

ROCK LAKE IMPROVEMENT ASSOCIATION

www.rocklake.org

Minutes for November 18, 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 PM

Members present: Jim Colegrove, Wes Dawson, Mike Nesemann, Stan Smoniewski, Nathan Pyles, John Crump, Susan Trier, Bonnie Nolan

Absent: John Thode, Ralph DePasquale

Guests: Patricia Cicero

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

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

4. **Secretary's report.** Motion to approve October 2019 minutes made by Stan, seconded, and unanimously approved.

5. **Treasurer's report.** Jim referred to the previously emailed October financial reports, which were accepted without questions. He also produced a check for \$378.37 for signing to pay for the postage for our recent post card mailings. The latest edition of [Rock River Reflections](#) from the Rock River Coalition was passed around. He and Wes raised the issue of our four \$2,500 14 month CDs, laddered with varying maturity dates. Although the CD interest is not high, it is higher than the savings account interest the money from the CD would be transferred into. Such a transfer occurs in 10 days if a roll over into another CD is not authorized. Jim made a motion to authorize Wes or Susan to roll each of the current 4 over as they come due. In a discussion, it was felt more effective to give them authority without time constraints to do this for the original 4. Also, they will add \$2,500 to each of the original 4 upon being rolled over which will eventually give us four \$5,000 CDs but still have the needed flexibility to fund future endeavors. Jim's motion was seconded and voted down. Nathan subsequently made a motion as outlined above which was seconded and passed unanimously

6. **Public Comments.** None.

7. Committee reports.

a) Water Quality.

i) Agricultural. Nathan said local farmers have been under a great deal of time pressure due to the recent weather conditions so a meeting to set up a producer led council has not been possible. He also said they will be working with a new Day Break VP. Patricia and Wes attended a work-shop featuring members of farmer led councils – there are 29 in Wisconsin and can be quite successful.

ii) Public streets. Jim reported that the City was able to reproduce our leaf campaign in color and include the flyer describing our leaf campaign with the last utility bill mailing.

1) Set up "storm drain" protector program. Pending

2) Replace storm drain markings. Pending

iii) Residential. Susan's committee met and generated several ideas for projects for next year including: a limited native plant sale/exchange possibly including paying a landscape designer to attend and be available to make free visits to people's yards to offer advice, continued cooperation with the

Friends of the Library on garden/plant walks, rain barrel initiatives with the city/town/county, seminar on container gardens, and a project looking at construction site erosion which John T., Nathan, and Stan will be working on.

iv) Water sampling. Ralph was absent.

b) **Public outreach.** Susan said it was important for us to have a mechanism to keep track of accomplishments. We agreed and recommended committees plan their efforts to match goals of the Lake Management Plan and report on their progress.

c) **Habitat.** Susan raised the issue of trying to protect nesting turtles on the north end of the lake and a discussion ensued re how this might be done. She said that the LM City Market was agreeable to our having a fund raiser for these efforts on their premises, e.g., a bratwurst cookout/sale.

d) **Membership and Lake Recreation.** Bonnie was pleased that we had 3 action to our recent Health Lakes post card campaign. Several addresses were incorrect, but a very acceptably low number and these will be updated. Planning for the membership drive for Jan/Feb will begin.

8. Other reports.

a) **County representative.** Patricia confirmed that 3 people had contacted her re Healthy Lakes grants as a result of our post card campaign. She also said she will be going to the City Park Board meeting (12/3 at 6:00 p.m. at City Hall) and bring up the issue of Boat Cleaning signs/stations and water quality testing. A lake front owner on the west side was concerned as apparently a hunter out in the bull rushes had discharged his gun landward, but Patricia said she was unaware of regulations prohibiting this.

b) **JRLC.** Stan reported that the City, after a yearlong review, has decided to will defer to the Town re lake related ordinances, which makes sense given that the City contributes money to lake regulations enforcement but such enforcement is solely by the Town and DNR. The specific ordinances effected are:

1. City-Chapter 8- REGULATION OF WATER TRAFFIC, BOATING AND WATER SPORTS UPON THE WATERS OF ROCK LAKE and;
2. Town- Title 5 Chapter 2- REGULATION OF WATER TRAFFIC, BOATING, AND WATER SPORTS UPON THE WATERS OF ROCK LAKE.

He was also pleased to report that all the wardens and town lake patrol have rangefinders which will enable them to cite watercraft for violations of maintaining safe distance from shore and from other boats. He confirmed that we have yet to receive any response from either the city or town in re to RLIA's offer to fund boat cleaning stations.

9. Old Business.

a) **Knickerbocker Festival.** Bill Krieger is willing to do the water safety demonstration/training but will not be able to confirm scheduling till January. Nathan suggested we put an ice boat out for people to see. Jim said the LMFd had no certified ice water rescue specialist and would not be able to put on a demonstration.

10. New Business.

- a) Whether to have a December board meeting was discussed. Mike made a motion to not have one, it was seconded and passed unanimously. Jim suggested we all think of ways to encourage more members.
- b) We encouraged the various committees to have meetings and be ready to present their suggestions for projects/events to the board in January.
- c) Mike and Bonnie volunteered to help Jim with a financial audit to be conducted in January, 2020.

11. **Next board meeting.** Monday, January 20, 2020 at 6:30 p.m., City Hall.

12. **Adjournment.** Mike moved for adjournment at 7:40 p.m., which was seconded and unanimously approved.