GULL CHAIN OF LAKES ASSOCIATION

Board of Director’s Meeting

Wednesday, June 14, 2017

Present: Steve Allex, Uldis Birznieks, Bill Brekken, Kevin Egan, Robert Eliason, Rosemary Goff, Linda

Harrier, Chuck Herrig, John Ingleman, Sheila Johnston, Bob Toborg, and Marc Bagicalupi.

Absent: Jay Chaney, Steve Frawley, Marv Meyer and Mary Kay Larson.

Guests: Hoot Gibson and Julie Hepburn

The meeting was called to order by Chair Birznieks at 8:30 a.m.

On motion by Ingleman, seconded by Toborg the minutes of the May 10, 2017, were approved as read.

**Treasurer’s Report:** As of May 31, 2017, there were cash assets of $183,172.82 (including $85,071.71 in the AIS Contingency Fund). Total income from May 1 thru May 31 was $3,580 and expenditures were $5,616. The treasurer’s report was set aside subject to audit.

Goff presented the annual Charitable Organization Report to be sent to the State of Minnesota.

**Motion** by Goff, seconded by Eliason that the Board of the Gull Chain of Lakes Association

(GCOLA) approve the contents of the Charitable Organization Annual Report Form and that the

Chair and Secretary be authorized to execute the documents on behalf of the GCOLA Board of

Directors. **Motion passed.**

**Correspondence:** E-mail from Sunspace regarding displaying their product at the GALA.

Invitation to annual Brainerd Lakes Area Community Foundation dinner.

Faith in Action for Cass County donation request.

**News and Notes:** Birznieks reported that:

\* Paid membership is at 856, donations are at 76% of budget and net income is

+$23,700.

\* At the annual meeting on July 15 committee chairs are asked to give a five minute

update and bylaw changes will be approved.

\* WAPOA has been approved by the DNR for 711 AIS inspection hours. They have a

tree planting program whereby they sold over 2,000 trees.

\* The following directors are up for re-election: Egan, Goff, Harrier and Ingleman.

\* We have $10,000 in unspent shoreline restoration funds. The funds provide a

50/50 match.

**DNR:** Bacigalupi reported that they had a good spring run of walleye and were able to attain 700 quarts (8 million) of eggs. They were able to place two million surplus fry in the Gull Chain. An electro fishing test on bass was conducted.

The Legislature approved an increase for the individual fishing license fee from $23-$25. Other fishing license fees also were increased which will allow the DNR to maintain the same amount of staff. The golden shiner bait import ban remains.

**ACCL Meeting:**  Herrig reported that Jeff Forester from MN Lakes and Rivers Advocates gave a legislative update. Fines were not increased for illegal transport of AIS. Discussion was held on how lake associations can become more unified and effective at the legislature and partner better with the DNR.

**MNCOLA Annual Meeting:** Birznieks reported on the annual MN COLA meeting. (See attachment)

**AIS Committee:** Allex reported that the DNR has approved 750 boat inspection hours for the three Gull public accesses. The May Lake Shore Police Department report was presented (see attachment). He is working with resorts on communicating issues to their guests. The Lake Margaret curly leaf spraying was not completely successful. The PLM post inspection report was presented. (See attachment)

Julie Hepburn has signed up for the AIS Inspection Program.

**Communication Committee:** Ingleman reported that the spring newsletter has been published and dates for summer newsletters are yet to be determined.

**Environment Committee:** Johnston reported that 200 tree seedlings of different varieties were dispersed. The loon nest search has taken place and end of dock water testing has been conducted. She will be meeting with the Cass County sheriff in July regarding placement of loon nesting buoys.

**Finance Committee:** Birznieks reported that the Finance Committee met with Mike Sands, CPA, regarding the type of audit we should be conducting. Mike Sands did not feel a full external audit was needed. The Finance Committee agreed that the requirement for a full external audit every three years should be deleted from the bylaws. Instead, an annual financial review by an ad hoc committee would be conducted.

**GALA:** Herrig gave an update on dinner and raffle tickets sold and reminded members that silent auction items are needed by July 1.

**Legislative Committee:** Birznieks presented an update on legislative actions (See attachment).

**Safety and Recreation:** Toborg reported that both boat safety classes are full (total of 50 students).

All of the buoys were installed before the fishing opener.

**Nominations Committee:** Egan reported that the committee is working on vetting potential new board members and seeking a new chair.

**Bylaws:** Egan presented proposed changes to the bylaws. They will be voted on at the July meeting with ratification to take place at the annual meeting.

Birznieks presented the 6-month look ahead calendar. Johnston will attend the MAISRC showcase in September.

On motion by Eliason, seconded by Herrig, the meeting was adjourned at 9:55 a.m.

Minutes recorded by Rosemary Goff