**LITTLE ROCK LAKE ASSOCIATION**

**ANNUAL MEETING**

**AUGUST 12, 2023**

1. Call to Order
2. Pledge of Allegience
3. Approval of Agenda
4. Presidents Report - Frank
	1. Harvester update
		1. Next year will put in for more areas to harvest with DNR
		2. Can only remove curly leaf
		3. Can also create navigation for residents if needed
5. Speakers:
	1. Dr. Matt Julius, St. Cloud State Biology Dept
		1. New tool MN Lake Finder
			1. Can look via satellite
			2. Shows lake clarity from 2018 – 2021
		2. Draw down updates
			1. Great clarity this year
			2. Best golden algae ever
			3. Snow pack helped dilute water
			4. No toxins in lake this year
			5. Finally weather conditions are at fault, not human intervention
		3. Member comments/questions
			1. Fishing not as good in the spring
				1. Shifts from year to year
				2. Next year will most likely be much better
			2. Testing for phosphorus next year
				1. Very mucky in Gallagher’s bay
				2. Could be a great place to test next year
	2. Eric Altena, DNR Fisheries Management
		1. Impressed with the amount of people supporting plant growth in Little Rock
		2. Lake update
			1. Was off the scale of poisonous to humans prior to drawdown
			2. Dropped the amount of phosphorus
			3. 11 ft. clarity in the spring – this is amazing!
			4. Increase of emergent plants
				1. 30% increase from less than 5%
			5. Water levels
				1. Controlled by the Sartell damn
				2. They have 6” wiggle room
			6. First time in history we have native stands of bullrush
			7. Submerged plants
				1. Will continue this practice
				2. Would like to see diversity increase
				3. Seeing new plant growth
			8. New fish species
				1. Blue gill beds in lake and channel
			9. Main take aways
				1. We had poor conditions for the drawdown

Only 6 weeks

Done in late summer

* + - * 1. If we were to do it again

Mid-summer would be best timing

We have overwhelming data to prove it worked

Eric cannot be the driver of it

Would need the community support

Social issues exist

Deer died in the last draw down so it may be a harder sell

River folks would fight it

* + - 1. Still seeding this fall and next year
			2. Bull rush update from this years harvest
				1. Transplanted some
				2. Haven’t seen much of an increase but may look better next year
				3. May have another opportunity to do this again in the next month
	1. Jerry Majeic – Soil and Water Conservation District
		1. Wrote grant for the drawdown
			1. Hardest grant he wrote
		2. Process for establishing buffers around the lake
			1. Encourage lake buffers
				1. Really helpful in dry years like this
				2. Helps reduce phosphorus
			2. Easy process if interested
				1. Get a hold of someone from Soil and Water
				2. They will come and develop a plan with you
				3. Then apply for funding for establishing the buffers
				4. Cost is minimal – generally 25%
		3. Have been doing water testing/monitoring
			1. Phosphorus is the main issue for LRL
			2. 2006, 07 and 08 were really bad years for the lake
			3. Phosphorus coming into the lake has been going down since
			4. LRL is getting more water flowing into it
			5. 3-4 more years of water testing will give us a better idea of what is happening
			6. Data shows the water is getting cleaner
1. Committee Reports -
	1. Fundraising – Corrine
		1. Thank you to the volunteers for the help we need with our projects
			1. Bobbi – thank you for selling tickets – RockSTAR!!
			2. Thank you to all the volunteers for help with the Meat Raffles
2. Elections
	1. President – Frank Hard
	2. Secretary – Amy Claude
	3. Directors:
		1. Chuck Rau
		2. Pat Golha (resigning) – Bobbi and Seth would not share and instead take full positions
		3. Jason Lage
		4. Dothan Ahlshire (resigning) – need one more to fill this one
		5. Motion to re-elect those folks up for re-election – motion carried
3. Other Business
	1. Like the new venue, will have it in this shelter again next year
4. Adjourn at 12:11