

Big Eagle Lake Improvement Association Minutes for July 27, 2023
Andreen's Place

Meeting called to order at 6:35 by Gordy Westerlind, President

Attendees: Paul Ellinger, Gordy Westerlind, Jeff Johnson, Ken Andreen, Mike Donnelly, Craig Johnson, JR McGuire, Sarah Phillips, Lori Andreen

Absent: John Smullen, Dan Boyle, Ed Peitso

Motion to approve tonight's Agenda made by Paul, seconded by Jeff. Motion carried.

Motion to approve the minutes of June 22, 2023 meeting made by Mike, seconded by Jeff. Motion carried.

Reports

BELIA Treasurer's Report (Monthly)

June 2023

Checking Account Balance as of the beginning of June 2023	\$46,583.96
Deposits – \$1,483.38 (Dues/Donations, Culvers)	
Checks – \$14,616.60 (CL Treatment, Expenses, BL Chamber)	
Checking Account Balance as of the end of June 2023	\$33,450.74
Uncleared Transactions – \$810.00	
Uncleared Deposits \$0	
Balance as of 7/5/2023 -	\$32,640.74

* June 30, 2022: \$29,561

There were 81 *paid-up* members at the end of June 2023

There were 74 *paid-up* members at the end of June 2022

There were \$6,576.91 in "extra" contributions collected through June 2023

There were \$5,514.16 in "extra" contributions made through June 2022

The 2021 Minnesota Attorney General annual report filed April 24th, 2023

The 2022 990 Federal Tax return was filed on February 18th 2023

The 2022 renewal with the Secretary of State was filed June 7th, 2023

The 2022 Minnesota Sales Tax Return submitted January 11th, 2023

Respectfully submitted by,

Jeff Johnson

Treasurer

Motion to approve Treasurer's Report made by Mike, seconded by JR.

- Expenditure Approvals – none currently.

- Audit Committee - George Wallin and Paul Ellinger to meet soon.

- Lake Quality Committee: Ken Andreen
 - o Initial Secchi Disc reading (measures the clarity of the water) showed visibility to 7.5 feet. Currently, the Secchi disc can be seen at a depth of 3 feet. Measurements are taken once each week and will be reported to the DNR at the end of the season.
 - o Ken will be doing cost comparison with alum treatment providers.
 - o Eurasian Water Milfoil identified at the north end of the lake. We are not able to treat at this time of year.
 - o Need to do more AIS inspections at the public landing.

- ELID (Eagle Lake Improvement District) Update: Jeff Johnson
 - o Response of door-to-door petition signature drive has been very positive. All is moving in the right direction with much work remaining. Board Members will continue to reach out to homeowners through Labor Day to garner support for the ELID through information. If we cannot reach, Gordy, as President, will create a letter which will be sent to these homeowners.
 - o The ELID committee presented to the Sherburne County Commissioners last week and the Commission was supportive.
 - o ELID Board Directors needed: This Board would be consist of five members: at least three would need to be full-time residents of the Big Eagle Lake properties. Gordy is looking for recommendations.
 - o Bonding update: Mike Donnelly
 - Ehlers and Associates: Brian Riley, who seemed both knowledgeable and very willing to give us some free guidance. Brian said that we are essentially establishing a local government entity. Recommendations:
 - 1) Retain an attorney as multiple documents need to be drafted and submitted.
 - 2) Approval to establish a Lake Improvement District (LID) should be achieved before considering the pursuit of Bond funding. Currently, we have no collateral to back a Bond.
 - 3) If we get the LID approved by property owners, County, and DNR, we would be in a strong position to secure a Bond.
 - 4) Tax exempt debt is valuable, and attractive to a bond issuer. (No Federal tax is involved and that allows for a lower interest rate than we could get from a bank).
 - 5) Proceed cautiously as procedural mistakes can adversely impact our tax situation.
 - RBC Wealth Management: we would be too small of a customer.

Kudos to the ELID Committee for all their hard work. It's been an incredible journey.

- COLA: Met June 7th: Discussed Watershed Plan and the results of the Omnibus Bill.

- Chamber – Music in the Park: We should get a percentage of the Lupulin Brewing profits.
- Events: Smokin’ Pulled Pork Cook-Off Saturday, August 12th. 1:45 – 4:30PM
 - Set up Noon – all hands-on deck!
 - Silent Auction Friday Night 6-10 and Saturday 11AM-4PM
 - Need more volunteers to work the games, etc.!

Other Business

- Approved sending information to BELIA membership giving the opportunity to support Rivers of Hope for their ‘Color Run’ September 9th at Lakeside Park.

Next Board Meeting September 7th at 6:30. Location TBD.

Motion to adjourn meeting at 7:56PM made by Craig (CJ), seconded by Mike Donnelly. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Lori Andreen

BELIA Secretary