

Lake Eau Claire Association, Inc.  
Board Meeting Minutes  
July 26, 2021 at 5:30 pm, Zoom Virtual Meeting

1. Call to Order– Lori Bechtel called the meeting to order at 5:36pm Board Members Present: Al Hendricks, Pam Hanson, Todd Hanson, Duane Ives, Nathan Smith, Dale Zank, Cathy Lea, Fred Poss, Al Weisenbeck, Angel Zimmerman, Joe Vydrzal, Tad Ries, Dan Marcheske. Guests Present: Mike Lea and Bob Laden.
2. Review of previous minutes dated June 7, 2021 A motion was made by Fred Poss and seconded by Cathy Lea to approve the minutes. Vote unanimous, motion approved.
3. Treasurer’s report was provided by Joe Vydrzal. Multiple year dues have been coming in around \$4,400 which is up \$975 from last year. Fireworks collection is at \$3465. Lake rehab fund and golf outing fundraiser funds are up. Sponsorship money has also increased \$3,000 from last year. Rosie Berger donated \$2,000 toward life jacket stations in memory of her husband Al. The board would like to thank Amy Quella for the membership drive mailing. At this time, 300 calendars are checked out and fundraising numbers will climb to reflect when they are turned in.
4. There was no public comment.
5. Lake District update (Mike Lea)
  - a. Bank stabilization status/bid permit – One bid was received and project will begin after ground freezes. The project will cost less than originally anticipated.
  - b. Covid funding request: LECA will be giving two presentations to Eau Claire County related to the Skid Row project. Recreational funding is also being sought, as is annual funding from Eau Claire County that would be reliable year-to-year.
  - c. Other: Aeration walkway to the lake needs to be repaired. The plan will get underway when the weather cools off. The intermittent overheating issue will also be addressed when the aerator season is over.
6. Life jacket project update : Jen Mason has the life jackets for the life jacket borrowing stations. One station is 80% constructed. We are currently waiting on signage. There are 2-3 stations worth of life jackets, the focus will be on the North and South Landings and the County Beach. Joe V.will stencil ‘Please Return’ on the doors of the stations.
7. Annual picnic
  - a. The date has been changed to August 14th. Angel Zimmerman informed the board that the date change, catering, and venue change went smoothly. The Lea’s will donate soda and water, and the Zimmerman’s will donate beer. There will be \$10 food cost.
  - b. Board members : Five board member’s terms are up for reelection (Lori Bechtel, Duane Ives, Al Hendricks, Pam Hanson Al Weisenbeck) along with Chad White’s term since he resigned his seat. The five board members have indicated they will agree to being nominated again.
  - c. Audit of financials was discussed.

- d. Local community donation-the ideas of food donation and school supply donations were discussed. Cathy Lea informed the board that the local food pantry has a high demand. Duane Ives suggested a ‘Stuff The Bus’ school supply donation. Joe Vydrzal suggested possibly donating to the Wildlands School.
8. Fish crib install discussion: A project involving the installation of deep water cribs was discussed. Duane Ives and Nathan Smith will construct a prototype and seek approval from Joe Gerbyshak at the DNR. Fred informed the board that there is a stock of hemp rope, plastic ties, and other supplies available.
9. Fundraising:
  - a. Calendar raffle has been ongoing.
  - b. Golf outing was a great success. A possible date change for next year is being discussed.
  - c. Fundraiser at Mike’s Buckhorn – cornhole tournament venue has been improved and volunteers are needed for selling raffle tickets.
  - d. Suggestions were discussed for a large raffle like Thorp Lion’s Club with potentially larger revenue from larger prizes. Joe Vydrzal suggested a cash party, gambler’s raffle, gun raffle, and providing meals. Duane Ives suggested that the board focus on the annual fundraising need and, while planning fundraising events, work backwards to meet those financial goals. Ideas discussed: Asking lake residents for capital donations to supplement fundraising needs, in lieu of raffles, events, etc., the potential for raffle fatigue, the need to organize and communicate a new fundraising strategy with some grander-scale events.
10. Other business:
  - a. Website management/revision – formal notice was provided to current provider of the change. The new website will allow for more control and integration. Migration to the new site will start in the near future.
  - b. Dale Zank informed the board that the County Park sign Project has been beset by delays that will set back the installation date, possibly until spring. Volunteers are needed for installation.
  - c. Fred Poss and Joe Vydrzal will hand out informational brochures about the lake and membership forms at the Augusta Night Out on August 3<sup>rd</sup> at the Augusta/Bridge Creek Firehouse
  - d. Eau Claire budget meeting, in Augusta will be August 4<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 pm.
  - e. Volunteers are needed to place postcards at boat landings.
  - f. Advertising will begin for the Holiday Party after the Annual Meeting has taken place.
  - g. Newsletter articles requested.
  - h. WHTL Radio in Whitehall is airing a show called “Get Outdoors” every 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday. Members interested in speaking about Lake Eau Claire on the show for 15-20 minute segments are encouraged to contact Duane to volunteer.
  - i. Next meeting date: 2021 Annual Meeting, Augusta 14<sup>th</sup> at the Lake Eau Claire Clubhouse.
11. President Lori Bechtel moved to adjourn the meeting. Meeting was adjourned at 7pm. Submitted by Nathan Smith, Secretary