

LAUDERDALE LAKES IMPROVEMENT ASSOCIATION

Directors Meeting Minutes

November 11, 2023

Meeting called to order:

President Rich Siok called the meeting to order (via ZOOM) at 9:05 am.

Roll Call:

The following Directors and Officers were present:

Mike Barrett	Debbie Ferrari	Nila Siok
Greg Bertagna	Don Henderson	Rich Siok
Amber Bixler	Kevin Henderson	Larry Slight
Kim Coleman	Sue Markus	Pete Spaulding
Jim Corcoran	Elisabeth Partyka	Dave Stang
Peg Eggert	Herb Sharpless	Gary Storandt

Minutes:

A motion was made to approve the minutes of the August 19, 2023 Directors Meeting (Gary Storandt), seconded (Don Henderson) and approved by the Directors.

Agenda:

A motion was made to approve today's agenda (Debbie Ferrari), seconded (Elisabeth Partyka) and approved by the Directors.

Treasurer's Report: Herb Sharpless reported:

- Herb reviewed the current P&L and Balance Sheet indicating that the LLIA has done well financially in 2023.
- Herb noted that we are now getting better CD rates than in recent years. Plus, contributions have been strong—particularly for fish stocking and the Lake Preservation Fund.

NEW BUSINESS

- **Purple Loosetrife Control.** Herb Sharpless reported that discussions with the LLLMD regarding sharing efforts to control purple loosetrife are going well. We expect to share program expenses 50-50 with the Lake District. LLIA donations will likely come out of the Lake Preservation Fund. Beginning next season, the LLLMD will take responsibility for the program.

A motion was made to approve the 50-50 sharing of expenses with the LLLMD (Don Henderson), seconded (Debbie Ferrari) and approved by the directors.

- **2024 Proposed Budget.** Herb Sharpless walked the group through the proposed 2024 budget. Herb noted that the Lake Preservation Fund is growing significantly through improved donations.
A motion was made to approve the proposed 2024 budget (Jim Corcoran), seconded (Debbie Ferrari) and approved by the directors.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Fish: Jim “Corky” Corcoran reported:

- We are now awaiting the results of the WDNR’s comprehensive fish survey which was conducted this past spring.
- This fall, we stocked some 3,000 smallmouth bass and some 3,000 perch of varying sizes. It is currently unknown whether the DNR’s walleye stocking program will continue in 2024.
- More teepee-style cribs were constructed and will be dropped in next spring.
- Corky announced that Rick Dessent (“Deetz”) will assume leadership of Fishapalooza this February and suggested that he be named a Director At Large. Rich Siok to follow up.

Water Quality: No report.

Communications & Membership: Debbie Ferrari reported:

- The Fall/Winter issue of ShoreLines is just getting underway and will likely mail just after the Holidays. Directors were again encouraged to contribute pictures, recipes, etc. to the Members Post section of the newsletter. Herb Sharpless suggested that the next issue of ShoreLines include a brief mention that the LLIA will be making an appropriate donation (in keeping with our mission) to the new Clubhouse.
- Debbie announced that she will not be available to handle advertising sales responsibilities for the LLIA Directory beginning with the next issue. Interested candidates should contact Debbie.
- Debbie mentioned that the official membership stands at 743.

Website: Kevin Henderson reported:

- We were able to offer online registration and payment for Corky’s School of Fish.
- Debbie Hall continues to be very helpful in managing the website and making periodic updates.
- Kevin invited the Directors to contact him with content suggestions or corrections.

History: No report. However, Kathryn asked Rich Siok to thank the LLIA for buying a membership in the Walworth County Historical Society. Rich Siok to be sure that Kathryn has been reimbursed for the membership fee.

Nominating: Rich Siok reported for Jim Dion:

- Bob Brockman and Jackie Rumer appear to have dropped out as Directors. Jim to pursue replacing them.

Planning & Zoning: Don Henderson reported:

- Approvals are all in place to construct a Solar Panel Electrical Generation layout in the Town of LaGrange commencing next year.
- The large Natural Gas storage containers near County Highway O and Territorial Rd. are nearing completion and should be operational in 2025. It is anticipated that once in operation, the facility will be paying taxes in support of the Town of LaGrange.
- The Town's spring election will fill two Board member positions. Any person desiring to run must file before the end of December.
- The Fire Dept. has taken delivery of a new ambulance at a cost of \$264,000. Proceeds from the sale of the old ambulance will be used to order a new Heart Monitor for the new ambulance. Proceeds from the Annual Steak Fry fundraiser will be used to purchase new turnout gear. As always, interested volunteers are always encouraged to join the department.

Water Safety: No report.

Lake Preservation: Amber Bixler reported:

- Amber reported that her committee met recently to develop ideas for a more focused plan for 2025.
- The committee is seeking knowledgeable landscapers who are willing to help applicants develop plans for the grant program.
- The committee is now preparing to submit applications for the next round of grant seekers.
- Amber made a motion to allow Debbie Ferrari to sign a grant program authorization form on behalf of the LLIA, seconded (Sue Markus) and approved by the Directors. The form will be attached to these minutes.

Property: No report. However, Herb Sharpless noted that construction crews have damaged large sections of the Petersen Woods Preserve trails and that General Contractors should be held responsible. Rich Siok to follow-up with Dave DeAngelis.

Unfinished Business

- Donations for new Clubhouse. There was a general discussion regarding our wish to financially support the building of the new Clubhouse and grounds (2025 and beyond). It was generally agreed that whatever we elect to do should be consistent with our mission. Don Henderson noted that the LLLMD has formed 3 committees to help advance the project: 1. Fundraising, chaired by Dean Bostrom, 2. Construction, chaired by Jack Sorenson and 3. Land Planning, chaired by Don Henderson.

Herb Sharpless suggested that several LLIA Directors meet with the above committee chairs to discuss our options and the relative costs. The idea was well received and Rich Siok will follow up.

LLLMD Update: Debbie Ferrari reported highlights from the last District meeting:

- Homeowners expressed concern over the narrowing of a channel in western Middle Lake. The Lake District clarified that any actions must be done through the DNR and will provide the appropriate DNR contacts for the homeowners to pursue the issue.
- There was general agreement to assume a lead role in the Purple Loosestrife control program—working in concert with the LLIA.
- Three committees (noted above) were announced to help advance the new Clubhouse project.

KMLT Update: Rich Siok reported for Dave DeAngelis:

- The fall Oaktobefest Event was well attended with 75 participants.
- The five-year reaccreditation process is now under way.
- Reminder: more volunteers are always welcome.

Walworth County Lake Association: Jim Corcoran reported:

- Corky recapped the last meeting (October 21) and gave high marks to the guest speaker who discussed the general lack of diversity in outdoor activities.
- We will host the June 2024 meeting and will provide a crib-building demonstration.

Meeting Adjourned

A motion was made to adjourn the meeting (Peg Eggert), seconded (Herb Sharpless) and approved by the Directors.

Next Meeting: Saturday, February 24, 2024, 9:00 a.m. via ZOOM

Respectfully submitted,
Gary Storandt, Secretary