

Garfield Lake Association Board Meeting

July 16, 2026

Present: Mike Frank, Greg Mehlhop, Ron Ray, Jeanne Mehlhop, Sara Hanhan

The meeting was called to order at 7:05

There were no minutes from the last meeting. Instead the results of that meeting, the assignment of volunteer tasks, is attached.

Old Business:

- HCCOLA Grant -- We didn't use all of the grant money for the Curly Leaf Pondweed delineation; the remaining \$342 was returned to the NW Minnesota Foundation.
- DNR/State IAPM Grant – We are allowed to use this year's delineation as data for next year's grant. Steve Henry will be doing a second delineation for Starry Stonewort yet this July to determine the results of the first treatment/removal activity. If necessary, there will be a second process of removal. We have to spend the \$15,000 grant money by June 27, 2027 (which will cover a second pulling if necessary).
- Spread sheet – Ron asked for directions on what to do with the financial spread sheet used by Bill. Mike will send it to him to see if it can be simplified.

Financial Report:

As of today, there is \$6998.76 in our bank account. \$1216.00 was paid for each of the aquatic surveys (delineations done for curly leaf pondweed and starry stonewort). This money was paid up front from our account. We are awaiting reimbursement (which is apparently a complicated process).

Expected future expenses for AIS mitigation were discussed. The cost is estimated to be \$17,000-\$18,000 for both starry stonewort and curly leaf pondweed for each of the next three years. The cost estimate for chemical application for removing curly leaf pondweed, given the present delineation, is \$10,000. There is need to get this information to lake residents. Discussion followed about how to do this. And we will need grants. Sharon has mentioned some MN community improvement grants which might be tapped.

New Business:

- The continuation of work on starry stonewort was discussed. (See above under DNR/State IAPM Grant.)
- Update on new committee recruitment

Jeanne has contacted all the volunteers for the **Membership Committee**. Members will be Erica Mehloth (chair), Nadean Inman, Jamie Minenko (ready to go; mentored by Diane), Dan Fitch and Jim Hauser.

Sara has contacted members of the **Social Committee**. They will be Holly Fitch (chair), Jenn Phillips, and Stacey Ahcan. There will be a joint meeting of the old and new committees to get acquainted, review expectations, and further plan the August 31 picnic/potluck.

The **Fund-raising Committee** had no volunteers to plan additional fund-raising activities. Jesse and Carissa Hopkins-Hoel and James Fudge had volunteered for grant writing. Jason Manenko was also a possible grant writer. Greg will make contact with these individuals. Contacting various groups to request funding (such as the Ice Racers, townships, city, etc.) will be divvied up to those who have previously done this work.

Traci Weible will continue doing the work she has been doing for a **Communications Committee**. She manages the web-site and posts notices as needed on the website and Facebook. Jamie Minenko will be assisting with this in her membership role.

The **AIS/Lake Committee** activities are less committee-like, and more individually managed. Terry Inman will be in charge of maintaining the boat landing signage and maintaining the CD 3 unit. He will be our connection to the City Council regarding this. Jim Phillips will be attending COLA meetings, and will jointly attend the next one with Mike. Charlie and James Fudge will serve as alternates. Greg Mehloth will coordinate AIS mitigation activities (once money has been obtained for them). Charlie Clar, Robb Olsen, and Mike Chiappetti will do water testing/taking the tests to the DNR.

- Open Discussion

There was discussion about the CD 3 unit. We await data from Maggie on how many times it has been used. No decision was reached, but we considered the possibility of asking the City Council to move it to the launch area as originally planned.

The next meeting will be August 6th.