

Tainter Menomin Lake Improvement Association, Inc.

(TMLIA)

Monthly Meeting

Room 58, Dunn County Government Center

Date: February 14th 2017

6:00pm

Introductions and review of the agenda

People in Attendance –

Liz Osborne, Ron Verdon, Chris Gaetzke, Kate Edenborg, Mike Tomasek, Roger and Mary Marin, Alissa intern, Amber Georgakopoulous, Dave and Barb Kleist , Brooke Rossi, Ryland Erdman, Ben H., Nels Paulson

Introductions

Liz introduced herself and people in attendance were introduced.

Civic Governance grant presentation – Ron Verdon and Chris Gaetzke

A presentation was given to the group thanks to a [Wisconsin DNR Lake Planning Grant for Civic Governance](#) and how Civic Governance can help engage local citizens and educate the community through the help of Dunn County Land and Water, UW-Stout, and more. The presentation is available by contacting Ron Verdon or Chris Gaetzke for more information.

Negotiate Agenda

Liz flipped the introduction and the agenda in the beginning of the meeting. Otherwise, no other modifications were made.

Approval of Minutes – January 2017

Liz opened the floor to comments or corrections from the minutes in January. A motion was made by Ron Verdon to approve the minutes, second by Amber G., motion passed unanimously.

Q&A on pre-submitted Agency 2016 goal reports and 2017 objectives

Chris Gaetzke recapped the Grant for Civic Governance and are looking forward to 2017 and work ahead.

Ryland Erdman mentioned that the mayor is interested in dredging the inlet where [Jarret Creek](#) feeds into Lake Menomin. The [stormwater retention pond](#) (Secretary's note, the link does not show the completed work, only for geographical reference) west of the Dunn County Fairgrounds is finished and wrapped up at the end of 2016. In the future, the city will take measurements of water quality from the pond later this year at an unknown date.

Liz, on behalf of the Mike Kneer, spoke of the Livestock study group and mentioned that updates and Dunn County Board of Supervisors notes can be found in Mike's notes in the next section.

Q&A on pre-submitted Committee 2016 goal reports, 2017 objectives, and committee updates

Kate spoke to being more active in the community by being part of more community events to raise awareness for TMLIA. Kate spoke of some events including the "Floating through History" event at the Menomonie Public Library. Liz noted that Kate brought it to the board's attention and thanked Kate for her recommendation for a table at that event. Liz recommended further that we could have the Children's activity books we made available along with a \$10 kids membership during that event. Ron asked when the event was, it was 2/23 6:30 – 8:30 and 2/25 at 1:30 – 3:30. Kate added that her daughter and one of her friends have presented on lake algae and its impacts in the areas, which they may have interest in possibly presenting again in the future.

Liz noted that Dick Lamers was not able to attend due to illness. She recapped an email from him that promoted the Red Cedar Land/Water conference ([link](#)) and some legislative updates (Mike, add these and recap them from Dick's email).

Amber spoke about K-12 education, Amber talked about expanding our collaboration with teachers and local area schools while setting some targets for success. Fifth graders at Oaklawn were part of a program last year and will continue again this year. The education team is open to ideas including working with the Wolski Bay Rain Garden ([link?](#)) or family events as a whole. The next goal is to try to engage the students more rather than the parents and teachers at the schools, but initial ideas are still being developed. Liz responded with some of her ideas including some litter clean-up on the ice before it melts on Lake Menomin, but quite difficult due to weather conditions. Liz thanked Amber for thinking of involving the students more.

Liz recapped membership goals from last year including missing our goal of 200 memberships, but we grew the corporate goals up to 15 members. We have also automated some of our processes and are looking to continue growing in those areas. To recap, we have 65 new memberships this year including 3 new memberships from the St. Valentines Bike race ([correct and link](#)).

Ben recapped the treasurer's report which was covered with the group in attendance. A motion to approve the treasurer's report was made by Liz, second by Ron, unanimous approval was had.

Regarding projects, Mike is looking at replacing the website, but did not need additional funds. Along with setting up a webstore, we should not need a budget at this time and can fit it in through sales fees and/or current website budget.

Mike Kneer left notes ahead of time as he was unable to attend, they are as follows:

<Mike Kneer's notes>

Probably the work most relevant to TMLIA's goals would be the Livestock Operations Study Group (LOSG) meetings. The LOSG was formed in response to the concentrated animal feeding operations (CAFO) moratorium passed by the Dunn County Board. We are working to have a draft report by mid April and present a "final" report to the DC Board in May. I put "final" in quotes because it is quite likely that the LOSG could continue after the six month moratorium expires.

We have had six meetings so far. We have been and will be using the time to bring in knowledgeable presenters on different subjects relating to CAFO's. Among the presenters so far:

Kewaunee County L&WCD-Davina Bonness

Department of Health Services-State Toxicologist Robert Thiboldeaux Ground water specialist from UW-SP Kevin Masarik

DATCP representative-Chris Clayton

Dunn County Land and Water Conservation Division-Dan Prestebak

Planned for upcoming meetings: DNR-Leah Nichol

Dunn County Public Health Bayfield County Planning Other presenters in the works.

The group is made up of a variety of people and working together very well so far. Ron Verdon is also a member and I want to put in a plug for him because he has done a great job contributing in a positive and factual manner. Way to go Ron. He and others have also collected wonderful well data from Dunn County.

On another tack, I am a member of the County Planning Resource and Development Committee (PRD). Linday Olson did a great presentation about her work with watersheds and property owners. John Sippl and Gary Seipel also did a presentation that showed conservation practices on Gary's farm with slides taken over a year's time. Very interesting.

</Mike Kneer's notes>

Kate Edenborg's notes are below that were submitted before tonight's event:

<Kate Edenborg's notes>

NEWSLETTER

Winter Newsletter to be ready next week.

** Will include a kid's page.

** Starting next issue will have article on collaborators/partnerships.

Other publication dates:

- July 1 (heading into summer)

- November 1 (around annual meeting time)

2017 FOCUS: PRESENCE IN THE COMMUNITY

GOAL – Have TMLIA present at, at least one community event each month ACTION

TAKEN – Valentine's Day Hustle Bike Race, Feb. 11

PLAN -- * Floating through History Event Feb. 23/25 at Public Library

*** Cleaning up the Ice event (DATE?)**

1. Identify community events and organizations connected to lake association
 1. Annual events
 2. Relevant organizations (for example, the public library's summer series of Music on Menomin and Beaver Creek Reserve's workshops)
2. Develop a calendar and contact event organizers
3. Identify activities, give aways, messages for events (often kid-oriented)
4. Have TMLIA members sign up to attend/participate

ONGOING:

Intern – Brooke Rossi – doing social media, writing articles, helping with events

Facebook Presence

- **Mondays:** Did you know? Post a tip, FYI, fact, etc..
- **Wednesdays:** Watershed Wednesday: (and news items as needed) — send me items that you'd recommend posting. These can be events and related meetings as well.
- **Photo Friday:** Post a lake/water photo each week. We put out a call for water-related images on the Facebook page. That said, it'd be great to have some from you guys to get this going. Send me images!

MISCELLANEOUS (to present/discuss at future meetings):

- * Third-grade project at Oaklawn Elementary School about lakes and algae
- * Research project with UW-Stout student examining local newspaper coverage of local lakes over time.

</Kate Edenberg's Notes>

Liz took a moment after the committee groups spoke and asked if anyone wanted to change their names being assigned to the groups. Nels asked if he could be removed from item #2 and that change was made. Ron had a comment around visibility and marketing item #3; Ron asked if certain groups would still be involved and Liz responded that they were in #3 and #8. Liz and Ron broke down who traditionally attend some of the events listed in #3 to build confidence that we would have representation going forward. Kate asked to be added to #11 along with Amber asking to be added to #13. Finally, Liz thanked the group who was able to attend the [St. Valentine's Hustle](#) and shared some of the positive feedback they received from the participants.

Vote to approve 2017 Goals

Liz asked if there were any more procedures or alterations were to be made to goals. Motion made by Liz, second by Amber, unanimous approval was given. These goals can be found online [here](#).

Recommendation on Insurance Policy – Mike Tomasek

Mike thanked Ron for the handoff from the Horton Group after Ron did some work during the first week or so after the January meeting. Mike took time to explain the need for D&O, but wants a chance to review the details of a policy before signing it. Mike also explained the need for General Casualty, though it is an option to the task Mike was asked to do.

Mike then noted that State Farm declined to offer D&O insurance due to lack of policy. Mike reached out to the Horton Group and submitted the first set of paperwork last week and an estimate exists that was shared with the group that was present. Mike also reached out to the Sandeen Agency out of Hudson, WI for a proposal. Mike received a formal quote which he shared with the group that was present.

Mike's recommendation, at this point in the process was to use the Sandeen group due to the cheaper rate and the better reputation of WestBend Insurance out of Milwaukee contingent on review of the policy itself, which has already been asked for, but not yet received. Ben pointed out the non-expiration that the General and D&O do not co-term. Ron pointed out that we potentially could put an executive committee together. Liz proposed that Mike breakdown both policies and present to the executive board before the April meeting. With no opposition to that proposal from Liz, Mike will commit to working on that.

Meeting Evaluation

Liz asked if any of the newer attendees to the meeting had comments to share. The group didn't have anything. Ron asked if some of the irregular members would share their stories with why they would want to attend. Barb and Dave Kleist spoke how they got involved through a gift membership and that they have multi-generational property on Tainter Lake, so that drives their engagement. Roger and Mary shared their story with their involvement through Sarah Freeman. From their time in Milwaukee, they had interest in water quality issues and with moving up here, they found their interest with TMLIA. Finally, Liz shared a story about how the [Red Cedar Watershed Conference](#) has three free passes to give out each year and how they were allocated.

Ratings:

Liz – 5... We packed the house and it went well

Chris Gaetzke – 5... recapped how civic governance was used, new attendance and strong attendance...

Ron – 5... New people attending, happy to see involvement, and strong agenda

Kate – 5... Liked how ideas connected and good stories exchanged

Brooke – 5.... First meeting, enjoyed it

Barb – 5... Good first meeting and learned a lot.

Dave – 5... Good timing and scheduling, good agenda

Ryland – Shared a story about how Mike Kneer wouldn't ever give a 5 unless it was life changing material, so he gave a 4.5

Alissa – 5...

Mary – 5...

Roger – 5... I liked how everything meshed and flowed

Amber – In jest, 5.5 to cancel out Ryland's 4.5... Purpose was executed well

Nels – 5... Great meeting

Mike – 5... Concise and timely

Ben – 4.66... An interesting and fun quantitative analysis of how his score was well worth it

Wrap-up

Liz thanked Ron and Chris for presenting and thanked everyone for attending. Liz plugged the upcoming events that are listed below. Liz asked if the group wanted to have a March 14th meeting considering there are many conflicts. Motion to cancel the March meeting was made by Liz, second by Mike Tomasek, and unanimous approval was carried. Motion to adjourn was made by Liz, second by Mike, unanimous approval was had.

Upcoming events –

February 21st State Assembly Representative Listening Session, UW-Stout Student Center Ballroom A

February 23rd & 25th two part Red Cedar presentation at Menomonie Public Library

March 9th, 2017 [Red Cedar: Land, Water and People Conference, UW-Stout](#)

March 29th [Conservation Lobby Day, Madison, WI](#)

March 15th, 16th, & 17th [2017 WI Land + Water Annual Conference, Elkhart Lake](#)

April 5th, 6th, & 7th [2017 WI Lakes Partnership Convention, Stevens Point](#)

April 11th [Wilson Annis Creek Watershed Partnership Meeting](#), Village Hall in Wilson 4p - 5:30p

April 11th Monthly Meeting featuring Ted Ludwig, Red Cedar Basin Monitoring Group

April 21st & 22nd [St. Croix Summit](#)

April 22nd [Clear Lake Earth Day Fair](#)

Next Meeting: April 11th 2017, Room 58, Dunn County Government Center