

FTLPOA Annual Meeting
August 15, 2020
9:30 a.m. Outside Behind Scandia Valley Town Hall

Board Members Present: Scott Schnuckle, President; Gary Ziehmman, Treasurer; Paul Baker; Doug Copley; Jon-Scott Johnson; Marie Hilliard; Ron Markfelder; Chuck Salter; Brian Sams; Dennis Smith. **Absent:** Ron Nypan. Vice President; Mary Thibert, Secretary

Call to Order, Intro of Board Members, Welcome to Guests: President Schnuckle called the meeting to order at 9:35 a.m. Board members introduced themselves and Schnuckle welcomed guest Makayla Geise – Seasonal water patrol deputy.

Update from Brian Sams regarding Beaver Control and Creek Cleanout: Scott Schnuckle recognized and thanked Brian for his extensive work to open up the Fish Trap Creek channel and beaver dam removal. Brian gave an overview of his efforts explaining the cutting and removal of many cattails and beaver dam materials in the creek and under the Azure Road bridge in conjunction with the assistance of Morrison County to load and haul away the cuttings. Currently there are no dams but there is still some material under the bridge that Brian will again work to clear out this fall. Brian stated that if anyone sees beaver activity to contact him and he'll do his best to take care of the situation.

Update from Sheriff's Department: Makayla Geise, Seasonal Water Patrol Deputy (one of two water patrol deputies) addressed the audience on jet ski usage rules and safe practices. Jet skis are to operate at high speed no closer than 150 ft from the shoreline and to be off the lake one hour before sunset. She also reminded the group that a spotter or mirror is required by jet skis and boats when pulling skiers or towables. A buoy has been placed at Lover's Point identifying underwater rocks that have caused some propeller damage earlier this year. Deputy Geise has been on our lake periodically this summer checking for life jackets and monitoring safe watercraft operational practices. She also stated that no reports of theft have been reported.

Secretary's report: In Mary's absence, Scott Schnuckle stated the report is published on the Association website and asked for any additions/corrections. Since none were forthcoming, he called for a motion to accept the minutes as published. Paul Baker so moved and Denny Smith seconded the motion. The motion carried to accept the minutes as published on the website.

Treasurer's report: Gary Ziehmman presented the financial report for CY 2019 and YTD 2020. The current checking account balance is \$15,447; current year contributions to the Initiative Foundation Endowment total \$2,515 and the current value of the IF Endowment is \$48,970. Membership totals reported – 2021 (Prepaid) = 53; 2020 = 197; 2019 = 215; 2018 = 213; 2017 = 212. The Treasurer's report was accepted. Scott Schnuckle recognized and thanked Gary for the fine work he does and explained the IF Endowment was formed as a resource to preserve and enhance the ecological value of Fish Trap Lake.

Old Business:

A. Aquatic Invasive Species Update and Plans: Chuck Salter reported on the boat cleaning grant. The grant request for the purchase of a CD3 cleaning station was not approved. He offered three alternative approaches to applying for a grant this coming year as follows: 1. A lesser priced unit without the vacuum and using some of our Endowment funds, 2. Requesting the full \$35M again without any Association or Endowment funds, 3. A matching of funds between the County and the Association Endowment monies. Discussion ensued regarding the actual benefits of such equipment, likely usage, desire to see in action. Chuck to compile list of area locations that Chris Ziehmman will post on the website for any interested party to investigate. Chris moved to authorize the Board to expend an amount not to exceed \$17M toward the purchase of a CD3 cleaning station. Lucy Thomas seconded the motion. The motion carried. Members of the Board did express concern that further investigation and discussion should take place before actual funds are expended. The matter will continue to be discussed at the fall Board meeting.

B. Railroad Update: Paul Baker gave an historical overview covering the past 10 years of discussion and negotiation between the BNSF Railroad and the various governmental agencies regarding the closure of the Holt Road rail crossing. Morrison County and the railroad are still in negotiations. Paul and Scott continue to actively pursue the closing through the County.

C. Initiative Foundation Endowment: Current balance of the fund as previously reported by Gary Ziehmman, treasurer is \$49,870. It was hoped that Blue Water Science could conduct another comprehensive lake survey this year and IF Endowment funds were approved for this activity. Unfortunately, Steve McComas was unavailable this year but is being asked to conduct the survey in 2021. Scott again encouraged the members to think about potential uses for the Endowment funds.

D. Website/Newsletter: Chris Ziehmman encouraged people to regularly use the website <fishtraplake.com> for current information pertaining to the lake as well as valuable background and statistical information. The website is mobile device compatible. Two newsletters are published annually – spring and fall. She reminded the group that only dues-paid members receive the fall newsletter since it contains full financial information.

E. Lake Shamineau Update: Gary Ziehmman explained that recent information reports the lake 4 ft above the high-water mark. He encouraged anyone interested in the latest details about pumping plans to visit the Lake Shamineau website

New Business:

A. Virtual Meetings in the Future: Scott Schnuckle explained that Ron Nypan has been researching ways for the Board to conduct virtual meetings when inclement weather or other situations make it hard to impossible to meet face-to-face. A few Board meetings were conducted via conference call by use of Scott's employer's service. Now as a retiree, the Board needs to purchase its own service. The average cost is approximately \$15/month and can accommodate up to 100 callers.

B. Use of RVs on Properties: Morrison County has rules regarding the placement and use of recreational vehicles on lakeshore property available on the County's website. Property owners are encouraged to review the rules and properly observe them.

C. Bogs: Floating bogs have not been terribly problematic this year. Since a blanket removal permit (like Lake Alexander's) would have to be issued through the Lake Improvement District which would require rewrite of its charter and public meetings to do so; the LID will not pursue this matter further until bogs present significant issues for property owners in the future.

D. Election of Board Members: Four members are up for reelection – Brian Sams, Chuck Salter, Lisa Kajer, Mary Thibert. Brian and Chuck have stated their willingness to serve another three-year term. Lisa will not be seeking reelection and Mary has not made her intentions final yet. Chuck Salter will contact Mary for clarification. Scott made a motion to reelect Brian and Chuck. Gary Ziehmman seconded the motion. The motion carried. Lisa's open position and Mary's determination will continue to be settled.

E. Set Date for Fall Board Meeting: The board meeting will take place later in September. The date will be announced on the website.

Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 11:10 a.m.

Respectfully submitted by,
Christine Ziehmman, LID treasurer
for Mary Thibert

The FTLPOA Board meeting followed the Annual Meeting

A. Leadership for next year – Scott Schnuckle, President; Ron Nypan, Vice President; Gary Ziehmman, Treasurer. Marie Hilliard agreed to fill Mary Thibert's position if needed. Scott moved to elect Mike Meis to fill Lisa Kajer's position. Paul Baker seconded the motion. The motion carried.

B. Chuck Salter moved to pay monthly fee for virtual meeting service.

C. Gary Ziehmman requested Board approval to get debit card for Association checking account for small purchases such as the \$15 monthly fee for virtual meeting service.

D. The fall FTLPOA Board meeting will be Saturday, September 26, 2020 at 9:30 a.m. at Campfire Bay Resort.

Respectfully submitted – Christine Ziehmman