

ROCK LAKE IMPROVEMENT ASSOCIATION

www.rocklake.org

Minutes for January 17, 2022 at 6:30 P.M. Via ZOOM

1) **Call to Order** – 06:30 P.M.

Members present: Jim Colegrove, Mike Neemann, John Crump, Bruce Ward, Jim Kerler, John Thode, Tom Krejcie

Guests: Corey Nelson, Stan Smoniewski, Keith Clark and Jean Schoeni

Absent: Nathan Pyles, Susan Trier, Candace Diaz

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 accept minutes of 11/15/21 Board meeting made, seconded, and unanimously approved .

5) **Treasurer's Report:** Motion to accept treasurer's report made, seconded, and unanimously approved.

i) CDs. Discussion whether to continue automatically rolling over the CDs. Pros: no need for officers to go to bank and sign each time. Cons: low rates. Decided to continue rolling over for now, if rates begin to climb we can revisit. Question raised as to whether we could make other investments, e.g., stocks etc. Jim explained that as a non-profit with donated funds, we must be conservative and not lose money. Motion made, seconded, and unanimously approved to continue rolling over the CDs.

ii) Renew membership in [Wisconsin Lakes](#), a parent organization that provides support and advice to many lake groups and associations. Motion to pay \$412 for annual membership to Wisconsin Lakes was made, seconded, and unanimously approved.

iii) The Rock River Coalition is another umbrella group. Motion to pay \$50 annual dues was made, seconded, and unanimously approved.

iv) Although audits are not legally required, we generally try to do every other year and the last one was 2019. Mike, Bruce, Tom, and Jim will perform one this year.

v) The question of whether to do a mass mailing or a more focused one led to a general discussion re membership goals. The mass mailing last year produced about 50 new memberships. (See also discussion under 5.F Membership from 1/15/22 meeting). Jim and Tom felt a more focused mailing to riparian owners and perhaps those living within ¼ mile of lake would be more productive. Additional

measures discussed were to send reps to HOAs, condo associations and door-to-door. It was again recommended we produce more “products” for the members, e.g., [Science on Tap](#), social gatherings, meetings with aquatic science experts, etc. Mike opined that calling attention to some of the imminent dangers facing the lake, i.e., the DNR’s labeling of Sandy Bay Beach (West) as an impaired waterway might motivate people to get involved. A motion to alternate mass and focused mailings on an every other year basis was made, seconded, and unanimously approved.

6) Public Comments/Correspondence

A) Guests. No comments.

B) Mail (Jim). A few membership applications were received and Jim reminded Board members to renew.

C) Email (John C.) Nothing to report

D) Facebook (Susan) Deferred.

7) Other reports

A) County representatives. Deferred.

B) JRLC. Tom presented on their activities (*see attachment at the end of these minutes*). Highlights included:

- uniform 200 ft Slow No Wake Zone. Other area lakes, like Lake Geneva have gone for it. The JRLC is looking for a Town Board member to sponsor it for their agenda.

- The omission from the final product of the more effective filtering green zone in the slough at Sandy Beach, which was in the plans will be followed up. This takes on added urgency given the “impaired waterway” status the DNR recently assigned to the western beach.

- They would like to apply for a \$5,000 AIS educational grant, which would require a total of \$1,650 in matching funds. They would be about \$325 short after the expected town and city contributions. The Board seemed favorably inclined and this will be presented formally at a later meeting.

C) Miljala Channel update. (Susan and John T). Nothing to report.

8) Committee Planning Reports/Discussion

A) Water Sampling (Marisa and Jim K). They would like to continue the phosphorus sampling and expand the dissolved O2 sampling. Marisa will address these items in February.

B) Aquatic Invasive Species (Susan). Tom presented in her place, see appended document for detailed plans. One of the plans is for sampling to monitor AIS,

including several rakes that would be used to sample dredge. There was a gratifying response by several local craftsman willing to help fabricate. Marissa and Susan will present in February.

C) Education (Candace). Deferred.

D) Recreation, Carrying Capacity, SNWZ (Jim K).

i) Per 7B above, the JRLC is looking to get the SNWZ on the Town Board agenda. Changing the ordinance would require a lawyer, but probably only to insert/change a few sentences.

ii) Carrying capacity is generally recommended at about one power boat/30 acres of water, which would translate into a maximum of 40 boats on Rock Lake. Even after the recent reduction in the number of trailer parking slots at Sandy Beach, there are a total of 81 approved boat parking places around the lake. When all the riparian owners are considered, there could easily be > 350 boats at one time. The only factor that could be easily altered would be boat parking, especially those parking along Sandy Beach Road.

iii) A discussion ensued over riparian owners' rights to, and limits on, hoists and boat slips. An entrepreneur who was renting watercraft had put together a capacity that clearly exceeded the allotment for his waterfront. The town stepped in and he cut it back, but recently he expanded it again. Should something like this be observed, [Jefferson County Planning and Zoning](#) should be contacted (920-674-7130). They in turn will require the town to take action.

iv) Wake and surf boats were also discussed. More data is coming out re the damage they do to the lake bottom, especially if the depth is under 15 feet. In addition, they have ballast tanks of up to 600 gallons which seem an ideal way to transport AIS! This is a problem that would likely require action by the state legislature.

F) Public Outreach, Facebook, Lending Library. (Susan). Deferred.

9) Old Business.

A) General liability insurance (Mike). He will contact the insurance agent O/A 1 February to activate the policy. Jim C alluded to an apparent increase in suits against Directors and Officers (D&O) and wondered if we shouldn't revisit our decision not to pursue such a policy. Jim will provide Mike with some references on this and Mike will check with the agent.

B) Garlic Mustard Pull and General Cleanup (Bruce and Corey). Hard to set a date too far in advance and with CoVid, it will again be a virtual pull with us providing a dumpster and possibly some bags. Looking at 4/25/22 plus or minus 2 weeks

depending on the weather. May also contact the city utility to see if they would put a flyer in with utility bills.

C) Shoreline owners concerns re lake level. Deferred,

10) New Business. None.

11). Adjourn. A motion was made to adjourn, which was seconded and unanimously passed at 8:15 P.M.

Next Meeting: Monday, February 21, 2022 at 6:30 p.m. Zoom.

Attachment

JRLC Update for the RLIA January 1/17/22 Board Meeting:

- Passed a motion to ask the Town Board to discuss/decide on drafting an ordinance to open up the ability to have a public hearing on the 200-foot SNW subject during their February board meeting.
- The storm water practice implemented at Sandy Beach boat launch does not match the posted plan. JRLC is working on a recommendation to improve stormwater infiltration in the slough.
- A committee member is very interested in exploring lake districts. The committee advised the member to bring it to RLIA and gather additional information on the subject.
- The committee is hoping to get a seat on the City's Ad Hoc Committee for the short- and long-term maintenance of the Millpond.
- The committee would like to apply for an AIS Education grant to create a few 30 sec videos. If the committee is awarded a \$5,000 grant, matching fund requirements are \$1,650. The Town has budgeted \$850. The City is willing to provide their funds earmarked for committees which is \$500. JRLC would need an additional \$325.

Additional Town News of potential interest to the RLIA Board:

The Chief of the Township Police, Matt Miller, is retiring on 4/1/22.

The Town has completed their donation policy.