

Garfield Lake Association
Board Meeting Minutes
April 17, 2019

The Garfield Board of Directors meeting was held Thursday, April 17, 2019, at 6:30 p.m. at Ron Ray's home. In attendance were: Stacey Ahcan, Bill Karsten, Jeanne Mehlhop, Ron Ray, and Deb Vogeltantz, and Charlie Clark (via phone).

The meeting was called to order by Ron Ray.

Charlie Clark made a motion, seconded by Deb Vogeltantz, and passed to approve last meeting's minutes.

Bill Karsten gave the financial report, along with a printed summary. There is \$1,600.93 in the bank account. Dues notices were emailed, followed by a second reminder to those who had not yet submitted dues. One more email will be sent to members who need another reminder. We will continue to encourage more people to become members, as after the next annual meeting in May, lake association meeting minutes and information will be relayed only to dues-paying members. Motion was made and seconded, and passed to approve the financial report.

The board reviewed a model (created by Ron Ray) of the boat landing improvement design. A proposal has been presented to the Laporte mayor. Laporte will need a permit from the DNR to construct the ramp. Frank Vogeltantz has graciously offered to do the work of redoing the boat ramp. The Garfield Lake Ice Racers will cover the cost the materials, which will come to \$4,200.00! The ice racers request that the grade of the landing be reconstructed to make it easier for them to drive onto the lake in winter. Plans are to work on the boat launch improvements mid-June to mid-July, with no work being done during 4th of July weekend.

Bill Karsten reported that a sign for the boat landing has been completed, free of charge. The sign, with a Garfield Lake Association logo created by a Laporte elementary student, reminds boaters to check and clean boats for AIS.

Another sign will also be created for the boat launch area, thanking and naming all those who contributed to the boat launch improvements and maintenance.

Charlie Clark reported that he is planning to have handouts ready for the annual meeting providing fishing information pertaining to Garfield Lake.

Pat Lynch has monitored Garfield Lake's water levels for many years, and sent a memo requesting someone take over for her. Mark Warisch will monitor the status of lake depth.

The board discussed the idea of beginning an Eyes on the Water program. It is a program designed to train lake shore owners to observe the lake and identify invasive

species. It was unanimously decided to table this decision until after the Annual Meeting.

Bill Karsten has built more Zebra Mussels tubes; we now have a total of 35 tubes. The tubes will be available at the annual meeting for distribution. We will also have a sign-up sheet to keep track of the tubes, and a box for members to make a small donation for the cost of the tube materials.

Take a Kid Fishing day is Saturday, June 8, on Garfield Lake. A fundraising dinner will be held at Laporte School Sunday, April 28. It was suggested that association board members contribute cookies or bars for the dinner. The groups is also seeking fish cleaners and last-minute fishing guides in case more kids participate than expected. A spaghetti dinner is provided for the guides. A fish fry is held at the park after the event, with prizes for the kids.

The board plans to have Garfield Lake T-shirts, caps, and sweatshirts available to show at the annual meeting, along with order forms, so members can place orders for items they'd like to purchase. The gross margin would be \$10.00 per unit, monies to be used as a fundraiser for the lake association. Members will need to pay when their orders are placed. Deb Vogeltantz and Stacey Ahcan will follow through with Bill Karsten's lead at Cool Threads in Bemidji. Board members will purchase items to be used for display at the annual meeting.

The board discussed the need for fundraisers in addition to the Garfield Lake clothing, as \$1,250 needs to be raised for 2019 AIS inspection. Bill Karsten has already built two water-ski lawn chairs, which have been sold, and the money donated to Garfield Lake Association.

It was decided to have a booth at the Laporte 4th of July event. Stacey Ahcan will contact Lions member Greg Olson for more information.

There was significant discussion on Article III, Section 1 of the GLA Bylaws. This section deals with whom is eligible for membership in the Garfield Lake Association. Changing the By-Laws requires a vote of approval by the GLA membership. After discussion, the Board voted to recommend a change to the By-Laws language:

- to allow nonlake-shore property owners to become members; the vote being 5-0, with 1 abstaining vote.
- to allow 1 vote per member; the vote being 5 to 1.
- to allow all non-business members to run for Board of Directors positions, the vote being 5 to 1.

Ron agreed to write up specific language that reflects these changes, and the board will review them at the next board meeting. The specific language changes will be provided to membership before the Annual Meeting. The same language changes will be on the By-Laws-change ballot to be voted on at the May 25, 2019 annual meeting.

Robb Olson has ownership of the website garfieldlakeassociation, and has offered to donate it. Bill Karsten created a beautiful wood plaque in the shape of Garfield Lake to give to Robb Olson as a thank you.

The annual meeting will be held, May 25, at Trinity Lutheran Church in Laporte. Sign-in will begin at 9:30 a.m., with the meeting star set at 10:00 a.m. Four board members will need to be elected, and By-laws changes vote will be taken. Members will need to have submitted their dues before voting. Board members need to get back to Ron Ray within seven days, with annual meeting suggestions in addition to the agenda and list provided by Bill Karsten.

The next board meeting will be May 15, 6:30 p.m., at Bill Karsten's home.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:55 p.m.