



Garfield Lake Association

Board Meeting Minutes

July 10, 2019

The July 2019 monthly GLA meeting was called to order at 6:30 by President Bill Karsten. Present at the meeting: Bill Karsten, Dan Fitch, Ron Ray, Cathy Karsten, and Mark Warisch. Calling in via phone were: Charlie Clark, Marylou Hofer and Darryl Jarombek.

Ron made a motion to accept the minutes from last meeting and seconded by Cathy. All approved.

Bill went thru a financial review of the GLA financial report along with a printed summary. Bill explained to the Board the need and benefit of having a second person support the accounting and financial reporting. Peggy Jarombek has expressed the willingness to do this reporting and she and Bill will spend the next several months taking this role over. A vote was taken and all approved this method of support.

The need for a bank savings account or money market account was discussed. It was decided we should pursue the setup of an appropriate account. A resolution was made to proceed in the setup of a money market account/savings account with the BankForward for investing excess funds. The resolution was seconded and accepted unanimously. Bill will contact the bank and complete the necessary applications and forms.

The board discussed team communications and expectations of each other for timely responses. It was unanimously agreed that board members would commit to timely responses to requests made by directors and/or membership in email and/or voice mail.

A discussion was had over the point that at this time the GLA does not have a President Elect. No one has come forward to volunteer for this position. Ron mentioned that he has heard that in some Lake Association there are Co-Presidents. This might be a way to share some of the many duties and time required of this position. The Board asked Ron to look into this further and report back.

We then had major discussions of the details of the GLA booth at Laporte Days held July 6th. We all were pleased with the 2 booths we had and the different ways our Board and members generated funds to pay for 2020 AIS boat launch inspection. It was noted that we exceeded our fundraising goals for the year. Along with T-shirts and hats all with the GLA name and brand we had Can Koozies, GLA stickers, bicycles and a large flea market area. All items in the flea market were donated by members of our association. We had 12 members taking 2 ½ hour shifts to cover the full day of events. We believe it was well done and well received. Ron will solicit feedback from booth volunteers on specifics they encountered during their shifts regarding customer comments, traffic levels, booth set up etc. This feedback will be used for planning efforts in 2020.



We also had an area for AIS education using banners borrowed from Hubbard County COLA warning of issues with the spread of AIS. There we also banners encouraging boaters to remember to Clean Drain and Dry their boats before they leave the launch site. There was discussion on how we might make this AIS Information booth more interactive next year, perhaps with ways visitors can take short quizzes and or have a DNR specialist.

We did have some merchandise left over and voted to donate some of it to local restaurants to be awarded as prizes for fun activities they have. It all has our GLA name and logo on it and we hope that this is a simple way expand the awareness of the Garfield Lake Association within our community.

We briefly discussed exploring grant alternatives as an additional fundraising source. Ron agreed to talk to Sara Hanhan about this since she has had experience in this area.

Marylou then briefly went over the results of the survey we had done within our membership. We had 33 respondents. She explained that our response rate was well above the normal for this type of survey. Our purpose of doing this survey was to get a better understanding of what our membership feels about various actions of the GLA. This would include annual meeting dates; annual meeting topics; AIS awareness; Garfield Lake issues including the proposed boat launch improvements. Marylou agreed to document the results and present at the next meeting for the team to develop specific action items.

We briefly discussed developing a business sponsorship membership. Dan agreed to take the lead on this effort.

Mark then discussed several of the efforts he has been involved with in Water Quality, Zebra Mussel Veliger testing; Zooplankton and Phytoplankton testing and loon watch and loon survey. He pointed out that the first of the two ZMV testing done this year showed negative for the presence of ZMV. The second test will be done Sunday July 14. One point of interest Mark pointed out and surprising was that the Garfield lake level does not fluctuate more than 1 foot over the year.

Mark also informed us that he and Bill spent several hours last week with a reporter from the Park Rapids newspaper boating around Garfield doing an official loon survey. He showed us the details of how this is done and explained that this year Garfield has 13 loons on the lake, including young and adult loons. We will inform our membership when this article is published.

Ron reported that we have not heard back from the DNR regarding the formal proposed boat launch modifications we submitted, on the City of Laporte's behalf, June 3, 2019. However, since this Wednesday Board meeting Ron has heard back from the DNR and it looks like they will approve these changes within a week. Those involved will be getting together next week to discuss dates and details.

Cathy suggested and volunteered to look into the interest of having more social contacts with our membership. She will get with Marylou and see if the survey we took shows interest in this.



Bill pointed out that we need to make sure the GLA attends the September Laporte City Council meeting as this is their annual meeting to establish their 2020 budget. We have asked for matching AIS funding and believe this is favored but we need to be there to make sure.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:00. Then next meeting will be held at Dan's, Wednesday, August 14, 6:30pm.

Ron Ray, Secretary

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