



Board Meeting Minutes

January 4, 2020

GLA President Bill Karsten called the GLA Board of Directors meeting to order at 10:20am, Saturday, January 4, 2020. Directors present at the meeting were Mary Lou Hoffer, Cathy Karsten, Bill Karsten, Mark Warisch and Dan Fitch. Present on the phone was Charlie Clark and Ron Ray. Absent were Darryl Jarombek and Jeanne Mehlhop.

The November 13, 2019 board meeting minutes were reviewed and approved as written.

Bill reviewed the GLA Financial Statements as of 12/31/2020. The bank balance was reported as \$4,320.39. The 2020 AIS Inspection funding of \$1,250 was already paid in 2019. Further it was noted the surplus of regular association activities was \$1,667.72 and the surplus from AIS Inspection fundraising was \$2,622.27.

Bill made a motion that the AIS Surplus amount of \$2,622.27 be restricted specifically for future AIS Inspection funding, which should cover contributions through 2022. This motion was seconded and accepted unanimously by the board. The GLA wants to assure that we can continue to keep the increased AIS boat launch inspection hours through 2022. The GLA has made arrangements with the City of Laporte, Hart Lake Township, and Lake Port Township to each share the cost of these increased hours annually.

Ron made a motion that an amount of \$1,000 of the regular surplus be restricted for future water quality testing, which should cover testing through 2021. This motion was seconded and accepted unanimously by the board. The annual cost for these tests is approximately \$500 per year. These tests provide baseline and routine samples of water conditions as well as the presence of various AIS.

Bill presented a proposed budget for 2020. This will be finalized at the next board meeting to be held on April 11, 2020.

The issue of President Elect officer not being filled was discussed. After discussion on the issue, Ron agreed to accept this position for the current year and assume the President position after the annual meeting in May. Dan agreed to assume the President Elect role after the annual meeting in 2020. This position assists the current President and becomes the President the following year.

We reviewed an outline that Bill and Ron prepared showing 13 identified areas and programs the GLA has become involved in or with. We agreed each Director would return their outline and identify which of these areas they would like to lead and or help with. It is from these volunteering hours that these

programs or events get accomplished. More detailed action plans will be discussed at the next board meeting on April 11, 2020. This is a continuation of the planning session we held on May 29, 2019.

We also reviewed which board positions terms expire this year (May 2020) and if the incumbents would rerun for the position this year. We determined 3 positions are up for election this year and that we have 2 incumbent candidates. We will be seeking additional candidates to help us maintain our nine member board. If members have interest, they can contact the association for more information.

Bill reviewed 3 additional shirts were sold during our clearance sale. The remaining shirts were donated equally to Third Base Bar and Popple Bar for their weekly 'bargo' bingo events, as agreed in the prior board meeting.

Bill reported that the new boat launch sign identifying individuals and community organizations that helped with the construction and rebuilding of the launch, was approved by the City of Laporte. It will be an 18" x 24" sign and posted in the boat launch area thanking them for their contributions. The sign will be ordered and installed in the spring.

We discussed the 2020 membership dues. It is our plan to bill the dues in April for the 2020 year at the current rate of \$30.

The GLA Annual meeting is scheduled for Saturday, May 23, 2019 at 10 am. It will be held at Trinity Lutheran Church in Laporte. Mark will work on reserving the church.

We received notice that Garfield Lake will not have a Conservation Officer (CO) to do routine policing of our lake. Charlie's contact with the DNR led us to believe the Lake George based CO position was to be filled this past December. We are all quite disappointed with this decision since Garfield Lake has not had a CO for over 4 years. We have heard that many people are taking illegal fish limits. The GLA was also asked by the Garfield Lake Racers to look into this issue. It was agreed that we would write a letter to the appropriate authorities asking that this situation be corrected as soon as possible. This letter will be under the Garfield Lake Association's letterhead and reference fishing issues our membership has shared. It is recognized that the GLA has no authority to take any action, but we can inform the appropriate authorities. Charlie agreed to take lead in drafting this letter and Ron and Mark agreed to provide input and editing. We agreed Bill will contact the two local lake associations (Steamboat & Kabekona) in our area and request they do the same.

Mark provided us with an update on lake monitoring and water quality for Hubbard County and referencing a recent publication. It shows Hubbard County lake records since 2006. Many lakes have seen improvements which are partly the results of Hubbard County septic system mandates. Garfield Lake continues to maintain excellent clarity levels.

The GLA \$1,250 check for the 2020 AIS boat launch monitoring has been written and received by Hubbard County. The City of Laporte will send their check by January 31, 2020. Lakeport Township has also sent their check. Mark will follow up with Hart Lake Township. All checks are due into Hubbard County by January 31, 2020.

It was agreed that we would continue to partner with the city and townships to request they continue in 2021 with these contributions. The township's budget annually in March of each year. We will have board members attend these meeting in support of this effort. Mark will attend Hart Lake meeting and Dan will attend the Lakeport meeting. Bill will work with the City of Laporte which budgets in September.

Mark and Ron have initiated an artificial Loon Nest project. Mark reviewed the trip he and Ron took to see the artificial loon nests successfully used by Man Trap Lake Association for many years. There are 2 versions used, older wooden ones and newer aluminum ones. Mark reported that the data shows the "egg to water" hatching success in these man made aluminum style nest are 4 times more successful than natural nests. (21% vs 83%). Mark has contacted St Cloud Technical College, (students at this Technical school are the builders of these aluminum nests) and personally ordered and funded one nest for delivery in early spring. The cost is approximately \$800 and we discussed how funding for this can be accomplished. We discussed seeking sponsors of the nest and/or marking buoys that are required adjacent to them in the water with the sponsor's name. We discussed seeking sponsors from the membership and also approaching local businesses to see if they would support the project. We also discussed approaching the Garfield Lake Ice Racers for support. Photos of these nests were included in the November 13, 2019 minutes. The nest is intended to be deployed this spring as soon as the ice is out.

Bill made a motion that the GLA help fund this project in the amount of \$400. This motion was seconded and unanimously approved.

Ron and Mark also personally purchased an old wooden nesting platform and a couple of old 6 inch floats. We will refurbish them and get them in the water this early spring. If any of our members are interested in working with Mark and Ron on this project, please contact the association.

The next meeting is scheduled for Saturday, April 11, 2020 at 10am. If members want to attend, please contact the association.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:15 am.

Submitted by:

Ron Ray, Secretary