

# ROCK LAKE IMPROVEMENT ASSOCIATION

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

Minutes for January 21, 2019 at 6:30 p.m.,

City of Lake Mills City Hall, 200 Water Street, Lake Mills, WI 53551

- 1) **Call to Order** – 6:30 p.m.  
Members present: Jim Colegrove, Wes Dawson, Mike Neesemann, Nathan Pyles, Stan Smoniewski, Susan Trier, Ralph DePasquale, Candace Diaz, Lianna Spencer  
Absent: Bonnie Nolan  
Guests: Patricia Cicero, Anita Martin
- 2) **Motion to accept the agenda** made by Stan, seconded, and unanimously approved.
- 3) **Good News Minute** – meeting participants shared recent good news
- 4) **Secretary’s Report** – Motion to approve December 2018 minutes made by Mike, seconded, and unanimously approved.
- 5) **Treasure’s Report** –
  - a) December financial statements had been electronically distributed by Jim.
  - b) There was some confusion by the bank as the CDs were not included in the latest statement, Jim called this to their attention, and they will rectify.
  - c) Jim noted that Post Office Box rates are going up, we pay quarterly and expect them to go up to about \$125/year.
  - d) 2 checks were presented to Wes for his signature, one to reimburse Stan for Web related fees and one to Jim for the recently purchased pop-up shelter.
  - e) Wisconsin Lakes contacted us requesting we renew our affiliate membership for an annual fee, which based upon membership numbers, that will be approximately \$450. It’s an important resource for lake management. Motion to approve renewing our membership made by Stan, seconded, and unanimously approved.
- 6) **Public Comment(s)/Correspondence** –
  - i) Anita Martin complimented RLIA for putting an email address on the website for reporting odors to Daybreak chicken farm. She requested that we also include the email address of the DNR point person on this, but RLIA board members had been in contact with Barbara Pavliscak who requested that we not/not include her email address, saying that she already gets copies from Daybreak.
  - ii) Patricia Cicero noted postage rates go up 5 cents per stamp next week and suggested we consider “stocking up” on the cheaper stamps now.
  - iii) Wes called the board’s attention to a meeting of the Save Our Dodge County Lakes and Rivers group on 6 Feb. sponsored by the [Lake Sinissippi Association](#). Anyone interested in attending should contact him.
- 7) **Committee Reports**
  - a) Water Quality
    - i) Agricultural - Nathan

Nathan has been working with Michelle Scarpace (UW Ext) to get 5 – 8 farmers for the committee. They have 5 from Jefferson County under consideration, but not necessarily from the Rock Lake watershed. Daybreak has also indicated an interest in joining.

ii) Residential – Susan

Susan said our Facebook items have gotten good reviews and is considering posting a seasonal foto contest, and Patricia suggested contacting Jeanne Scherer from the Lake Ripley Association, as they have done this in the past and may have some pointers.

iii) Water Sampling – Ralph

Ralph is going to work with Patricia to arrange the necessary training for his volunteers.

iv) Streets – Jim

The Lake Management Plan (LMP) recommendations will be presented at the April City Council and Town Board meetings.

b) Habitat – pending reorganization

c) Membership and Lake Recreation – Bonnie

Will be under new business in February.

d) Public Outreach – Susan and Stan

i) Susan has been working on the roll out of the Lake Management Plan (LMP) and the following are under consideration, all of which will be discussed at the February meeting:

- Brew with a View (5/30/19) at Korth Park has given us a provisional OK and advised us to have our presentation on the lake side, some distance from the shelter.

- Tyranaena Brewery. Susan brought up renting the patio there (approximately \$150) for a combination RLIA party and LMP rollout. She suggested 6/2 as a possibility. To Be Discussed (TBD)

- City Council and Town Board. Since there are elections in February and the meetings right after that are likely to be quite busy with new people, we will try and give 10-minute presentations at their respective April meetings. Nathan, Susan, Stan, and Ralph will work on the presentation, Wes will talk to Steve Fields and Susan to Hope re getting on their respective agendas.

ii) Town and Country days. Although there is interest in having a presence, the DNR has notified us that the Fish Tank will not be available (TBD).

iii) Website. Stan discussed how the website has become antiquated and seriously needs updating, including archiving the roughly 15 years of minutes/reports but maintaining access to those of the last year. This will require professional assistance, which is available through someone who has worked at Wisconsin Lakes and is thus familiar with our cyber-milieu. Mike made a motion authorizing up to \$500 to engage the required services. The motion was seconded and passed unanimously.

iv) A discussion was held re the garlic mustard pull/lake cleanup efforts, possibly narrowing the focus of our efforts on a smaller area and planting native plants where the garlic mustard was pulled. This will require some exploration as it would involve surveying the sites, determining what native plants would be appropriate and purchasing them. Given the various germination times, the survey would likely need to be done some time after the pull. This will be discussed in February.

**8) Other Reports.**

a) County. Patricia

- i) Both the City and Town have received their 2019 Clean Boat/Clean Water grants.
- b) JRLC. Stan  
They met with officers of the lake boat patrol to discuss the fall off in citations. One issue the sheriff raised was that they were not getting many complaint calls which go to the Town Police Department. They encourage such calls, because that helps to document the problem and for patrols, even if the perpetrators precipitating the calls are not called to account.

9) **Old Business**

- a) Update Nathan's language on Facebook/website posting for odor complaints – see 6i.
- b) Distribution of Lake Management Plan and Summary – see 7d.i
- c) Update on purchase of shelters. Done
- d) Update on Knickerbocker event – Volunteer coverage hours for ice safety event was finalized. The [Frabill ice safety picks](#) purchased for last year's event (which was cancelled) will be given to the first 10 people who do an open water ice dive or sign up as new members. Jim made a motion to make a \$200 donation to Bill Krueger (who sets up and monitors the ice dive). Motion was seconded and unanimously approved.
- e) Susan's letter to riparian owners – pending.
- f) In-lake cleanup, pending identifying pontoon boat owner willing to participate.

11. **New Business**

a) Tim Campbell (UW Ext) gave a presentation on various boat cleaning arrangements. It was encouraging that there is apparently space for such being included in the city's plan for the Sandy Beach project, but clearly informed input is valuable given that one of the consultants projected the water used to wash the boats as going back into the lake... not optimal for boats washing off potential contaminants being brought in from other lakes! Tim said there were basically three approaches:

1) An all-inclusive, hi-tech cleaning station – besides providing comprehensive cleaning, requiring no on-site personnel, and only taking about 3 minutes per boat, its usage can be monitored via cellphone, providing valuable data. Lamentably, it costs between \$25,000 and 35,000 with an additional cost of about \$1,000 annually for maintenance. It is currently not funded by DNR grants, reflecting a bit of a Catch-22 situation, i.e., they can't fund it till they get data re usage and effectiveness, but its costs deter people from buying it.

2) A pressure-washer system, costing between \$2,000 and 10,000. It's very effective, and a high-pressure hot water system is about the only way to ensure control of almost all invasives, e.g, spiny water fleas. Negatives include the need for personnel to monitor its use and a hot water system requires the presence of an operator at all times, the need for a dedicated drainage space, and that it takes 10 – 15 minutes to perform the cleaning. This would likely lead to people declining to use it on busy summer weekends with long lines entering and leaving the lake. Pre-installation surveys show 50-75 % of respondents are willing to use these systems, however, post-installation, that rate tends to drop to 10-15%.

3) Larger signs explaining the rationale for cleaning and how to use simple tools (provided) like rakes and brushes to augment hand cleaning. It doesn't involve vacuuming or heat and is thus not the most effective, but properly done it would get the majority of invasives and as it takes only about 2 minutes, usage rates tend to be high. It is economical, in the \$700-

1,000 range. The possibility of funding will be taken up at a future meeting.

b) Asking City to put in a station when they change the Sandy Beach launch. Will discuss at next meeting.

c) Dates for the "lake tour." 7/14 seems best but it needs to be finalized at next meeting.

d) Begin planning for membership drive/letter. Tabled to next month.

12) **Adjourn** – Mike made a motion to adjourn, which was seconded and unanimously passed at 8:20 p.m.

13) **Next Meeting:** Monday, February 18, 2019 at 6:30 p.m., Lake Mills City Hall