

Fox Lake Preservation Organization, Inc.

Board of Directors

Saturday December 7, 2019

1. **Call to order:** by Charlie Nelson at 09:34.
2. **Roll call:** Present: Charlie Nelson, Sarah Drzewiecki, Jim Wissing, Mark Brieman, Linda Truelove, Mike Carlino; Not Present: Mike Akin, John Lorenty, Kerry Little, Wendy Crary, Ed Benter. Also Present: Tim Meekma
3. **Approval of minutes from October 5, 2019:** Motion to approve Charlie Nelson, 2nd Mike Carlino; Motion passed.
4. **Public input/ Correspondence-** Tim Meekma, representing FLILPARD, came to express his gratitude for FLPO's leadership and awareness of watershed issues and concerns. FLILPARD has made great strides in this area, partly due to the FLPO's participation. Tim also commented on the transformed quality of the Tides Newsletter and overall communication between the agencies and the FLPO membership. FLILPARD extends a heartfelt thank you to the FLPO Board and Committee Members.
5. **Presidents report**
 - a.) **Field day/Social with legislator(s):** An open field presentation was presented at the Gibbs Farm on Thursday, October 17, 2019. Representative Plumer was in attendance for the presentation. He is actively involved with the prison farms, and it is our understanding that he did take our information and concerns regarding cover crops to the Prison Board. Thank you to Colleen Crane for spearheading this event. There were over 40 people in attendance for the presentation and the following Social. The event was considered a huge success.
 - b.) **Hammer Farm SLAG Project:** The Hammer farm, off of HWY 68, is well under way. They hope to complete this project this year, but, if not, definitely in the Spring. The Hammers continue to solicit financial support for this project. Much discussion amongst the Board and Tim Meekma, FLILPARD, ensued. This project is undeniably experimental, therefore no grant monies are available, at this time. Concerns centering around setting precedence of funding farm projects was discussed at length. Arguing comments included needing to take a risk to move forward on water quality improvements and acknowledgement that the Hammers are being good stewards to the lake and make no benefits to their land with this project. Phosphorus runoff from the fields is being sampled weekly. If this project is deemed a success, it is our hope that the DNR will acknowledge SLAG as a partial solution to lake quality issues and develop grants for farmers in the future who wish to undertake such a project. Charlie presented an itemized list to the Board of costs the Hammers incurred through this project. Followup discussion suggested that the FLPO help subsidize costs for installation of equipment rather than materials needed. Motion 1 by Mike Carlino, 2nd by Mark Brieman to fund \$6000.00 to support installation of SLAG project for the Hammer farm. Discussion ensued, Motion amended by Mike Carlino to clarify existing motion, 2nd by Mark Brieman: Funding not to exceed \$6000. Discussion ensued. Motion amended by Mike Carlino, 2nd by Mark Brieman to fully clarify intent. Motion reads as *The FLPO will provide a one time expense to the Hammer Farm for 50% of the initial installation costs of the SLAG project, up to but not to exceed \$6000.* 5 agree, 1 disagree; motion passed.
 - c.) **Dodge County Alliance:** The alliance has begun a formalization process and will eventually become a 501 c 3. The executive committee will have co-chairs, one lake representative and one farm representative.

6. Committee reports

- a.) **Finance (Linda Truelove):** We currently have \$114,366 in cash and savings. Motion by Mike Carlino, 2nd Mark Brieman to approve Financial Report, Motion carried.
 - b.) **Fish Stocking:** Our Fall Fish Stocking took place on Friday, October 11, 2019. Students from SAGES assisted with the event. It was suggested that the FLPO use boats to disperse the fish around the lake, however the DNR would not approve this process as it might damage the fish to keep them in buckets for so long without proper ventilation equipment. The FLPO will investigate this as an option for future years.
 - c.) **Membership (Sarah Drzewiecki):** 325, including 6 lifetime members, 3 Welcome letters were sent out since the October meeting. This is an all time high for the FLPO. A huge shout out to Lou Benter for managing our membership.
 - d.) **Marketing/ Events (Kerry Little):** The annual Cabin Fever Dinner will be hosted at Schaumburgs on February 22, 2020. More information, including the menu, will be provided in the January Tides. This year the FLPO has added a Spring Fling event. This event will take place at Leroy's Meats on Saturday May 16, 2020 from 1:00-5:00. The FLPO has placed the entire event schedule in the 2020 Fox Lake Visitors Guide. Look for the schedule and our ad in December when the guide comes out.
 - e.) **Healthy lakes (John Lorenty) -** John has secured a new grant writer, however this need has set us back for time. Because of this, some people have backed out. Others have already paid for their plantings/gardens, but did not get their projects completed this year. The DNR is behind in distributing reimbursement to the grant participants. John is working with the DNR to have these reimbursements be distributed as quickly as possible.
7. **New business-** At this time, there has been no new information on the Broadband Expansion Grant. Members present at the meeting expressed concerns about attendance at the bi-monthly meetings. Current Bylaws are outdated as meeting structure has changed throughout the years. The Board members respectfully ask that, if you are unable to attend a meeting, be sure you inform the president and present your reports to him/her in a timely fashion. The secretary should ask someone to assume his/her position for the meeting in a timely fashion. If you are unable to attend the meeting, but wish to participate by phone, please inform the president, no less than one week before, so arrangements can be made. Thank you all for your participation on the Board.
8. **Meeting Schedule-** There will be NO meeting in February. The next meeting will be April 18, 2020. Our June meeting will be the first Saturday in June. This is our annual meeting.
9. **Adjourn-** A motion to adjourn was made by Mike Carlino, 2nd by Sarah Drzewiecki. Motion Carried. The meeting was adjourned at 11:28.

Next meeting Saturday April 18, 2020

Respectfully Submitted,

Sarah Drzewiecki