GULL CHAIN OF LAKES ASSOCIATION

Board of Director’s Meeting

September 14, 2016, Grand View Lodge

Present: Steve Allex, Dave Anderson, Uldis Birznieks, Jay Chaney, Kevin Egan, Robert Eliason, Rosemary Goff, Chuck Herrig, Arla Johnson, Mary Kay Larson and Bob Toborg

Absent: Linda Harrier, John Ingleman, Sheila Johnston and Marv Meyer

Guests: Betsy Egan and Todd Holman

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

On motion by Johnson, seconded by Egan the minutes of the August 10, 2016, meeting were approved as presented.

**Treasurer’s Report:** As of August 31, 2016, there was cash on hand of $163,733.57 (includes $65,000 in the AIS Contingency Fund). Total income from August 1 to August 31 was $2,150 and total expenses were $16,465.40. The treasurer’s report was set aside subject to audit.

**Correspondence:** Initiative Foundation 30-Year Celebration on October 7.

Nisswa Chamber Fall Dinner September 22

Initiative Foundation and U of MN magazines

**Guest Speaker:** Todd Holman, the Mississippi Headwaters Program Director for the Nature Conservancy talked about their focus on clean drinking water projects, the Landscape Stewardship Program, forest management plan and the Camp Ripley Sentinel Landscape Plan. GCOLA can participate through our lobbying ability, financial support for protection projects and networking.

**News and Notes:** \* The financials are ahead by $50,000 on net income.

\* Membership is at 935 families, the highest ever.

\* Donations are at 97% of budget.

\* Decision needs to be made on sending a year end Endowment Fund letter.

\* The spread of AIS, especially starry stonewort, is getting alarming. (Egan

Commented we should be ready to start a Lake Improvement District.)

\* A petition from Gull residents has been sent to the Environmental Quality Board

seeking an Environmental Assessment Worksheet on muskie stocking. It has been

referred to the DNR.

\* Dr. Nick Phelps, the new MAIRSC Director will be at out November meeting.

**Planning Meeting:** Birznieks proposed a half day planning meeting to review current project, set goals for 2017, and look at committee budgets. Proposed budgets would be submitted at the November board meeting. The planning meeting was tentatively set for November 2 from 8:30 a.m. to noon.

**GALA Committee:**  Allex reported that the Gala produced a net income of $24,000. The silent auction took in a little more than last year and the raffle $1,000 less.

**LARA Annual Meeting:** Toborg reported they presented a list of fourteen accomplishments over the past year. Arlene Jones from Mathias Farm gave a presentation on organic farming.

**Assn. of Cass County Lakes:** Herrig reported that the Friends of the Headwaters which is opposing the Enbridge pipeline gave an update on the project. (It has since been dropped).

**AIS Committee:** Allex reported that PLM has competed the second aquatic vegetation survey. No Eurasian water milfoil was found and purple loosestrife is at the same amount as found last year.

Cass County will give an update on the boat inspection program at the Corps of Engineers site at the end of the year. The August report from the Lake Shore Police Department was presented.

**Membership Committee:** Johnson reported that there is currently a membership of 935 households with 180 still unpaid.

**Communications Committee**: Anderson reported that he plans to redo the web site over the winter.

**Safety and Recreation:** Toborg reported that he needs to order more buoy lights because of vandalism.

Gull Lake Marina will begin pulling buoys at the end of September.

**Fisheries Committee:** Birznieks reported that he will put together a draft proposal for a new Fisheries Committee and run it by Ken Stover and Chuck Herrig, who volunteered to be on that committee, and then forward to Bacigalupi for his input. He will bring it to the full board in October.

**Birch Bay RV Park:** Egan reported that the brief is still to be presented to the court. It will be next year before there is a court decision.

**Love Lake Channel:** Chaney reported that there is a very strong septic odor in the Love Lake Channel which may need to involve the Board working with the Love Lake Association on addressing the problem.

**Corps of Engineers:** Larson reported that they are trying to treat purple loosestrife which is a problem in the dam area, a volunteer built two new loon nests, a student built a birding blind which looks natural, a Wounded Warrior Fishing Tournament will take place from the Corps landing and she participated in the Fishing Has No Boundaries event at the end of August.

Allex will attend the September 30 ACCL annual meeting and the AIS Summit in St. Cloud on October 5 and 6 will be attended by Steve Allex, Rosemary Goff and Sheila Johnston.

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

Minutes recorded by Rosemary Goff