

BSLA BOD Meeting
June 15, 2023
Ridge Runners

Call to Order by President Stenger 6:30 pm

Roll Call: Matt Nichols, Skip Sommerfeldt, Vic Peth, Scott Stenger, Eric Scharp, Dan Pattenaude, Joe Wolf, Dennis Stemen

Absent: Loretta Miller

Approve 5-18-2023 minutes Motion to approve by Joe second by Skip motion carried

Treasurer Report

Approve 6-15-23 treasurer report presented by Vic, motion to approve by Skip second by Dennis motion carried.

Membership Report

- Membership update:
 - April Membership – 124
 - May Membership – 129
 - June Membership – 134
- Current BSLA Affiliate Members
 - Village Pit Shop
 - Butternut Feed Store
 - FeednSeed
 - Double Ds
 - Ridge Runners
 - Bobbers
 - NOTE: to be eligible for some (many?) state grants, an organization cannot have members who cannot vote. Associate Members (aka Affiliate members) do not have the ability to vote.

Old Business

Kids Don't Float Kiosk Update

- The contract(s) with the state has been delayed since last month because of a series of revisions from the state agencies/representatives.
- Note: the kiosk has been placed at the landing. We are awaiting final approval which is when we can finish the kiosk (final signage, lid, and jackets).

Invasive Species Sign – 48x48 Boat Cleaning (invasive species). The location is marked and waiting for the contract to be finalized for to be installed.

Town Lighting Request – we discussed 'sensible lighting' and sharing the 'Sensible Shoreland Lighting' document with the membership along with a short article on the topic in the next Newsletter.

Yellow Iris Update – The goal: replace yellow iris (invasive and poisonous) with blue iris (native) at four sites this year to see how well the process works. The three pilot sites have been planted (each lake represented). We will monitor the results over this year and to next spring/early summer.

Water Sample Results – the results are in! Both lakes are within acceptable levels for all items measured. A reminder that both lakes are tested multiple times annually (thank you Dan P and Vic P).

Summer Board Meeting (Annual Meeting)

- September 2nd at 1PM at Bobbers
- DNR Warden Tom Heisler as a guest speaker is confirmed
- Representative Chanz Green is also confirmed
- Ideas discussed to have a Pig Roast along with an 'on-site' raffle to help keep members there for follow-up discussions. The goal: get people there and have them stick around a while to build camaraderie
- Scott will reach out to Bobbie and the pig roaster to see if this idea has merit.

2024 Membership Recruitment Letter to all lake residents – the update letter will be sent out by Scott

Email to all members regarding the Annual Meeting – an email reminder will be sent to all members

BSLA Welcome Sign Update – we are working to get with Mike P. about putting the sign up at the corner of Wagner and Lakeshore.

New Business

Susie Daniels Update – Public Health Nurse for Price County Health Department. Provided an update on the magnitude and negative effects of cigarette butt control.

- Cigarette butts (filters in particular) are the #1 item found littered on the lakes.
- They contain toxic substances and take up to 10 years to decompose.
 - Vaping pens are no better, if not worse
- The ask from Susie: increase awareness about the persistent negative effects of this littering along with adding a small cigarette kiosk/disposal station at the landing(s) [she shared an example of what has been done]. Adding this information to our newsletter would also be helpful...

By Laws Update Review – Dan has a series of revisions ready for review. He distributed paper copies and will email his revisions after this meeting. The BOD will review the by laws prior to the next meeting and will provide feedback to each other prior to the next meeting. The goal: have a revised copy ready for review in the July meeting so we can propose for ratification by the membership at the annual meeting this September.

BSLA Fall Newsletter Timing – first newsletter topic regarding the frequency. Currently it is set at 3 times per year (two email, one mailed). To sustain the current frequency, more members (board members and otherwise) will need to provide content. Next newsletter is slated for distribution in August.

2024 Fisheree – short discussion on permitting for the Fisheree. The process has started and Skip will complete the application in the next month (or so). Motion to approve license fee payment by Vic, seconded by Dennis, motion carried.

BSLA 2023 Fall Stocking Program Update – Dennis has found a vendor and needs to complete the application to stock the fish. 1,000 Crappie and 300 Walleye will be requested for stocking. Note that the walleye population is strong on Butternut and permission to stock walleye may be difficult to obtain (from the DNR) if the decision is made to stock a significant number of walleye.

2024 Hoffman's Rocks Boat Launch Remodel Status – the landing is currently on the docket for a major remodel/overhaul next year. However, this date could be in jeopardy due to potential funding issues.

2023 Spearing Numbers on Butternut Lake – Skip gave a short update on the spearing numbers this year. Speculating that the spearing numbers are down this year from previous years.

Discuss New BSLA Membership Brochure – Scott and Vic are discussing updating the membership brochure to share who/what the BSLA is about.

BOD Open Positions, BOD Election @ Annual Meeting

- Five positions will be available at the September membership meeting
- Two positions will be vacant, those served by Loretta Miller and Dennis Stemen
- Three board positions will be open where the incumbent is interested in re-election: Scott, Vic, and Eric

Good and Welfare

- Skip complimented the highway/road cleanup crews, particularly Dan and Jean P. Thank you!!!
- Eric shared an anecdote about the Flambeau Area Sportsman's Club growing from four members to 100 active members...what can we learn from their experience AND how can we partner with them?

Future Key Dates

- Annual Meeting 2024 is Labor Day Saturday (September 2, 2023)
- Fisheree 2024 Date is January 20th, 2024

Next meeting set for Thursday July 27th, 2023 at 6:30PM at Bobber's

Motion to adjourn by Joe second by Skip carried. 8:16 pm

Submitted by Matt Nichols