much the Curly Pond Leaf treatment affects phosphorus load.
- We discussed working on an Ice Fishing education initiative—flyers to fish houses, provide access to dog poop bags, etc..

Reviewed HL Annual goals and reassigned Cameron's responsibilities.

Action items for next month: report back on UV treatments, algaecides, Aqua Thrusters