



## Meeting Minutes – April 21, 2021

The Garfield Lake Association held the routine Board of Directors meeting via Zoom on April 21, 2021. Those in attendance were Tom Miller, Mark Warisch, Bill Karsten, Marylou Hofer, Dan Fitch, Darryl Jarombek, Charlie Clark, and Ron Ray. Absent was Jeanne Mehlhop.

The minutes of the March 17, 2021 meeting was accepted and approved.

Bill had presented the current GLA financial status which was accepted and approved.

We have received 2021 dues payment from 37 of our members. We had 54 paid members in 2020. For those members who have not sent in the \$30 dues for the 2021 season we ask that you do so now. Please make your check out to Garfield Lake Association and mail it to Garfield Lake Association, PO Box 31, Laporte, MN, 56461. We also encourage all our members to talk to your neighbors about the Garfield Lake Association and our Mission: To Protect and enhance the quality of the lake. We thank you ahead of time for doing so.

Ron proposed that we publish, twice a year, articles on Ways to Keep Your Septic Tank Healthy, June 15 and October 15 as well as County guidance on the proper use of fertilizers: May 15 and September 15. Bill has and will continue to put these messages on both the GLA website and Facebook. Tom, who is working on installing a GLA “Post Office” at the entrance to Craig’s Laporte Grocery store will also put copies of these guidance for non-members to pick up and read.

Mark informed us that he expects the 2020 Garfield Fish Survey to be published sometime in May. We hope to share this data and information with our members at the June 5<sup>th</sup> Annual meeting. One major area of interest will be the data on the decreasing fish size of all species. Mark also informed us that the DNR will be posting a sign at the boat launch explaining that Garfield is being considered as one of the Minnesota lakes to have the Sun Fish limit reduced starting 2022. The DNR is looking for input from Lake users on this proposal. The GLA fully supports the effort to increase the size of sun fish caught on the lake. Other lakes starting this program 10 years ago have seen tremendous success.

Mark informed us that the Hart Lake Township has approved to support the AIS Boat Inspection for 2022 in the amount of \$1,250.

On April 11 (7 days after “Garfield ice out”) Dan and Bill set out 3 loon nests on the lake. There were 2 wooden ones and one brand new aluminum one built by St Cloud Technical College. Thanks guys!!

All the GLA flags have been picked up. They look really neat!! Thanks Darryl!

We had good discussion on the fishing tournament to be sponsored by the Lions Club and held over the July 4<sup>th</sup> weekend. While we wish them success we chose not to participate as it goes outside our Mission Statement.

We continue to work on ways to encourage all fishermen to catch and keep small northern pike. It has been shown by the DNR that an over abundance of small northers reduce the number and size of all fish in the lake. We discussed the possibility of working with the Take A Kid program on this. There event is on June 5, 2021. Perhaps we can help with some prizes, including ways to encourage the use of “non-lead” tackle. Bill will follow up.

Our 4<sup>th</sup> Garfield Lake Association Annual Meeting will be held June 5<sup>th</sup> at 10:00am at the Woodshed Bar and Grill. Our meeting will be both “in person” and broadcast on Zoom. We will communicate this to our membership and Bill will make arrangements to send out the Zoom Meeting information link. Ron asked all the Board members to give him their agenda topics. He is also asking all GLA members to send in topics or subjects they might want to discuss at this meeting.

Dan informed the Board that he, once again, was able to work with Walmart to get a donation of 21 bicycles for the GLA to sell, in exchange for a donation to the ‘Children’s Miracle Network’. We intend to sell the bikes as a fund raiser for the AIS Inspection Program funding in which we participate with the local townships and city. Dan will also work with Bill to get these bikes in good working order and sell them. GREAT JOB DAN!!

We had discussion regarding the GLA presence at the Lions Club Laporte Days Celebration over the July 4<sup>th</sup> weekend and chose not to participate.

Ron informed the BOD that the Steamboat Lake Association has recently received the status of IRS Charitable 501(c)3 organization, a process that took 4 months and a cost of \$250. The GLA is currently an IRS Social Organization 501(c)4 status. This might be of value to some of our members and we discussed if we should do this also. Ron will talk to Steamboat Lake Association and Sharon Natzel at COLA on this topic and we also ask that our membership send us their input on is this classification change and if it is of value to them.

Jean, Bill and Charlie are at the end of their 3-year Board of Director term. If any of our membership is considering running for a Board position, please let us know.

Bill pointed out that we have many “GLA Can Koozies” let over. We will contact the Popple Bar & Grill and The Wood Shed Bar and see if they are interested in using them as prizes in their ‘Bargo’ events. We will also sell them at our annual meeting.

Bill had talked to the City about when the dock will be put in and understand very soon. The dock was put in on Wednesday, April 21.

Ron will find out when the porta-potty will be unlocked and boat landing trash pickup started. We need to give recognition to the companies that provide these services, some at no fee.

Charlie will send an e-mail out to those members that help monitor zebra muscle presence buy hanging a zebra mussel sampling tube from their dock. If you would like to help in the please contact Charlie.

The next meeting will be May 19<sup>th</sup> at 6:30pm. We adjourned this meeting at 7:55 PM.

Respectfully submitted.

Marylou Hofer

Secretary GLA

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