



Douglas County Lakes Association
Wednesday, March 10, 2010, 4:30 p.m.
Public Works Building
Alexandria, MN 56308

President Dick Kuehn called the meeting to order at 4:30 p.m. with the following people present: Marilyn Bayerl – Mary, Jerry Haggenmiller – DCSWCD, Emily Siira – DCSWCD, Bonnie Huettl – Lobster, Keith Dougherty – L’ Homme Dieu, Harry May – Geneva, Karen Cook – Latoka, David Rush – Douglas County Land and Resource, Virg Batesole – Agnes, Pete Borner – Visitor – Alexandria, Jim Peterson – Ida and Dick Kuehn – Miltona.

Motion by Keith Dougherty, second by Sue Engstrom to approve the minutes with the following changes: Pg 2 spelling should be Al Leiffort with a capital S in Stop Aquatic Hitchhiker (1 word) signs. Bonnie clarified that she attended a meeting in Baxter put on by BWSR. She also attended a meeting in Fergus Falls put on by the DNR and its purpose was to discuss COLA priorities and to educate. On pg 1, insert May 10th as the day to pick up coolers. Motion carried.

Treasurer Jim Peterson distributed and reviewed the financial reports. There is one bill to pay of \$25.00 from InfoLink. Motion by Bonnie Huettl, second by Keith Dougherty to approve the Treasurer’s report and pay all bills. Motion carried.

Emily Siira reported working all winter on shoreland restoration projects. A larger focus this year will be rain garden workshops. There will be a workshop next Thursday. We have received some money from West MN RCMP. The first 50 participants at the workshop will receive an 81 page full color free book on how to install rain gardens. The Master Gardener tour may include one of our sites on county road 34 on Sunday, July 11th. Table tents are not yet completed. Emily asked for three volunteers to judge the scholarship essays. Sue Engstrom, Virg Batesole and Bonnie Huettl volunteered.

A brief Douglas County update was given by Dave Rush. President Kuehn asked for a copy of the Comprehensive plan when it is in its final drafting stage. Rush explained that the County has two significant projects in the works: an overhaul of the septic program and revision of the comprehensive plan. Rush explained that the county is required to adopt new septic rules by June 30, 2010. President Kuehn asked for a copy of the septic rules when they are in the final drafting stage. The county also received a grant from the Clean Water Fund to enhance the counties septic program, including development of a database, an inventory and assessment of current conditions, and an information and education program. Rush indicated there would be an opportunity to have individual lake association members receive training on septic systems to be an information source for residents on their lake.. Dave reported the comprehensive plan is the biggest thing they are working on right now.

Dave Rush has had discussion with DNR about restricting watercraft traffic through channels on the Chain of Lakes to drastically limit the spread of Zebra Mussels. The County will be looking into the issue further and seeking public input before any changes are made.

Keith Dougherty reported that Open Line speakers will be Nathan Olson of the DNR in April, Dean Beck of the DNR in May, Bill Ingebrigtsen in June and possibly Dave Rush in July.

Bonnie Huettl reported it has been quiet for Zoning.

The Hospitality group has pledged \$1,000 for us to use for public awareness, we have \$1,000 from Lake Ida Association and \$250 from Lake Milona. Bonnie suggested using the money for placemats and table tents and Stop Aquatic Hitchhiker signs. We have the list of all eating places and we are ready to go. There was a motion by Bonnie Huettl, second by Sue Engstrom to use the above mentioned money, as well as the DNR grant for these public Awareness projects. Motion carried. Volunteers will be needed to distribute the placemats to area establishments.

President Kuehn suggested that we have Dorothy Klemann send out a two month calendar with the minutes that lists upcoming events. Dick moved sending the two month calendar but on the first of each month with pertinent data. Second by Bonnie Huettl and motion carried.

Adam Hjelm of the Sauk River Watershed has asked to have a spot reserved at our annual meeting in September. President Kuehn also suggested having Dave Rush. President Kuehn asked for suggestions for other speakers.

Bonnie Huettl is serving on the Sub Surface Sewage Treatment Systems Committee (SSTS). She will be attending and reporting to the Douglas County Lakes Association.

Tastefully Simple is holding a Community Volunteer Program event on April 19. They want us to provide information on what we do and how their people could volunteer to help. Suggestions included: help with placing table tents, placemats signage and providing a water monitor for Lake Bountiful.

There was a motion by Sue Engstrom, second by Bonnie Huettl to pay Nancy Haggemiller to design and mail a postcard to all organizations who put docks, etc in and out of lakes. The postcard will announce training to be held by the DNR for aquatic invasive species. Motion carried.

Lake Irene is looking for a fiscal sponsor for their HLRP project (Lake Management Plan). There was a motion by Bonnie Huettl, second by Keith Dougherty that the Douglas County Lakes Association serve as fiscal host for the Lake Irene lake management plan, if they attend our monthly meetings. \$2500 will be received in grant monies from the Initiative Foundation up front and the remaining \$2500 once Lake Irene submits documentation of having completed the first stage of the HLRP planning process. Motion carried.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Dorothy Klemann
Executive Secretary
DCLA