

# Garfield Lake Association

Minutes for Board Meeting held March 20, 2019, 6:30 pm – 8:30 pm

In attendance: Ron Ray, Mark Warish, Bill Karsten (remote), Charlie Clark (remote)

Absent: Deb Vogeltanz, Stacy Ahcan, Jeanne Mehlhop, Joe Rubash

Minutes taken by: Ron Ray

1. As outlined in our past GLA meetings Garfield will have 112 fewer staffed AIS Inspection hours in 2019 than in 2018. It has been shown that properly staffed and trained AIS boat launch inspection is one of the most successful methods of preventing AIS movement from lake to lake. More inspection hours reduce the risk of AIS contamination. This is why we are working with Hubbard County to increase these hours for 2020.
2. On Tuesday, March 12, Mark attended the Hart Lake Township annual meeting, asking for AIS funding for 2020. There was some major debate, but after the vote Hart Lake will donate \$1,250 for AIS funding in 2020 and will work with us to see how that can be increased in the future. Great job Mark!
3. On the same night, I attended the Lakeport Township annual meeting and meet with similar success. They agreed to increase the funding for 2020 AIS from \$2000 to \$3000. We will share these funds with the other major lake in Lakeport Township, Kabakona Lake.
4. Last fall, the City of Laporte agreed to donate \$1,250 to the 2020 AIS inspection. This is subject to the city's budgeting process which will happen in September 2109.
5. We also had a wonderful donation from the Garfield Lake Ice Racers Club of \$1,000 for the 2019 season. We will approach for donations for 2020 later in the year.
6. Please recognize that these donations to our lake are almost 4 times the total amount of our Garfield Lake Associations annual dues. We ask that you thank these officials and governing bodies for their help in Keeping Garfield Healthy.
7. It is our hope that through various fundraisers our Garfield Lake Association can do this summer, that we can raise another \$1,250 for 2020. Again, our goal is to get that AIS inspection hours back to the 400 hours we had in 2018, as a minimum. We ask our members and other lake users and homeowners to help us meet this goal.
8. We continue to meet with Hubbard County DNR on the details of improving the city's boat launch ramp and the rocks in the water that make it difficult and dangerous to launch and reload our boats. We are doing so as an "unofficial arm" of the City of Laporte, who is the owner of the boat launch itself. With the volunteer help of one of our GLA members we believe we have some solutions to some of these problems and hope to share them with you next month.

9. We will be adding to the signage at the boat launch. Bill was able to find a sign printer who will work with the GLA and make these signs on a no charge basis. We hope to have them installed this spring.
10. Bill gave us an update on the help that we are providing for the Take A Kid Fishing event. We continue to look for Garfield boat owner volunteers who could fill in at the last moment if additional guides and boats were needed. We have sent emails to our lake residents outlining the program and volunteer opportunities, and have worked with Steamboat Lake and Kabekona Lake associations to help spread the word. The fundraiser for the organization is April 28<sup>th</sup>, held at noon at the Laporte School, and the event is on Saturday, June 8<sup>th</sup>. We'll run a great program. Feel free to email us for the program details.
11. We have a Garfield homeowner who currently owns the web site domain name "garfieldlakeassociation.com" and has donated it to our association, as well as a cash contribution to support a website. We view this as a great way to communicate and share items of Garfield as we expand our membership and people who want to see what is going on. The website development is on our future projects list.
12. One of our younger members has created a Facebook group [Garfield Lake Resident's Community Page](#) in association with the GLA. This is a closed group for anyone with an association and interest in our lake. We encourage you to go take a look and see it and share your photos and experiences of Garfield Lake life, if that interests you.
13. We had discussion on the pros and cons of expanding our membership eligibility to people who don't live on Garfield Lake but want to be part of our Garfield Lake Association. We believe these are users of the lake like fishermen, swimmers, boaters and or just enjoy the openness and wildlife around the lake. We also think there is interest in our GLA by the business's in our area. For that reason we are looking at amending our bylaws membership rules to expand membership. This change in bylaws will require a vote by our current membership at our Annual Meeting. If you have questions or would like to comment on this item please contact anyone of the board members. We will share this written change with you in our next monthly report.

The next Garfield Lake Association Board meeting will be held Wednesday, April 17 at Ron's house at 6:30. This meeting was adjourned at 8:30.