

# ROCK LAKE IMPROVEMENT ASSOCIATION

[www.rocklake.org](http://www.rocklake.org)

Minutes for February 17, 2020 at 6:30 p.m.,

L. D. Fargo Public Library, 120 E. Madison Street, Lake Mills, WI 53551

## 1. Call to Order. 6:30 PM

Members present: Jim Colegrove, Wes Dawson, Mike Nesemann, Stan Smoniewski, Nathan Pyles, John Thode, Bonnie Nolan, Ralph DePasquale

Absent: John Crump, Susan Trier

Guests: Patricia Cicero, Anita Martin, Dan and Calvin Geerds

2. **Agenda.** Motion to adopt made by Mike, seconded, unanimously approved.

3. **Good news minute** – members shared good news items.

4. **Secretary's report.** Motion to approve January 2020 minutes made by Stan, seconded, and unanimously approved.

## 5. Treasurer's report (Jim)

a) Referred to the previously emailed October financial reports, which were accepted without questions.

b) Noted the amount of interest received from Bank of Lake Mills does not require tax reporting.

c) Thanked Mike and Bonnie for a very successful unofficial audit the three of them conducted last month.

d) Wes, per the Board's instructions, increased the second CD amount to \$5,000 and will do the same when the remaining two CDs come due

## 6. Public Comments/Correspondence.

a) Two postcards from our recent mailing were returned for incorrect address. Stan will check the database.

b) The Rock River Coalition sent a thank you for our renewing our membership.

c) Correspondence from [Wisconsin Lakes](#) was received in which reference was made to their upcoming projects, including a Watercraft AIS study.

d) A copy of the latest [Lake Tides](#) newsletter was passed around.

e) Town Chair Hope Ostdik sent a letter thanking the RLIA for participating in the Knickerbocker Festival.

f) Calvin Geerds, of the Windsor Troop, said he was looking for a community service project as part of his Eagle Scout program and was interested in Jim's Drain labeling program. John Thode suggested he look at all of the 2020 goals before deciding. He will be in touch with Jim for particulars.

## 7. Committee reports.

### a) Water Quality.

i) Agricultural. (Nathan) Three Jefferson County farmers are interested in joining a producer-led council but none farm within the Rock Lake watershed (RLW), nor given the relatively small area of the RLW, is Nathan optimistic of getting the requisite number of RLW farmers without the active involvement of Daybreak. They have indicated interest but given their current expansion program and some corporate reshuffling, Nathan has not heard from them for a while. Michelle Scarpace, (Nat'l Resource Educator from UW Jefferson Co Ext) hosted a meeting which attracted

about 20 Jefferson Co. farmers and included a speaker from the successful farmer-led Upper Sugar River council. A discussion ensued as to whether we could work with Michelle on a county-wide effort, piggybacking onto it and perhaps providing administrative support, thus lessening the time burden to the farmer of chairing a producer-led council. We also discussed sponsoring Wade Moder of the Upper Sugar River Producer-Led Council. Ralph made a motion to allocate up to \$100 to sponsor Wade's appearance at a meeting. Nathan and Patricia will follow-up on this. Finally, we were advised that the Oconomowoc Watershed Council will be presenting on their program and status this Thursday at 8:15 p.m.

1) Update on Miljala channel (Wes). The dredging permit is about to run out and we may be approached for a letter to the DNR supporting extension.

ii) Public Streets (Jim). Calvin Geerdts' interest in drain labeling is encouraging.

iii) Residential (Susan and Stan). The committee listed several initiatives, which will be further discussed at the next meeting when John Crump can attend. But the Board was interested in their suggestion about hosting a breakfast for all riparian owners and RLIA members. We feel we are losing ground on shoreline preservation, witness the large houses and extensive shoreline revision whenever a property is sold. Thus they recommended a breakfast with a PowerPoint presentation and discussion covering erosion, native plants, lessening runoff, etc. They approached a local caterer to provide a quiche, while we would procure fruit, juice, coffee, etc. The hope is to attract perhaps 30 people, which would cost about (including food, refreshments, postage, etc) \$900 and be held at City Hall. A discussion ensued re timing and limiting mailing postcards (which all told cost us about a dollar apiece) to riparian owners, and advertising to all RLIA members via emails, our website, the Lake Mills Community FaceBook page, and possibly the Leader. Mike made a motion to allocate up to \$1,000 for the project. The motion was seconded and passed. Exact timing will be arranged by the committee.

iv) Water sampling. (Ralph) No new issues.

b) **Public outreach**. (Susan and Stan). See 7.a.iii above.

c) **Habitat**. Committee chair pending.

d) **Membership and Lake Recreation**. (Bonnie) Plans were discussed for the annual spring membership mailing. Bonnie will present final plans at the next meeting but Mike made a motion to allocate up to \$1,000 for mailing, printing, and other expenses. It was seconded and passed.

## 8. Other reports.

a) **County representative**. Patricia reported on the status of the current updating of the Jefferson County Comprehensive Plan and Agricultural Preservation Plan. She applied for The Healthy Lake grant for one property on Lake Koshkonong. There was some interest in Rock Lake, but no one decided to go forward with a project this year.

b) **JRLC**. Stan reported that Glen Zastrow was resigning and a search for a replacement is underway. They are also preparing an article on the 2014 DNR fish-survey, greatly condensed of course, as well as thinking of sponsoring an informational meeting on the subject.

## 9. Old Business.

a) AIS signage and tool update. Wes noted sent a follow-up letter (attached) to the City and Town regarding RLIA's offer to fund several boat cleaning stations, an offer to which we have yet to get a reply.

b) Website dashboard. Tabled for next month.

**10. New Business.**

- a) Bill Krieger is looking to leave his current position and would like to sell his cold water diving gear and rescue equipment. We did not feel it was something we should purchase.
- b) Promotional Items. After a brief discussion, it was decided to not pursue this.
- c) Planning for the environmental clean-up. Stan, Bonnie, and Ralph will co-chair, with Patricia's help.

**11. Next board meeting.** Monday, March 16, 2020 at 6:30 p.m., City Hall.

**12. Adjournment.** Mike moved for adjournment at 8:05 p.m., which was seconded and unanimously approved.