GULL CHAIN OF LAKES ASSOCIATION

Board of Director’s Meeting

August 10, 2016, Grand View Lodge

Present: Steve Allex, Marc Bacigalupi, Uldis Birznieks, Kevin Egan, Rosemary Goff,

Chuck Herrig, John Ingleman, Arla Johnson, Sheila Johnston, Marv Meyer,

Bob Toborg.

Absent: Jay Chaney, Robert Eliason, Linda Harrier, Mary Kay Larson

Guests: Dave and Marian Anderson, Katie Arvesen, Melissa Chaney, Ken Stover

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

On motion by Johnson, seconded by Ingleman, the minutes of the July 1, 2016, meeting were approved as read.

**Treasurer’s Report:** As of July 31, 2016, there was cash on hand of $177,878.54 (includes $65,000 in the AIS Contingency Fund). Total income from July 1 to July 31 was $36,976.65 and expenses were $$6,481.29. The treasurer’s report was set aside subject to audit.

**Correspondence:** Invitation to AIS Summit on October 5-6

Brainerd Public Schools Foundation request for donation

LARA Annual Meeting announcement

**News and Notes from Chair:**

1. We need to look at increasing expenditures for curly leaf pondweed

treatment and put in place a plan.

1. Pelican Lake in Detroit Lakes is also dealing with RV park development

issues.

1. Membership now exceeds 2015 membership and donations are at 93% of

budget.

1. The new MAISRC Director, Dr. Nicholas Phelps, would like to meet with the

Board.

1. DNR announced decision to stock muskies in Gull Lake. Dueling petitions on this issue are going around in media.
2. A number of lake associations have set up a fisheries committee to work with DNR Fisheries. Birznieks will generate a proposed mission statement for a Fisheries Committee and present it at the September Board meeting.

**ACCL MEETING:** Ron Meyer, Chair of the Pine River Watershed Alliance, talked about AIS early detection and training programs. The annual ACCL meeting will be held on September 30. Rima Smith-Kaprios from Cass County Environmental Services gave an update on AIS inspections with the amount of violations about the same as last year. A special AIS detection program for resorts is scheduled for September 19 at Northern Lights Casino. ACCL is looking for donations to pay for the event.

**Motion** by Johnson, seconded by Toborg that $300 be sent to ACCL for the September 19 resort owners AIS event.

Meyer moved to amend, seconded by Ingleman, to pay for all 19 Gull Lake Chain resorts at $50 per resort. **Amended motion passed.**

**Annual Meeting:** Birznieks reported that with the change of day there were fewer attendees than last year. Those that were in attendance were favorable to separating the annual meeting from the Gala because it was not rushed. A separate annual meeting will again be scheduled next year.

**Gala:** The numbers are yet to be finalized and will be presented at the September meeting.. Discussion on changes needed to the silent auction and ways to give business donors more recognition. Herrig presented a chart of top bid items.

**AIS Committee:** The second aquatic vegetation sampling will take place at the end of the month. We need to analyze boat inspection hours.

**Communications Committee:** Ingleman reported thatthe summer newsletter is at the printer.

**Environment Committee:** Johnson reported that the End of Dock water quality survey is to be completed in August. There are a reported five loon chicks still alive.

**Safety and Recreation:** Toborg reported that there are several missing buoys and broken buoy lights are an ongoing problem.

**Department of Natural Resources:** Bacigalupi reported that zebra mussels have been found in two mine pits in Crosby and Round Lake north of Garrison. They were also found localized at one property in Ruth Lake. A copper sulfite treatment was conducted in the area I 2015. A 2016 search yielded no live zebra mussels but the real test of success will be whether zebra mussels are found over the next 2-3 year.

With the cost of stocking walleye fingerlings in a lake the size of Gull at $60,000, creation of a contingency fund for walleye fingerling stocking might be helpful. Cost of muskie fingerlings is $1.00/fish or $2,000 for Gull Lake. Muskies Inc. has contributed in the past.

*Addendum per email on 8/15/2015 from Marc Bacigalupi – “I may have erroneously stated that muskies were $1/fish, when it is walleyes that are $1/walleye and $20/lb. Muskies re $17/muskie and $50/lb. These values represent recent bid/contract prices from private aquaculturists with approved genetic strains and are disease tested. It is more difficult to determine the price at which the state produces its own fish because of imbedded in infrastructure costs, multiple use/benefits of equipment, multiple tasks for labor, etc.”*

The cost of muskie fingerling stocking for Gull Lake would be approximately $34,000 per stocking. These costs aren’t necessarily additive to DNR Fisheries budget because of the existing state production capacity and priority stocking system.

**Birch Bay RV Park:** Egan reported that litigation is in the Court of Appeals with the argument that the original study by the Cass County Planning Commission did not take a look at the effect on Gull Lake.

**Other**: Discussion was held on current information and status regarding the muskie stocking issue.

On motion by Meyer, seconded by Herrig, the meeting adjourned at 10:41 a.m.

Minutes recorded by Rosemary Goff.