

# ROCK LAKE IMPROVEMENT ASSOCIATION EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING

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

Minutes for February 20, 2023 at 6:30 p.m.

Via ZOOM

## 1) Call to Order – 6:30 p.m.

Members present: Jim Colegrove, Mike Neemann, Susan Trier, Bruce Ward, Jim Kerler, Tom Krejcie, Danny Durow, Cynthia Chmell, John Thode

Guests: Marisa Wieder, Patrick Stevens

## 2) Good News Minute – Participants shared recent good news.

3) **Motion to accept the agenda** - Made (with amendment to add membership drive to new business [see 9.D]), seconded, and unanimously approved.

## 4) Secretary's Report (Mike)

Motion to approve 1/17/23 minutes made, seconded, and unanimously approved.

## 5) Treasure's Report

A) Tom explained that the figures are not exact as he had to return \$6375 from the second Miljala grant to the DNR and we should get back \$1623 from the balance of the first grant. But the repayment check has yet to be deposited and the final report of the first grant has yet to be approved. He also explained that he has added the PayPal account total to the monthly finance report. Motion to approve the financial reports for January made, seconded, and unanimously approved.

## 6) Public Comment(s)/Correspondence

A. Guests. Patrick Stevens from JRLC, see 7)B below.

B. Mail. Nothing to report.

C. Email/Facebook. Nothing to report.

## 7) Other Reports

A. County Representative Marisa Wieder.

1) The Jefferson County Soil Builders (JCSB) were awarded a \$30,000 grant from the Wis. Dept of Agriculture and \$10,000 from the Nature Conservancy to support funding cover crops and other conservation practices. In 2022 they provided cost sharing for 654 acres, in addition to those acres which Jefferson County assists with. They have been working on organizational structure, developing partners, and website development. They also sent out a flyer listing their planned activities for this year including:

- Research, field day, and fact sheet on legume cover crops after wheat to reduce fertilizer nitrogen applications
- Research and fact sheet on cereal rye after corn to mitigate risk of nitrate leaching
- Four Shop Talks on soil health topics
- Rainfall Simulator at Brew with a View 6/22

- Soil Health Workshop - includes research presentations

B) Both the city and town received Clean Boats/Clean Water grants for 2023 and will soon be advertising for inspector positions.

C) Marisa will meet with new City Manager Drake Daily, to introduce herself and discuss various topics, e.g., salt usage and a green initiative.

D) She will soon be presenting a report detailing the results of the 2022 aquatic plant surveys on Rock Lake and the Millpond.

Tom relayed some ice fishermen's concerns about a dearth of seaweed in Tyranena Bay; one described it as a "desert" viewed with his sonar equipment. Marisa said she was unaware of that and pointed out that the underwater topography there, mostly sand, has never been conducive to good underwater vegetation and did not have any concerns based on field observations and initial review of data. .

B. JRLC. Patrick Stevens said they are working on establishing specific goals for their committee based on the 2018-2028 Lake Management Plan and have been discussing this with Susan and Marisa.

## **8) Old Business**

A) Discuss Membership Survey. Jim C felt our 60% completion rate was excellent. There was a good response (76) the first day the survey was out, which slowly diminished but perked up again after a second mass email reminder. He confirmed that each Director had received a link and password allowing them to review the data as well as the individual comments. He will have a spreadsheet in place before our subscription runs out, which will provide access to all the collected data. He and Susan will also work on synthesizing the findings and preparing an email for the membership. There was a discussion as to how to share the data with the public, including ensuring that no comments were shared that seemed disparaging of anyone. Further discussion will ensue at the upcoming planning session.

B) Planning Session Schedule. Susan said Keith Clark has volunteered to be a facilitator, which he often did in his professional life. There was some discussion regarding inviting additional people, including former Presidents (Wes Dawson, John Crump), County personnel (Marisa and Patricia), and an especially active member (Cory Nelson). Three Directors will be out of town but the session will hopefully provide a map for future activities. All Directors were encouraged to submit ideas they felt should be considered and logistical details were completed.

C) Questions for City Council candidates. Susan summed up the discussion last month and we will send questions to the two candidates and share their answers with the members. Jim K will work on this and present it at the planning session. Mike also reminded the Board of Article II Section 2 of our Bylaws:

“NON-SECTARIAN and NON-PARTISAN This Association, in its activities, shall be non-sectarian and non-partisan. It shall take no part in, nor lend its influence to, the election or appointment of any candidate for federal, state, county or local government office. “

D) CD replacement strategy. Deferred.

E) Monitoring of municipal committees and boards. Mike emphasized that the City has no "hidden agendas" and always publicizes them in advance. However, he felt it would be taxing for an individual to monitor all the

agendas for items of specific concern to us. He suggested getting the membership involved, forming small teams to monitor a particular committee/board. A discussion followed re how many people, should they be expected to attend “their” board/committee meetings, etc. This will be discussed at the planning session.

## **9. New Business**

A) Moving back to in-person meetings. Motions were made and seconded to: a) dispense with the regular March Board meeting as we will be having the planning session in March and b) return to in person meetings in April. Both motions were passed unanimously

B) Renewal of general liability and Directors & Officers liability insurance. Mike reminded the Board of the due dates on both policies (3/1/23 for general liability and 5/12/23 for D&O). Tom had received the invoice for the RLIA general liability and already sent in the \$464. A motion was made to renew both policies and authorize payments up to \$500 for each. The motion was seconded and passed unanimously. Renewal of general liability and D&O insurance. Mike reminded the Board of the due dates on both policies (3/1/23 for general liability and 5/12/23 for D&O). Tom had received the bill and already sent in the \$464. A motion was made to renew both policies and authorize payments up to \$500 for each. The motion was seconded and passed unanimously.

C) 2023 Wisconsin Lakes Convention. Susan said past conventions had been extremely useful and encouraged interested Directors to attend. This year sessions can be attended via ZOOM or in person. Signing up in advance saves 20%. Jim confirmed attendees have been reimbursed in the past.

D) Annual Membership drive. A long discussion ensued over the most effective and efficient way to do this, including detailed cost analysis of the various mailing rubrics and past results. Methods discussed included directed mailing to all riparian owners, Every Door Direct Mailing, and other modalities such as going door to door, direct telephone calls, booths at community events, newspaper ads, etc. It was felt to be an ideal topic to be discussed in depth at the upcoming planning session.

**10. Propose agenda items for the planning session.** Susan reminded Directors, whether able to attend or not, to offer topic they felt should be addressed.

**11. Adjourn.** A motion to adjourn was made, seconded, and unanimously passed at 8:55 P. M.

Next Board meeting: Monday 4/17/2023 at 6:30 P.M. City Hall

Special Planning Session 3/21/23 9:00 A.M. City Hall