

Baldwin Lake Association Meeting Minutes May 18, 2019

Attendees: Mike Schirott, Mike Crofoot, Terry O'Connor, Mary Kowalski, John Grille, Eileen Caddigan, Brian and Carol Arbogast, Vicki and Tim Osborn, Tom Hilfman, Greg Lawson, Andrew and Luann Dibblestein, Lauri Macri, John Walsh, Dave and Nancy Smith, Fern Michaels, Lindsey Davis.

Treasurer's Report. There is \$35,949 in the various bank accounts. The Mosquito Fund is at a \$7,500 deficit. Spring Fling should net around \$2,000.

Water & Boating Safety-Jet Ski Safety was discussed. The new brochure from the State of Michigan on the new boating laws and the 100 foot rule brochure will be distributed by the Advisors to the people on the lake. Previously it had been discussed to mail the brochures out with the newsletter but the hand delivery method was adopted. This was the most proactive approach that can be taken. Additional police patrols would not be effective due to the time that Jet Ski's are active. That and the police patrols on Long Lake failed to assist the issue.

NO WAKE SIGNS for the channel will be purchased and installed to the existing poles. Additionally the second pole will be resurrected and reinstalled. There will be a sign made up and posted at Beechwood landing advising of boating direction for the lake. That is based upon a motion by Mary Kowalski and approved by voice vote.

Water/Environment-CLMP Training and Recording. A brief overview of the training taken in May at Crystal Mountain was given. There is a need for a \$220 check to pay for the additional materials and have the data recorded. A voice vote was taken to have our test data shared with the CLMP data base. There had been a debate whether or not to share with the State and join the database. All were in favor of conducting the testing and sharing the data.

There will be an annual cost for participating in CLMP. The cost will be around \$220 for 2019. These tests will eliminate the Fecal Chlorophyll testing previously completed at a cost of \$500 per test. Also this will eliminate all shore testing as the CLMP tests are all deep water tests.

Additionally, by joining CLMP, yearly records will have a central location and not in a brief case or notebook on a shelf.

Secchi Test. First test was conducted on May 15. There is something going on in the lake. At the 5-7 foot depth there was a yellow bloom underway. Speculation was that it was the lake turning over. The results of the test were

overall poor. The lake center was 16'9" versus 14'3" in 2018. An improvement but still quite below our benchmark year of 29'6" in 2016. The North end reading was 13'9" versus 14' in 2018 and 23'6" (bottom) in 2016. The Bay/Little Baldwin was 13'9" versus 14' in 2018 and 26'9" in 2016. The South end was at 7'7" versus 15'5" in 2018 and 30'6" in 2016. 2016 was the bench mark year with 2018 being the obvious comparison year and the year of the St Joe backing into the system.

Greg Lawson, who is on the Bay and on Long, stated that there is an issue in Long as well. A brown gunk has been spotted on the bottom of the middle bay in Long.

Phosphorus and Chlorophyll A testing will be conducted later in the season. The dissolved oxygen testing will not be conducted as we did not buy or rent the equipment in a timely manner.

BOAT Count. Mike Crofoot and Mike Schirott will conduct the boat count prior to the Poker Run.

MOSQUITO Spray. We are going to have Tim Miller coordinate the spraying with Agriflute again this year. We are hoping for four sprays but they depend upon weather conditions.

There was a discussion about Willow Shores financial contribution to the spraying. Last year they donated \$250. Tom Hilfman and Vicki Osborn stated that they would ask their camp contacts if the amount can be increased.

Due to the deficit in the mosquito fund we are going to adopt a recommended amount of at least \$50 on the application to renew/join BLA in the Newsletter.

GOOSE BUSTERS The application for 2019 was approved. We expect to have the same crew as last year with the addition of Mike Crofoot. That will give us 4 pontoons and a jet ski as well as the boats of Goose Busters.

We need to put in the Newsletter and on Facebook that people need to tell us where the geese are nesting so we know for the round up Also have people advise if they do not want us on their property for the round up.

Mary Kowalski advised that she asked the State biologists if elimination of geese gives way to more Swans. They advise that the answer is negative. The Mute Swans are just going through a population increase. The State is studying ways to allow for swan elimination as well as geese. Note that the Mute Swans

are not the native Swans. The smaller more gentle Trumpet Swans are the natives. The Mute Swans have eliminated the Trumpet Swans.

LAKE MANAGEMENT COMPANIES. There was a lengthy discussion over the need and the various companies that are available. We have three quotes ranging in price from \$7,500 to \$18,000. The scope of the companies services would include a lake map of the weed beds, analysis of the weed types (invasive versus native). Also they would assist in mapping out the muck beds. They would conduct the same tests as we already do Secchi, Phosphate and Chlorophyll but would add the dissolved oxygen which is very important in determining lake health. The discussion included the need for the same testing by BLA and the company. The difference is they have the expertise, we do not.

The scope would also include an analysis of the rest of the watershed areas. This might give us some assistance in correction of the drainage issue on Hilltop and the run off through the drain on the South access.

John Walsh made a motion to retain a company for up to \$12,000, to pick a firm and attempt to set a date for the analysis to begin. Motion passed by unanimous voice vote.

ROAD CLEANUP. It was a success. Thanks to all who participated.

NEWSLETTERS We agreed to write only one Newsletter a year. It will be in Spring and have the application for the next year included. All other communications will be through Facebook page and blast emails. As a result we are going to drop the price for an ad to \$50 from \$100.

SPRING FLING. The venue was very crowded. Long/Coverdale drive the event. There was a discussion about moving the event to the Shriners Club. There are inherent problems with the switch. One would be the need to buy alcohol, get event insurance, get dram shop insurance and find competent bartenders.

There was discussion about contributing to the Long/Coverdale fireworks since that is the original purpose of our participation in the Spring Fling. It was decided that there would be no contribution from BLA but individuals were free to contribute on their own. The consensus was that the individuals on Baldwin and Indiana have a show that is more visible than Long/Coverdale.

POKER RUN. There are 3 confirmed stops, Macri's, Lake Effect/Willow Shores, Caddigans/O'Connors. A stop is needed in the Bay as the Johnsons are going to be at a wedding. Greg Lawson volunteered but is in very shallow water in the

Bay. Also a stop on Hilltop would be appreciated. Vicki is working on the stops. Card stuffing party will be declared but we have many cards from last year.

Meeting adjourned. Next meeting is June 15