

BLCA BOARD MINUTES December 9, 2023

Present: Shelly Alger-Peyton, President
Tom Nordin, Vice-President
Robin Uchanski, Treasurer
Adele Munsterman, Secretary

Brad Kipp
Roger Miller
Rosalie Musacchio

Absent: Margy Macauley

Guest: Scott Ruiter, Ruth Thom

The meeting was called to order at 8:36 A.M.

Motion to adopt the agenda: Ruth Thom, Second: Brad Kipp; Motion passed

Motion to approve the minutes from the November, 2023 meeting:

Tom Nordin, Second: Shelly Alger-Peyton; Motion passed

Two new Board members were nominated by Brad Kipp, Second: Ruth Thom;
Motion passed, Brad Thom and Bre Bauerly were seated.

FINANCIAL REPORT

Treasurer Robin Uchanski presented the November financial report. There was discussion of purchasing a computer for use by BLCA Board members. It was decided to let board members purchase electronic items such as a laptop with their officer compensation money if they desire and not purchase such items for board members.

Motion to accept the November financial report, as submitted: Rosalie Musachio;
Second: Brad Thom; Motion passed

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Membership: Membership remains at 240. There will be a new on-line form for membership renewal for 2024 with continuing to use PayPal as a platform for online sponsorship and donation payments.

It may be found at: blca@briggslakechainassociation.com

Envelopes for the annual January newsletter mailing are not yet ready to stuff. It will be done after Christmas at the Thom residence. Two or three volunteers will be needed.

Social Media: Ruth Thom continues to post conservation videos on the site.

Community: There were 29 entries for the Lighted Train Parade on 12/02/23. Mr. and Mrs. Santa also made an appearance.

Communications: There will be a new format for the January BLCA newsletter. Dec. 26 is the deadline for submitting articles or photos. Brad Kipp would like to return to using the "Remember when . . ." feature that was popular in past years. New Board members should submit a brief biography to him by the deadline.

BLCA Website: Bre Bauerly has updated the site and checked the links. The membership renewal form will be posted on the website.

Palmer Directory: Jean Fitzlaff has volunteered to proofread the 2024 BLCA Directory white pages. Dave Maiers will also help with the publication. Roger Miller will send out letters to advertisers by the end of January, and he will continue to work with the new volunteers.

Sunshine Chair: Please send an email message to Adele Munsterman if a card needs to be sent to a lake resident in the case of illness or a death in the family.

TLID: DNR grant proposals for 2024 have been completed. Gary Anderson is working on a grant for funds to combat Eurasian Water Milfoil on Big Elk Lake.

COLA: Will be working on a new 5yr. AIS plan, starry stonewort is present in several MN lakes, DNR will be enforcing AIS treatment's to be completed by May 15, 2024, 2024 sponsorship materials are being generated, there is discussion going on of possible restrictions for wake boats, and of a possible increase in the license surcharge for watercraft. State funds may be made available for the prevention of Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS).

Water Testing: Walt Munsterman attended a virtual meeting on November 17 about the water testing being done by Sherburne County lake associations. There was discussion of them using the same testing center for the water samples taken. No decision was made. Wright County COLA offers a group discount to its lake associations for voluntary participation in the SWCD.

Healthy Lakes: Ruth Thom and Bre Bauerly are working on a Lake Steward program. They will present details at the June General Membership meeting of the BLCA in 2024, the DNR grant received will allow for a carp study to be done in the summer of 2024 in all 4 of the Briggs Lake Chain lakes.

Big Elk Park: Tom Nordin shared information about the new park. A representative of the Bureau of Indian Affairs recently came to visit the area. It will be called Two Inlets Regional Park, or Bde Hehaka. A \$2.5M grant was approved and work has begun. Anyone interested in the project is welcome to attend the meeting held at 12:30 P.M. on the third Thursday of each month at the Sherburne County Government Center in Elk River.

NEW BUSINESS:

Motion by Tom Nordin to approve the expenditure of \$100 each (up to \$800) for new 24' x 30" signs to publicize the new State statute regarding littering on the ice. Second: Brad Kipp; Motion passed

UPCOMING EVENTS;

February 10, 2024 Ice Day on the Chain

Volunteers needed for set-up (2/9/24) , help at the event and tear-down (2/11/24)

July 6 Independence Day Fireworks and Boat Parade

The meeting was adjourned at 9:47 A.M.

Respectfully Submitted, Adele Munsterman, BLCA Secretary