

ROCK LAKE IMPROVEMENT ASSOCIATION EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING

www.rocklake.org

Minutes for June 21, 2021 at 6:30 p.m.

Via ZOOM

1) Call to Order – 6:30 p.m.

Members present: Mike Nesemann, Nathan Pyles, John Crump, Stan Smoniewski, John Thode, Jim Colegrove, Susan Trier, Sharron Webster, Bruce Ward

Absent: Ralph DePasquale

Guests: Marisa Ulman, Patricia Cicero, Tom Krejcie

2) Good News Minute – Meeting participants shared recent good news.

3) Motion to accept the agenda - Made, seconded, and unanimously approved.

4) Secretary's Report – Motion to approve May 17, 2021 minutes made, seconded, and unanimously approved.

5) Treasure's Report. There were no questions on reports Jim had previously mailed and a motion to accept the treasurer's report was made, seconded, and unanimously approved. Several CDs are coming up for renewal, and a discussion ensued re renewing them. It was felt that even with the current anemic interest rates, without any immediate needs for money it seems fiscally prudent to keep renewing until such a need arises.

6) Public Comment(s)/Correspondence –

A. Guests. Tom Krejcie.

B. Mail. Jim said a few new membership applications or renewal come in, perhaps 1 or 2 per week. We are up to more than 140 members, about 50 of whom are new.

C. Email. Stan. Nothing to report.

D. Facebook. Susan. Nothing to report.

7) Committee Reports

A. Water Quality Agriculture. Nathan reported that our letter in support of renewal of funding for subsidized crop insurance to help defray costs of using cover crops was sent to Assemblywoman Dittrich and Senator Jagler; thus far without responses. He and Patricia have arranged for a meet and greet with the Jefferson Co. producer led group at the Brew with a View on 7/22 (starts 5:00 PM). Besides the producers and Board members, Mike Tiboris (Rock River Alliance), Michelle Scarpace, Dean Weichman, and representatives from the Lake Ripley Management District will be there. We will have a tent and tables set up and all Board members are strongly encouraged to attend.

B. Water Quality Residential. John T presented the recently released riparian owners' pamphlet (successfully mailed) to the City Council. There were no questions, but the new council President called him the next day to congratulate him on the pamphlet. Susan presented it to the Town Board. John C received several compliments from mailing recipients. It is now on the website, and next meeting will include a discussion re the need for a general disclaimer.

C. Water Quality Streets. Jim. We will need to contact the City in July/August re the leaf free streets brochure and he requested volunteers to look at the brochure with a view to updating it.

D. Water Quality Sampling. Marisa performed the first of 6 water Rock Lake water quality tests and requested additional volunteers. Mike thought this might be a nice project to get others besides Directors involved with and Susan requested that Marisa send her specifics re the tasks that she can put in her email blast along with info on the leaf free streets initiative.

E. Water Quality Miljala Channel. Susan. Nothing to report.

F. Public Outreach Nothing to report.

G. Habitat – Fisheries. Bruce had received some questions on “unplanned fish sticks.” These are trees that have fallen into the water, and he said that as long as they present no navigational hazard, they can and should be left where they fell.

H. Habitat – other. Susan reported that some miscreants had stolen one of the permanent turtle crossing signs we had purchased for the County – the western one on Co. B. A motion to allocate \$250 to replace it was made, seconded, and unanimously approved. She will advise the County.

I. Membership. Nothing to report beyond what was in the Treasurer’s report (5 above).

J. Lake Recreation. Nothing to report.

8) Other Reports.

A) County. Marisa reported significant pilferage of the boat cleaning tools the RLIA had funded for Town and City launching sites. And there was some confusion as to who was responsible for their monitoring and replacements, as well as preventive strategies. It was felt these stations should be funded from the significant launch fees both entities collect and since they already have personnel regularly visiting the sites to collect those fees, they have a ready mechanism to monitor the status of cleaning tools. Bruce referred to some research indicating painting them with bright colors and attaching a “property of” tag with a steel cable is of use. The RLIA will work at getting the spray paint and tags, but we requested that either Patricia or Marisa contact the City, Town, and JRLC to rightfully assume responsibility for this vital program.

B. JRLC. Stan. Susan is the new Chair, Bob Volenec was the vice-chair but recently resigned, and Wendy Catalani-Davies is the secretary. Their current project is to establish priorities for the coming year.

9) Old Business.

A) Bylaws Update Committee. Mike briefly reviewed the already approved new Bylaws and the yet to be approved Conflict of Interest addition. These had been discussed previously and sent out to the Board. A motion was made, seconded, and unanimously approved to accept them. The Board decided to send emails and postcards announcing the annual meeting details and referring to the bylaw changes that will be posted on the website. That will include both the new and old versions, with the new language in red. Postcards and emails will be send out right after our July 19 Board meeting.

It was felt last year's post card mailing advertising the annual meeting was excellent and required no changes (save for the date). A motion was made, seconded, and unanimously passed approving up to \$250 for postage.

B). Liability and D&O insurance. Mike presented a brief review of the issue and had sent out an email addressing the questions raised at the May meeting. He first addressed the general liability issue, again referring to a sample policy he had obtained that would cost about \$400 annually, with a 2 million dollar limit, and a limit of million dollar /occurrence. John C pointed out that the RLIA has an extremely low overhead (we are all volunteers) and allocating about \$400 annually to protect assets of about \$40,000 seemed prudent. Mike made a motion to allocate up to \$500 to purchase a policy and the motion was seconded. After some discussion, the motion was passed unanimously with Nathan abstaining.

Mike then brought up the issue of D&O insurance and he and John C both reviewed the previous discussions, again pointing out the rarity of such suits and unlikelihood of their successful conclusion. No one made a motion to purchase such insurance and the issue was thus dropped.

C). Mission Statement. John C asked for volunteers to help draft a more inspiring Mission Statement and Jim and Susan volunteered.

10) New Business

A) RLIA 50th Anniversary Plans. John had finished the first draft of an article for the Leader and expects it to be ready for their free Town and Country Days edition. Additional planning is needed for the annual meeting (and next Board meeting) including masks for guests if not vaccinated. Jim reminded everyone that if we want to use Korth Park next year, we need to put our request in shortly after they begin accepting them. We will plan to have next year's annual meeting on 20 August from 1000- 1200 at Korth. Board members are asked to arrive between 0900 and 0930 to organize.

B) Missing cleaning station tools. See 8.A.

11) Adjourn – A motion was made to adjourn, which was seconded and unanimously passed at 8:25 p.m.

Next meeting will be in person at City Hall: Monday, July 19, 2021, 6:30 PM.