

Annual FLARA Meeting Minutes – 24 April 2016

Meeting Attendees: Al Lindquist, Dave Spatafore, Dave Haas, Brennon O'Callaghan, Steve Holmgren, Kristin Curtis, Joe Randall, Tami Monk, Jeff Monk, Lisa Martin, Representative Dennis Smith (District: 34B), Jennifer DeJournett (Three Rivers Park District Commissioner), Angie Smith (Three Rivers Park District, Director of Natural Resources), Rich Brasch (Three Rivers Park District, Sr. Manager of Water Resources), Jill Caffee (Three Rivers Park District Operations Supervisor) Mark Lahtinen (City of Maple Grove, Engineering Technician), George Schneider (Rice Lake), Mary Jane Heinen, Lee Beecher, Roy Martin, Nancy and Jim Greenwood, Tom Kiedrowski, Pam Gades Dumke, Larry Gades, Lee and Carolyn Halbur, Mike Parks, Jay and Lisa Boatman, Michele Cici and Chris Ohlendorf, Roger and Dianne Roth, Carrie Schmitz, Susie Spatafore, and Mike Conforti.

Meeting Minutes:

FLARA Board Elections

Dave Kolb, Barb Kolb, Rick Little, and Geoff Murphy resigned from the FLARA board. Al Lindquist recognized and thanked them for their contributions. Four new members were elected to the board. Jay Boatman (Lisa Martin made a motion to nominate and Lee Halbur seconded the motion), Mike Winegar (Jeff Monk made a motion to nominate and Steve Holmgren seconded the motion), Jim Greenwood (Nancy Greenwood made a motion to nominate and Tom Kiedrowski seconded the motion), and Michele Cici (Kristin Curtis made a motion to nominate and Jane Heinen seconded the motion). Al Lindquist made a motion to re-elect Dave Haas, Steve Holmgren, Tim Myslajek, Brennon O'Callaghan, Joe Randall, and Dave Spatafore to serve another term and Kristin Curtis seconded the motion. FLARA members, in attendance, unanimously approved the nominations and re-elected members. Al welcomed Jay, Mike, Jim, and Michele to the FLARA board.

Tami Monk, FLARA Membership Chair, encourages those who haven't already done so to register for your 2016 FLARA membership. Membership registration using PayPal is now available on the FLARA website www.FishLakeMN.org

Al Lindquist presented the State of the Lake covering 2015

achievements and finances. Al Lindquist provided an overview of the completed Lake Management Plan for Fish Lake and Joe Randall presented the 2016 planned activities and opportunities to participate. The Lake Management Plan can be found on the FLARA website www.FishLakeMN.org Please see accompanying presentation for additional details.

Al recognized the local Girl Scout troops for placing the Storm Drain Medallion on the more than 100 storm drains in feeding Fish Lake and for distribution of the Neighborhood Awareness Pamphlet last summer. Al will be recognizing the troops contribution with a dinner and pontoon ride sometime this summer. Al placed the loon platform back in it's same location as last summer (East end of lake just north of the boat launch) on April 15th and Arlene Niles provided feedback that she has seen loons near the nest already this year. Dave Spatafore provided an update on the Walleye stocking in October of 2015 and thanked the city for their support.

Al recognized the launch of the FLARA website www.FishLakeMN.org with special thanks to Barb and Dave Kolb for their efforts in making this happen in 2015. Action: Lee Halbur requested the addition of the Three Rivers Park District attendees, Representative Dennis Smith, and their contact information on the FLARA website.

State Representative Dennis Smith thanked the FLARA Board for the invitation and very much appreciated the FLARA / TRPD meeting update. He indicated he wants to hear any concerns FLARA members have regarding the lake and provided his contact information for future concerns.

Jennifer DeJournett, Three Rivers Park District (TRPD) Commissioner, provided her background as a Structural Engineer and mother of 4 young children living in Maple Grove. She is the District 2 TRPD Representative for Brooklyn Park: All precincts except W1-0 & W1-R, Champlin, Dayton, Maple Grove, and Osseo.

She talked about the four major improvements that have taken place or are under consideration. An ADA dock was installed at the launch in 2015, consideration of adding pavers to the beach area to reduce erosion, testing of Fish Lake waters on a regular basis for E. coli, and a trail

study to ensure adequate maintenance and updates as needed.

Angie Smith, TRPD Director of Natural Resources, was hired in January of this year to replace John Barton. FLARA Member, Barb Lindquist inquired about a chemical that could potentially be added to the wake board ballasts tanks to eliminate carrying AIS voyageurs into Fish Lake prior to launch.

Rich Brasch, TRPD Senior Manager of Water Resources, talked about the Elm Creek watershed Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) study that is almost completed / approved. Current objective is to develop a partnership to treat Fish Lake with alum to inactivate sediment phosphorus. It is likely a 2 - phase project, with Phase 1 occurring as early as 2017. FLARA was asked to join this partnership and help support the project financially. The anticipated FLARA contribution would be approximately \$10,000.00 for Phase 1. Further detail and the prospective financial contributions by the State, Watershed Commission, city of Maple Grove, TRPD, and FLARA are on slide 12 of the annual meeting presentation. The time to apply for the state grant is in August with notification of potential approval in November or December. There is a 20 - 40% probability that the Fish Lake grant will be approved based on the demand across the state for grant funding. Rich indicated Fish Lake is a good candidate due to the depth of the lake and the small watershed in which we reside.

The Alum treatment consists of Aluminum Sulfate, which sinks to the bottom of the lake to intercept and bind with phosphorous in the lake. It is anticipated that the water clarity, which is currently at 1.8 meters, should be brought to 2.5 - 3 meters (8-9 feet) with the treatment after a period of time. Rich has worked with Lake Rebecca in the application of their alum treatment and considers this a successful project for their lake.

A question was raised regarding zebra mussels and Rich indicated samples are taken regularly from the dock by the boat access but focus is on eliminating entry through the motor craft inspections.

Jill Caffee, TRPD Operations Supervisor, invited a FLARA Board member to come to the TRPD employee orientation at

French Lake Park. Jim Greenwood agreed to attend the 2016 training (May 25, 6:30 p.m. French Regional Park). She also provided the following information:

2016 Boat Inspection Funded Hours:

May 7 - 22: Weekends, 7:00 a.m. - 7:00 p.m. (extended from 9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. due to early spring weather).

May 28, 29, 30 (Memorial Weekend): 6:00 a.m. - 8:00 p.m.

June 1 - Labor Day: Weekdays 7:00 a.m. - 7:00 p.m.;

Weekends 6:00 a.m. - 8:00 p.m.

September: Weekends, 7:00 a.m. - 7:00 p.m.

Park gates are open 5:00 a.m. - 10:00 p.m. Additional inspection hours are possible through FLARA funding (\$10/hour). Contact Jill Caffee to coordinate, Jill.Caffee@threeriversparks.org.

Mark Lahtinen, City of Maple Grove, is responsible for determining Fish Lake's No Wake Zone implementation and raising the flags on the north and south ends of the lake.

In support of a children's ski training program on the lake Brennon O'Callaghan announced he will be putting a portable water ski course in the lake on Tuesday's or Wednesday's in May / June. The course will be put in potentially 2 bays (just outside of the no wake zone and by the launch area) early in the day and removed at the end of the day.

Concern was raised regarding the lights from the bow fishing boats. There are few areas where the length of time in a specific area is up to 15 minutes, which is very disruptive after 9:30, or 10 PM. Lisa Martin contacted Curt Cich on 4/26/2016 and he will ensure they do not linger in areas too long and are sensitive to the impact of the lights on homes in the area. The most active time for removal is 6 - 8 weeks after ice out. He is seeing a reduction in carp in the lake but also an increase in suckers.

Several FLARA members outlined the significant benefits of removing carp from the lake so a balance of removal and least disruption to homeowners is important. Additional information on carp removal can be found on the FLARA website www.FishLakeMN.org.

Al Lindquist displayed the fluorescent no wake bow flags at the meeting and secured agreement from 2 homeowners regarding placement of the flags midway on the east and west sides of lake to bring greater attention to the no wake policy based on recommendations from the 2014 annual meeting. In addition, a no wake zone windsock was purchased and will be installed in the near future.

A copy of the meeting presentation will be distributed to all members.