

RLAA Board Meeting Minutes for March 1 2018

Location: Maple Grove Public Library (Room 105)

Time: 7:00 p.m.

Regular RLAA Board Meeting

- **Call to Order at 7:15 pm**
 - Present: George, Curt, Scott, Mike, Rick
 - Absent: Mark, Luke, Jeremy
- **Approve the Agenda with three additions**
 - Aerator replacement (George)
 - Storm work in Shores of Elm Creek (Curt)
 - Promote 10000 Docks as a resource for work around the lake (George)
- **Treasurer Report (Rick)**
 - \$23,100 in the bank between Savings and Checking accounts
 - What should be our guideline for minimum balance?
 - Scott suggested double the cost of our most expensive asset. Since that would be our aerator (\$5,000), we would like to keep a minimum balance of \$10,000 in our Savings/Checking.
- **Old Business**
 - **Channel Dredging update – Next steps (All)**
 - 2 Phase approach
 - Phase 1 – Restore Grose’s point for up to 100’ with rip-rap
 - 4/9/17 – Received bid from TDT for \$5,650.
 - 11/17/17 – Received New Look Contracting bid for \$15,000
 - Phase 2 – Dredge channel with Grose’s approval
 - 2/11/18 – Waiting for TDT to provide bid for Summer work from his sub-contractor, who is off-season now and not available.
 - 11/17/17 – New Look Contracting bid for \$31,375
 - Next steps
 - 3/28/17 – Bid of \$5,650 sent by TDT to Grose’s.
 - 4/9/17 – Grose’s said they can cover \$2,000.
 - 2/11/18 – Waiting for reasonable dredging bid
 - 3/1 – Scott found information about a DIY Dredging option through a local company in New Hope called The Weeders Digest. He reached out to them and learned they sell an apparatus which anyone can purchase to pump out sediment from the lake bottom. Would still need to get a permit from the DNR to do this, but it may be a more affordable option than existing contractors.
 - It was suggested that Scott work with Gary Shubinsky to research this effort (George to coordinate that communication).
 - **Long-term Shoreline Restoration (George)**
 - May be a separate project to stabilize shoreline with native vegetation along both Grose and George shorelines.
 - Need to find firms to get bids for native restoration with grants.
 - This is a low-ranking item on our project list at this time.
 - Remove from the active project list for now and revisit when time permits.
 - **2018 Annual Meeting preparation (All)**
 - Discuss potential guest(s) to speak
 - By this time, we would have selected the Carp Assessment contractor, if this project is approved by RLAA and LQC, so may be good to hear their actual game plan.
 - WSB & Associates on Carp Assessment project? (George follow-up)
 - Elm Creek TMDL update from Brian Vlach (Three Rivers) (George follow-up)
 - Confirm date (usually 1st Tuesday in May) and venue (Cambria Suites?).

- Scott volunteered to work with Cambria Suites and see if they have Tuesday, May 1st available for our annual meeting.
 - Scott will also reach out to local Pizza companies for feeding the masses at the meeting.
 - **Discuss meeting content**
 - Start with last year's format/agenda and elaborate from their based on speakers we are able to secure, etc.
 - It was also agreed that we should do prizes for
- **New Business**
 - **Boat Launch Lease (All)**
 - Everyone agreed that although this is not a "cure-all" for on-going access for Rice Lake residents, it is a start to show a form of ventured interest in possible ownership in the future.
 - Should we seek alternative ramp options, such as a location via Public (City) property?
 - Mike said he would check with the City of Maple Grove to see if they would consider selling/leasing property for the sake of a Rice Lake boat ramp, if necessary.
 - Ramp project would not be built unless our existing ramp is no longer an option.
 - Action Item: Rick will issue a check for \$10 for 10 years lease to Marlin & Sara Grose.
 - **Carp Assessment (joint project with Fish Lake) (George)**
 - Objective: Determine if Carp are truly an issue on Rice (and Fish) lakes.
 - Action: Set up a joint task force with Fish Lake to discuss and hear bids from 2 different firms (WSB & Associates and Carp Solutions).
 - Status: As of February 18, waiting for final bids from contractors so we can draft LIP to the LQC to receive funding (80% City/20% Lake Associations).
 - **Storm Drain work in Shores of Elm Creek neighborhood (Curt)**
 - Discussion Item: Curt mentioned that the City of Maple Grove recently communicated to residents in his neighborhood (Shores of Elm Creek north of County Road 30) that a project will be done in the near future to improve their existing street/storm drain system.
 - Action: Curt will check with the City to find out the intent of the plan and if it will include modifying the existing storm drain engineering to something more environmentally friendly.
 - Result: Curt later found out that there will not be any engineering changes done to the existing storm drains at this time. Changes will consist of road/curb enhancements.
 - **Question: Should we advertise that 10000 Docks is available for various services to our RLAA residents? (George)**
 - Background: Eric Swenson from 10000 Docks has worked with us on several projects (Aerator recovery; Aerator ice cut out; Tristan Bay dock project; various boat mechanical work). He comes highly recommended as an affordable contractor and we should advertise his services to others on the lake.
 - Action Item: George will contact 10000 Docks to make sure they are OK with us advertising them as a potential contractor for work around the lake. Will plan to post his contact information on the RLAA website.
 - **Aerator Replacement (George)**
 - Background: George and Dave Wirig wanted to see if another type of winter aeration unit (aspirating below surface) could be incorporated that requires less effort to maintain. There is one on Lake Edward in Maple Grove which may be what we could consider.
 - Action: George & Dave visited with Tim Martin on Lake Edward on February 10th for a tour of their configuration. They have a power meter hooked up to a power box on the shoreline which houses the 1 hp motor. It runs 24x7 once the ice is thick enough for them to go out and drill starter holes to open up the water (duck decoys are used to mark those locations).
 - Perceived Benefits: for replacing our existing surface aerator with below surface model include:
 - No need to deploy/remove unit each season.
 - No visible obstacle in the water which passersby on I-94 to call 911 about.
 - Next Step: Form a task force to do more research on this to see if this would be a feasible option for us. Looking for 1 more person from RLAA to work with Dave Wirig on this. Contact George to help coordinate those next steps.

- **Adjournment at 8:30 pm**

Minutes by George Schneider 3/5/2018

Rice Lake Area Association website = <http://www.ricelakemn.com>