

GARFIELD LAKE ASSOCIATION  
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING MINUTES  
July 12, 2018

The July Garfield Lake Association Board of Directors meeting was held at the home of Ron Ray. Those in attendance were: Stacey Ahcan, Ron Ray, Bill Karsten, Jeanne Mehlhop, Deb Vogeltantz, Mark Warisch. Charlie Clark joined the meeting via phone.

The meeting was called to order by Ron.

Bill Karsten made a motion to approve the minutes of the June 7, 2018, meeting; the motion was seconded by Mark Warisch, and was passed.

Bill Karsten gave an update on the financial status. We have a total of \$635.00 in the checking account. Of the 104 lake shore properties, 48 membership applications have been received, two parties are not interested, 54 parties have not responded. Half of those submitting membership applications (24) have submitted dues, of which 22 payments have been deposited. \$15.00 was spent on postage. The association has 77 email addresses. Bill will send a reminder note to those who have not yet submitted dues.

Mark Warisch reported on water testing. No information has yet been provided from the lab. Sunday, July 15, will be the next day for testing, which will be the second and final Zebra Mussel test, and the third of five tests for water quality, water clarity, chlorophyll, phosphorus, and Spiny Water Flea. Ron noted that the DNR will do additional tests for a baseline on phytoplankton and zooplankton. Mark Warisch, Deb Vogeltantz, and Bill Karsten, Ron Ray will do testing on July 15.

Charlie Clark related, via phone, what he learned from the DNR fisheries about stocking Walleyes in Lake Garfield. According to their lake management plan, the DNR has decided it is best to stock 525,000 Walleye fry into Lake Garfield every other year, on the even years. There appears to be no difference in the size of Walleyes whether fry are stocked every year or every other year. Stocking on Lake Garfield began in 2008 and continued every year until 2017, which was a skipped year. This year, 2018, is again a stocking year. Charlie will be investigating further about lake associations purchasing additional Walleye fry or fingerlings.

Ron Ray reported he has visited the city dock and launch area in Laporte four times since our last meeting to visit with the inspector there. The inspector noted that big boats are contributing the problem, causing a hole and then a shallow area with large motors. Laporte's city council tried to remedy the problem in 2010 by adding rocks to the ramp area. Since the boat landing is within city limits, Laporte will be responsible for expenses to fix and maintain it. (The DNR does not want to be involved.) Birch Lake has had a similar problem, and Ron Ray will make a trip there to learn how that ramp is maintained.

Charlie Clark visited with an aquatic specialist who actually fishes on Lake Garfield. She reported to Charlie the good news that there appears to be no invasive vegetation on the lake. The proliferation of lake weeds and the spread of wild rice bothers, and has become a problem, for many lake shore property owners. The DNR, however, thinks it is okay, citing commercial value, etc. Ron Ray asked, "What has changed? Why is wild rice spreading?" Those with history of Lake Garfield tell us that there is a great difference since the 60s, even ten or five years ago.

One difference could be the cement culvert that was put in on the southern part of the lake in the early 70s to prevent flooding of Highway 45. Data shows that the lake's water level has fluctuated only within a range of 1.33 feet over 25 years. (a

No action has been taken on the kiosk and postings at the boat landing/lake access area. Ron Ray will check if there are DNR postings about AIS prevention at Pine Beach Resort, where boats are also launched.

Article 3, Section 1 of the Garfield Lake Association Bylaws reads:

*Membership is open to owners of shore land property, including out-lots, and their immediate families. A member is defined as a person or related persons who pay membership dues, whereas a couple may be individual members or elect to act as one member.*

Because of concerns brought to the attention of the Board of Directors at the annual meeting, the Board, seeking a solution, requested Stacey Alcan do an edit of Article 3, Section 1. She submitted:

*Membership is open to owners of shore land property, including out-lots, and their immediate families. A member is defined as a person or related persons who pay membership dues. Limit of one membership per shore land property or out-lot. Families and couples will hold membership as one entity.*

Changes of Bylaws are cannot be made without a membership vote at the Annual Meeting. Board members agreed to bring this proposed language change of the Bylaws to the membership for their votes at next spring's annual meeting.

Bill Karsten reported that he visited with the organizers of Take a Kid Fishing Day, offering to help increase communication and visibility of the annual event through the Garfield Lake Association.

The trash can at the boat landing is overflowing, and smells. We will need to brainstorm on how to get the trash receptacle emptied on a regular basis. Ron Ray will see how Birch Lake handles the problem when he is there checking on how they did repairs.

Ron Ray and Mark Warisch attended the last COLA meeting. Hubbard County Environmental services answered questions about permits, septic tanks, etc. Septic systems should be pumped at least every three years, unless only one person lives in

the home or the system is set up to require fewer pumpings. Information will be attached to the minutes when sent.

New Business:

Logo for Garfield Lake Association. Deb Vogeltantz will research Loon pictures for us to use without infringing on copyright laws.

Future communications with nonmember-shoreland property owners. We will table a decision until the next meeting, giving those who have submitted membership applications more time to submit dues.

The next meeting of the Garfield Lake Association Board of Directors was scheduled for Thursday, August 9. However, that date will not work for three members. The meeting is rescheduled for Wednesday, August 15, 6:30 p.m. Ron Ray suggested we hold the meeting on his pontoon.

Charlie Clark made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Bill Karsten. The meeting was adjourned at 8:03 p.m.

Minutes submitted by Jeanne Mehlhop