

FTLPOA BOARD MEETING
September 26, 2020
9:30 a.m. at Campfire Bay Lodge and Zoom

Call to Order: Scott Schnuckle called the meeting to order at 9:30 a.m. Board members stated who were physically present and who were present by zoom.

Board Members Present: Scott Schnuckle, President, Gary Ziehmann, Treasurer, Brian Sams, Ron Markfelder, Mike Meis, Dennis Smith, Doug Copley and Marie Hilliard.

Board Members by Zoom: Chuck Salter, Jon Scott Johnson, Paul Baker and Mary Thibert, Secretary. **Absent:** Ron Nypan, Vice President.

Secretary's Report: Chris Ziehmann submitted the August 15, 2020 FTLPOA annual meeting minutes. There were no additions or corrections. Gary Ziehmann moved to accept the minutes. Chuck Salter seconded the motion and the motion carried.

Treasurer's Report: Gary Ziehmann submitted the Treasurer's report. The total balance from all accounts was \$16,258.99. Current year contributions to the Initiative Foundation Fish Trap Lake Endowment Fund (IFEF) is \$2,920.00. The current value of the Endowment Fund is \$51,820.75. Total membership of the FTLPOA for 2020 is 214. 60 property owners have prepaid for 2021.

NEW BUSINESS:

- A. Birch Acres Association Update:** Scott Schnuckle reported Birch Acres Association is proposing to create a boat access to Fish Trap Lake (FTL) with a 60 ft dock for their association members who do not have direct lake access. In addition, boat slips may also be available to their members. Birch Acres Association needs approval from the DNR and Morrison County (MC). FTLPOA has no jurisdiction over this matter.

OLD BUSINESS:

- A. Newsletter:** Chris Ziehmann plans to mail the Fall Newsletter in early November.
- B. County Grant Status:**
 - a. Boat Cleaning System at the Public Landing:** Chuck Salter reported on the CD3 cleaning station. There are 2 models of CD3 stations available. The less expensive station without the vacuum is \$13-\$15000. The station with the vacuum costs \$30,000. The vacuum has a warranty of 10 years. If a CD3 station is awarded it would be installed at the north end of the public access and the current signage would have to be moved. MC awarded Sullivan Lake, a Legacy Fund grant in 2020 to purchase a CD3 station. For reasons unknown to Chuck, Sullivan Lake did not use this funding. According to Galen Gruber of MC, the funds left over from last year will not be added to the grant funds available for 2021. Chuck disagrees with this policy and will be meeting with MC Commissioners to discuss it. At the time of the board meeting the total grant funds available for 2021 is \$50,000. Prior to the Board meeting, Chuck had discussions with several people who have experience with CD3 stations. One person, Tony Brough, Hennepin County (HC), Aquatic Invasive Species Program Coordinator told Chuck there are 13 stations in HC. The stations have been used more than 80,000 times. The stations were used upon exit from the lakes verses upon entry. Tony Brough preferred the lower cost option as it requires less maintenance and it was faster. Last year upon direction of the FTLPOA, Chuck Salter applied for a grant for the CD3 station, which MC denied. Chuck felt FTLPOA was denied this grant because the Association hadn't acted quickly in 2019 to accept a proposed CD3 station from MC and the Association's lack of financial commitment towards its maintenance. Chuck believes the MC Board prefers seeing an association contribute some monetary amount to the station even if it is just for the cost of annual maintenance. Annual maintenance cost for tool replacement and to clean the vacuum is \$500 to \$700, and \$800-\$1000 for the software program, which would track the station usage. Chuck felt the

software program could be maintained for a couple of years and then discontinued. Gary Ziehmman proposed MC should be totally responsible for the unit. However, Chuck believes FTLPOA will not be awarded the grant unless it commits some funding. Jon Scott Johnson proposed FTLPOA partner with the LID. The LID could be responsible for the software cost. He also suggested to apply for the lower priced CD3 model and for FTLPOA to be responsible for maintenance costs not to exceed \$750/year. Chuck volunteered to coordinate and work with the LID. There was discussion of MC providing education to use the CD3 station upon both entering and exiting the lake and to provide education to other Lake Associations. Denny Smith made the motion for Chuck to apply for the grant for a CD3 station with the stipulations MC will choose the CD3 model, FTLPOA will be responsible for the maintenance costs not to exceed \$750/yr and the LID will be responsible for the software cost of \$800-\$1000/yr. Gary Ziehmman seconded the motion and the motion carried.

C. Initiative Foundation Endowment Fund:

- a. **Current Standing:** See the Treasurer's Report.
- b. **Ideas for use of funds:** Gary Ziehmman proposed an idea. He would like to award a \$500 grant to a FTLPO who wants to create a shoreline erosion barrier on their property. This grant money would not be for rip rap or shoreline restoration but to establish a strip of plants and grasses that would prevent erosion and filter run off into the lake. The grant could be approved subject to completion of the project. He has spoken with Shannon Wettstein at MC Soil and Water. He suggested the following procedure. The property owner (PO) must contact Soil and Water District and develop a written plan. The PO would submit a grant request with the Soil and Water plan and the cost estimates to the FTLPOA. The PO completes the work per the above plan. The PO applies for grant funds by submitting the copy of the Soil and Water District plan along with final invoices and receipts for work completed. A Board member will inspect the project for the final approval of grant funds. 2 or 3 Board members could oversee and coordinate this project. The total amount of funding for these grants awarded would be \$2500/year and would be on a first come first serve basis. After discussion the Board decided more information was needed and will review at the Spring Board meeting. Scott plans to speak with Amy Kowalzek in regards to MC's proposed rewriting of the regulations on lakeshore development, because Scott wants FTLPOA to have input.

- D. **Railroad Update:** Paul Baker reported MC and BNSF are still negotiating the closure of the Lincoln rail crossing. Steve Backowski of MC is asking for additional \$150,000 of funding from BNSF to improve parks and trails in MC. Paul believes the Railroad is planning on countering this offer. Both Scott and Paul are continuing to pursue the closing of this crossing.
- E. **Water Levels and Beaver Management.** At this time there is no problem with water level on FTL. However, Brian Sams has concerns that the cattails in FTL Creek are becoming thicker, which makes them difficult to clean out without using equipment or professional assistance. He also thought the cattails may be slowing down the water flow. Before the new Highway 10 was built the creek was narrow and fast. The creek has now become wider and slower. He would like more assistance from the DNR and MC to keep the creek open so water levels stay manageable. He believes MC should have more concern about water levels on FTL and Lake Alexander especially because what is happening on Lake Shamineau. Several Board Members reported there has been increased beaver activity and PO are losing trees lake wide. Paul Baker is aware of at least 2 beaver lodges. Brian Sams stated he recently removed a beaver dam on the oil pipeline but the beavers are back building it with mud and rocks, which makes it difficult to remove. Trappers in the area aren't interested in trapping beavers because the bounty for a beaver pelt has dropped in price. To encourage trappers, Scott Schnuckle motioned FTLPOA pay \$50/beaver pelt with a ceiling cap of \$750/year. The trappers must provide proof the beaver was trapped on FTL or at the thoroughfare. Brian seconded the motion and the motion carried.

Adjournment: The FTLPOA Board meeting adjourned at 11 a.m.

Respectfully submitted by,

Mary B Thibert