Prairie Lake Improvement Association

Meeting Notes May 25, 2014

Fine Lakes Town Hall

Attendance was about 27.

The Officers & Directors were introduced:Merritt Linzie, President; Scott Moncur, Vice-President; Sandy Fontaine, Treasurer; Bob Sanft, Secretary; Directors, Ken Hallberg (15), Richard Collman (16), Bob Stemwedel (14)

Treasurer, Sandy Fontaine reported the financial status.. Income of $607 and Expenses of $592 resulted in a balance of $3656. Membership to date is 61. $25 will be donated to DNR Non-Game Wildlife Fund for Loon activities.

Scott Moncur family placed 8 buoys. After discussion, it was decided to purchase 12 new buoys and negotiate reasonable shipping costs. It was also decided to pay Scott Moncur $125 for placing the buoys and $125 for removing them. Attendees were requested to suggest places that need additional buoys. The Association also decided to increase the annual dues from $10/year to $20/year to help pay for Association activities including new and more buoys. The Certificate of Deposit ($2738) that matures in June will be shifted into checking

Ken Hallberg reported there are two eggs in his loon nest, but the loons don’t seem to be spending much time on the nest. The bald eagle nest has moved from the big island to the NE shore.

Ken will continue taking Prairie Lake water clarity readings including Hasty Brook inlet and Prairie River outlet. Charts showing water quality monitoring results for the past few years were also displayed.

Management of weed growth and reduction in lake sediment will be studied by a small group and reported at the fall meeting. (Kelli Rae Theiss, Bruce Snyder, Ann Lundstrom, and Roger Miller). Chemical control, enzymes, beaver dam removal were some audience suggestions including improvement of walleye spawning and habitat. The group was reminded that the watershed may offer assistance with erosion control and phosphorus reduction.

Harley Swartout, 3821 Prairie Lake Road, reported that 40 acres abutting the west shore of Prairie Lake has been transferred to an heir and sold. About 20 acres south of Prairie River probably will be separated & sold. There are no current plans for the 20 acres north of the river.

John Grones, Editor of the local paper ”Voyager Press”, is currently running series about cabins and asked for Prairie Lake suggestions.

The public access road has some bumps. Scott will contact DNR @ Moose Lake to see if they can help.

The following web sites were suggested:

Prairie Lake; <http://www.prairielake.org> ( this should be displayed on the Directory)

Corrine Moncur, website editor: [moncur@frontiernet.net](file:///C:\Users\M4500\AppData\Local\Microsoft\Windows\Temporary%20Internet%20Files\Content.Outlook\IWFF0PJ0\moncur@frontiernet.net)

St. Louis County: stlouiscountymn.gov and look at MAPS or obtain a mobile application: ArcGIS by ERSI

DNR Mobile Recreation Compass website: <http://wwwmndnr.gov/mobile/compass>.

DNR/MPCA topographic: MnTOPO.

Minnesota Lakes and Rivers Advocates at the state for the 120,000 seasonal and recreational property owners seeking tax fairness and support for families that own cabins, lakeshore, hunting shacks and recreational property. Prairie Lake Improvement Association will contribute $125 this year.

Recent legislation approved $10 million for counties to prevent or limit the spread of aquatic invasive species and allowing counties to work with other government levels including lake associations. Another $4 million was directed to pilot projects for aquatic invasive species measures including a study of using rest areas for education or boat cleaning.

Fine Lakes Township Supervisors are Bill Kinner, Bill Dawson, Bonnie Hall; Treasurer, Ron Malecki, Clerk, Joanne Dawson that usually meet monthly the first Tuesday evening.

Annual elections resulted in the continuation of the incumbents: President, Merritt Linzie; Vice-President, Scott Moncur; Treasurer. Sandy Fontaine; Secretary, Bob Sanft all for 1 year terms and Director, Bob Stemwedel for a 3 year term.

Next Meeting, Sunday, Labor Day Weekend, August 31, 2014, Fine Lakes Town Hall, 1:30 PM.