

Garfield Lake Association
Board of Directors Meeting Minutes
November 15, 2018

The Garfield Board of Directors meeting was held Thursday, November 15, 2018, at 6:30 p.m. In attendance were: Bill Karsten, Jeanne Mehlhop, Ron Ray (via phone), Joe Rubash, Debra Vogeltantz, and Mark Warisch.

Minutes from the last meeting were approved.

Financial Report:

- The bank balance is \$782.00, with all water testing, AIS prevention, and communication expenses, and COLA dues paid.
- \$90 more was collected in dues.

Fifty percent of lake shore property owners have submitted membership applications, with nine who have not yet submitted dues.

Bill Karsten has completed all the paperwork necessary for annual registration renewal with the Minnesota Secretary of State.

Bill Karsten and Charlie Clark attended the Hubbard County COLA meeting in September. Mark Warisch and Ron Ray attended the COLA meeting in October.

Environmental Specialist Nicholas Macklam recapped the funding for the inspections at boat launches in the county. The State of Minnesota provides \$258,000 to assist the 31 lake associations that are COLA members. In 2018, 20,000 inspections were conducted, with 133 decontaminations in Hubbard County. (Hubbard County was one of the first counties in introduce inspections.) Hubbard County has three decontamination centers: one working, one portable, and one private at Kabakona Lake. The private center charges a fee.

The Restore the Shore Tree Program by Soil & Water Conservation of Hubbard County was offered to GLA property owners through COLA. The board decided to provide information about purchasing trees through this program earlier next year to association members.

Good news: no sightings of Zebra Mussels were reported when members pulled in boats lifts, docks, and testing tubes this fall.

The GLA Board discussed boat inspections at the Laporte boat landing. Hubbard County COLA provided 440 hours of inspections in 2017-2018. That support ends beginning 2019. The inspectors' wages are expected to be increased from \$18.50 to \$21.00 an hour. (This rate includes payroll taxes and benefits). Garfield Lake Association, as a new organization, does not have the funds to pay for inspections. How much can the lake association fund for boat inspections? Will COLA consider assisting in any way with the costs?

Mark Warisch attended the AIS meeting and shared with them all the work we are trying to accomplish with Zebra Mussels within the limited resources of our new association.

The Board of Directors decided, because the city of Laporte, Lakeport and Hart Lake townships have vested interest in the health of Garfield Lake, it would be a good idea to get on their meeting agendas and approach them to see if there is any interest in additional boat landing inspections funding assistance.

Bill Karsten has arranged to meet with Laporte City Council December 11, 2018, to discuss repairing the boat launch area, ask for improved signage, find way to deal with trash and approach them regarding supporting the boat landing inspections. Those attending the meeting will meet before December 11 to prepare a presentation.

Mark Warisch shared with the board members that Frank Vogelantantz has generously offered to make the necessary repairs at the boat launch free of charge. The only expense he would like help with is the cost of moving his track hoe on and off location, which he estimates will be between \$700 and \$1000. Since the boat landing belongs to the city of Laporte, the city council will be asked to provide money to transport the track hoe. The DNR may provide new piers.

Joe Rubash visited with the Laporte School superintendent to seek permission for students to help make and paint a sign, using ideas from Birch Lake's boat landing. Additionally, Bill Karsten will approach a friend who works for Lyle's Signs to see if they are willing to donate signs or materials.

The Association will purchase materials to make more Zebra Mussel testing tubes and hand them out at the next annual meeting.

Because there have been requests for shirts, sweatshirts, etc., for Garfield Lake, Jeanne Mehlhop will check into where to have some made and report back to the board on cost.

Next year's budget will need to include funding for:

- Boat inspections
- Water testing
- Annual Meeting costs.

Bill Karsten made a motion to hold the next annual meeting on Saturday, May 25, at 10:00 a.m. at the Trinity Lutheran Church in Laporte. The motion passed. Deb Vogelantantz will contact the church to reserve.

Because the meeting will be held Memorial weekend, the goal will be to keep the meeting short, informative, and fun. There will be a short educational presentation, with informational handouts and Zebra Mussel testing tubes available to members. New memberships will be recruited, annual dues will be due, with billings going out in April. Garfield Lake Association information will continue to be sent to members and nonmembers until after the next annual meeting. Following the meeting, those not wishing to be participating members will no longer receive updates.

It was discussed that annual dues be solicited 30 to 60 days prior to the May 25th Annual meeting.

The next Garfield Lake Association meeting will be held Wednesday, January 9, 2019, at Karsten's home.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:48 p.m.