**Little Rock Lake Association**

Board of Directors Meeting

Tuesday April 16, 2024 6:30 PM

Watab Town Hall

Board members present: Corrine Jacobs, Rob Jacobs, Amy Claude, Al Gerads, Seth Caster, Jason Lage, Chuck Rau, Jamie Deering

1. Approval of Agenda – Bev motioned to approve, Amy seconded - motion carried
2. Approval of Minutes of Last Meeting – Chuck motioned to approve, Amy seconded – motion carried
3. Presidents Report: Corrine
   1. Need to fill board positions
      1. VP position
         1. Rob nominated Jamie Deering, Seth seconded - motion carried
      2. Board Member to fill Mary Kivi’s position
         1. No nominations at this time
   2. Thank you for to those that took care of LRLA duties during the winter months – you are much appreciated
      1. Amy Claude for winter Mail and Banking duties
      2. Bob and Karen Hengel for handling LRLA Legion Raffles
4. Treasurer’s Report: Rob
   1. Starting balance: $7172.39
   2. Statement balance: $16,567.42
   3. Thank you Chuck for getting the AIS request in for next year already
5. Committee Reports
   1. Lake update and Fish Report: Eric Altena
      1. Secchi transparency is improving
      2. Phosphorus is a big problem
         1. Wouldn’t want to dredge as there are nutrients are in the sediment in the lake
         2. Plant growth is the best case scenario
      3. 2019 Drawdown Outcomes
         1. 30% increase in emergent plant growth
            1. Shorelines are being protected
            2. Good fish habitat
         2. Reduction in phosphorus
         3. Much more clarity in the lake
         4. Changed timing of the blooms
         5. Fishnet results
            1. Big Mouth Buffalo thriving in lake

Everything feeds on them from the fish to water fowl

Haven’t seen buffalo like this since 2001

* + - 1. Big Blue Gill – up to 10”
      2. Perch - up to 12”
      3. Fish absolutely responded after the drawdown
      4. Sucker Creek Drainage into LRL
         1. Illegal ditch was created years ago
         2. Community folks worked with Sportsman’s club to get this cut off
         3. This was a major issue that has been corrected successfully
      5. Future drawdown? (Eric will not head this up but the community could proceed)
         1. Timing is impeccable

Summer months would be best

The longer the better

Community involvement is huge

* + - * 1. Dredging

Process stirs up nutrients

Expensive to do

Case studies show limited success in this process

* + - 1. Plans for more plants
         1. Seeding available this year and next
         2. Expanding the plant beds will help improve the lake
  1. Eco Harvester: Jim Rau
     1. New weed holding barge made the process much more streamlined
     2. Thank you Chuck Rau for housing our harvested weeds
        1. Weeds are 97% nutrient
        2. Makes great fertilizer
        3. If you’d like any weeds(fertilizer) talk to Chuck or Jim and they will set something up
     3. 2 primary areas were worked on last year
        1. Harris channel – very thick
        2. Down from Rumors
     4. Have approval to use on the River now
        1. Homeowner must be a LRLA member
        2. DNR permits 15’ for boat traffic if there is an invasive weed problem
     5. If interested in working the Harvester please reach out to LRLA
        1. The more the merrier
        2. Looking for suggestions to help with the process as well
        3. Talk to Jim Rau or message us on the Facebook page and we’ll connect you
        4. Harvesting weeds starts mid-May and goes thru mid-June
        5. You would train as you’re working with Jim
     6. Looking for a loader pontoon to use – would pay $250 for use then would get pd $250 to store it
  2. AIS Meeting: Rob
     1. Expenses approved for next year
  3. Membership – Pat is absent – no report at this time
  4. Website – Seth is absent – no report at this time
  5. Plant Sale – pickup
     1. Rumor’s 10am May 4th

1. New Business:
   1. Approve bills to be paid if any – none at this time
   2. New Fundraising Team Leader needed
      1. Upcoming Legion meat raffle – April 27th & June 22nd scheduled
         1. Posted 2 weeks in advance on the blog and Facebook page
      2. Carp Contest
         1. Kwik Trip – tried to get a sponsorship but were denied due to too many other requests
         2. Lose money on the event
         3. Fewer participants
         4. Not as successful as we hoped
         5. We are cancelling this event for now, may look to do it again in the future
      3. Looking for other fundraising ideas
         1. Active Central MN – group that facilitates events
            1. Could possibly coordinate a paddling event in the future
            2. Chuck will follow up
         2. Phyliss has the Rice Elementary coloring contest scheduled
            1. May 16th at 2pm
            2. Eric will be bringing the fishtank again – kids love this
2. Chuck made a motion to adjourn - at 7:44

Next Meeting: May 21st @ 6:30 pm – Watab Town Hall