



Board of Directors Meeting Minutes

August 19, 2020

Ron Ray, President, called the meeting to order at 6:30pm, Wednesday, August 19, 2020. The meeting was held using ZOOM video conferencing. Along with Ron, present at the meeting were Mark Warisch, Darryl Jarombek, Marylou Hoffer, Bill Karsten and Dan Fitch.

The June 24, 2020, board meeting minutes were reviewed and approved.

Bill reported that there was no change in the financial accounts.

There were no changes in GLA membership but Ron shared a letter that he will send to 5 individuals we have found to have recently purchased lots on the lake inviting them to join the GLA.

We discussed the update that Charlie looked into regarding when to “go look at” the Zebra Mussel sampling tubes that 15 of our members have in the lake water. During August, they need to pull them out of the water once per week and look into the tube, looking for small evidence of adult zebra mussels. Once done put the tube back into the water, 1 foot from the bottom. This should be done until Labor Day when the tubes should be removed and cleaned for winter storage.

We had a brief discussion on how we might encourage our members that when they pull their docks and boats this fall to take a look at them to see if they can find evidence of adult Zebra Mussels. If in question we encourage you to call the DNR or one of the Board members.

While Tom was unable to attend, he had put together some thoughts on encouraging our Garfield fishermen to keep as many Northern Pike as they can, up to the limit of 10. Tom outline different ways they can be cleaned, pickled, or fried and encouraged all to keep the small ones. We have way too many in our lake. We will send our members a copy of Tom’s message on northers and post it in the GLA website.

It was decided that any discussion on walleye slot limits needs to wait until we have a new CO for Garfield. Mark pointed out that all decisions on that would come from Fisheries. Mark will check with Caleb in the DNR Fisheries as to what his thoughts are on this.

Darryl reported that he did Water Quality Test #4 last Sunday and had the pleasure of having 2 “GLA member Guests” with him as he did the testing. It went well and both members expressed thanks for being able to attend. We encourage all members to become active in lake issues where they might have interest. Please let one of the board members know if you would like to work on one of our projects.

We discussed the reality that Garfield tested positive for Zebra Mussel Villagers last month and how we might be able to better focus on where these villagers were found. For cost reasons we currently test at 3 sites on the lake and combine these water samples into one that the lab looks at. Is there value in being more specific in what area of the lake this

condition was found? Perhaps we could look closer for adult zebra mussels and possibly treat that area, with DNR permission, with authorized ZM treatments. Darry, Mark and Ron agreed to study this and come up with a specific plan for 2021.

Mark agreed to pull together the historical data on Garfield Lakes water clarity and we will post this information on our GLA website. We believe it is helpful to be able for all our members to be able to go to a single site to get the data about the lake and think water clarity is a good one.

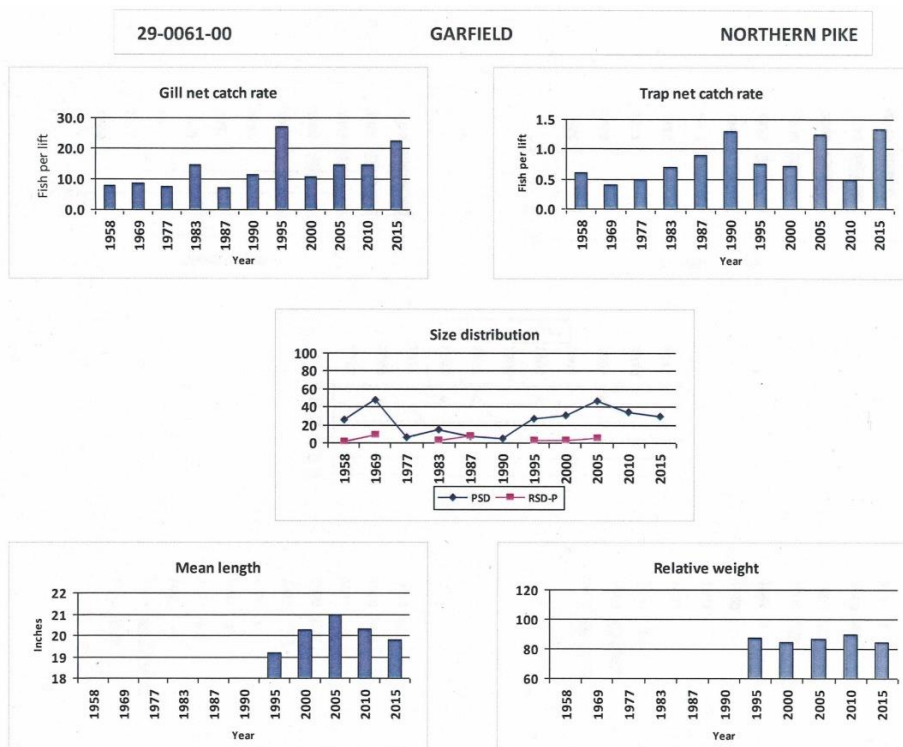
It was questioned if the DNR did phytoplankton zooplankton testing this year, something they are doing to help study the impact of zebra mussels and their effect on a lake such as ours. Mark explained that, due to the corona virus, they were able to do only one test instead of 2. We will get that data and put it on the GLA website for all of our members to see and get a better understanding of these studies.

We discussed the GLA websites benefits to our membership and the articles, specific information and data and stories that we are placing on that web site. We would like our membership to use, enjoy and contribute to it including items and stories they would like to share. Items like Tom’s writings on norther pike cleaning methods and recipes or Marks articles on Loons seem to be interesting to our membership. The web address is:

<https://garfieldlakeassociation.com/category/glanews/>

Mark informed us that this winter the DNR will most likely pick the lakes where they will implement the Sunfish Catch reduction, changing the limit of sunfish from 20 to 5. It has been shown that programs like this will increase the size of the sunfish catch significantly. Further information in this is in the GLA website. We encourage our GLA membership and others to go to the DNR website and take a survey about this. Ron will send more information to other local clubs and organizations encouraging their membership to take that DNR survey.

Ron sent to all board members the initial results of the 2020 DNR Fish Survey. The DNR does this on many lakes every 5 years and did so this year on Garfield. Several members of the GLA were able to watch them as they “unloaded their nets” and did fish weight and counts. This preliminary data was sent to us by the DNR and will be put in the GLA website. A small piece of this is shown below:



Again, we encourage you to go see more of this initial fish study at our web site. The final information will be available from the DNR sometime in the spring of 2021.

Charlie sent a message that 13 CO's have graduated from DNR training and we have been told by CO Captain Pat Znajda of Bemidji that one will be assigned to Garfield this fall.

We discussed the need to attend the City of Laporte Council meeting in September for Garfield boat launch AIS inspection funding for 2021 and the 2 townships meetings held in March 2021 for funding for 2022. We will be asking for the same funding as 2020. The GLA matches these funds thru our membership dues.

We will place 3 loon nests in the water for 2021.

Darryl is working with a local company on cost for a GLA flag and will also look into another local manufacture of this.

We discussed the possibility of conducting a "vegetation survey" on Garfield in 2021 and Ron agreed to write up the pros and cons, including costs and timing for such a study. He will work with Bad Ax Lake Association to help understand if this has merit.

The next meeting will be held 6:30pm, September 23, 2020. This meeting was adjourned at 7:40pm.

Respectfully submitted, Marylou Hoffer