

Big Sand Lake Association Annual Meeting – 2014

Registration, membership update, networking, and table displays from 10:00 – 10:30. Displays included AIS information, Friends of the Headwaters, Unknown Legend Designs, and Native and Invasive Plants by Terry Klepinski.

The Big Sand Lake Association held its annual meeting at Evergreen Resort on June 28, 2014. The meeting was called to order by President Candy Malm at 10:35 a.m. There were about 69 members in attendance. Candy introduced herself and welcomed residents to the meeting.

In Memoriam: Board Member Richard Sederstrom reverently read the names of Big Sand Lake residents who have passed away in the last year: Charlie Corwin, Ray Clark, Jerry Bowers, John Brainard, Jerry Benshoof, and Chuck Bruggen. Carter Brand was also remembered.

Introductions: Attendees introduced themselves noting where they lived on the lake.

Annual Meeting Minutes for 2013 were approved as reported on the Big Sand website.

Treasurer's Report: Al Judson presented the treasurer's report for calendar year 2013 and 2014 to date.

January 1, 2013 - December 31, 2013: Receipts from membership dues totaled \$6,280 (162 memberships). Donations totaled \$2,423. AIS donations totaled \$1,715. There were expenses of \$10,068.55 (including \$3,590 for AIS). The final balance for 2013 in money market and checking was \$16,683.58.

January 1, 2014 - June 27, 2014: Receipts from membership total \$4,320 (105 members). Donations total \$2,410. Donations to the Charitable Fund total \$260 (to be sent to the foundation). Expenses to date total \$6,122.24 (largest expense is \$5,000 for AIS). There is a balance in money market and checking of \$19,538.21.

Charitable Fund: Since July 1, 2013 there has been a growth in the charitable fund of \$4,192.44 since July 1, 2013, for a balance of \$42,814.28 on May 2, 2014.

M/S/C (Bob Klepinski/Pat Ryan) to accept the treasurer's report.

Speakers: Candy introduced two guest speakers.

Richard Smith, a member of the Blue Lake Association, was present to inform the association about the work of Friends of the Headwaters. He noted that the Friends of the Headwaters was formed in opposition to the Enbridge Pipeline with the mission of convincing Enbridge that the headwaters/lake country is the wrong place to put the pipeline. Friends of the Headwaters has asked Enbridge to move the proposed route for the Sandpiper Pipeline to by-pass lake country and to double hull the pipe. Mr. Smith had a wealth of information regarding the pipeline including many maps to illustrate the proposed route and effects it could have on lake country. For example, if there is a leak under one of the twenty-eight stream crossings there is no way to get to the pipe to repair it. Mr. Smith encouraged the membership to write letters to the editor for the newspaper and to politicians as it is not too late to influence the outcome of the location of the route. For more information and details of the pipeline and the work of Friends of the Headwaters members can go to www.friendsoftheheadwaters.org

Kathy Grell, Hubbard County Commissioner representing District One, gave an update of county government as it affects Big Sand Lake. The Minnesota legislature passed a bill granting \$10,000,000 a year to local governments, starting next year, to fight the spread of AIS. She called Hubbard County the Star of the State in being proactive in the fight against AIS noting the hard work of Hubbard County COLA representatives Ken Grob and Dan Kittilson. Local governments will be able to use the funds for such things as AIS education, decontamination stations, and AIS inspections. Rep. Grell noted that another "Hot Topic" is logging in the county. Currently, they are working on improving the logging policy and the implementing

of the policy. The current policy has not been entirely successful. She said the logging at the Wayside Rest on County Road 7 is based on the need for getting rid of the Pine Bark Beetle and to control crowding. Members of the association questioned the need to cut down all of the trees that are marked at that location. She noted that the DNR has a website with information concerning the Pine Bark Beetle. Rep. Grell also addressed the following: improvement of the trailhead at Laporte by Parks and Recreation, timber sales, remodeling the courthouse, and improving services to citizens of the county.

Update on Public Access: Irene Weis shared a communique from Tony Walzer of the DNR regarding the Big Sand public access. The DNR did buy the Boggs property with a closing date of January 9, 2014. The electricity has been discontinued and the DNR will monitor the property, take care of debris, and mow. They will not do any building before 2015 and they will consult with the Big Sand Lake Association regarding construction. Irene also made note of the decontamination station the DNR has at the Hubbard County transfer station on County 6.

AIS Inspection: Candy and Al shared information regarding AIS inspections to date for the summer noting that Big Sand has had 272 inspections of water craft at the public access.

Paperless Newsletter: With a show of hands, requested by Candy, most members indicated that they would like their Big Sand Newsletters electronically. Very few members indicated that they visit the Big Sand web site.

Update on Big Sand Socials: Linda VanBruggen, social chairman, gave an update of socials:

Friday, July 4, 11:00 a.m. – boat parade (meet at inlet at Northwest corner of the lake)

Thursday, July 10, 5:30 p.m. – Zorba's

Monday, July 14, 11:00 a.m. – Bella Caffè – lunch/coffee

Saturday, July 26, 5-7 p.m. – Social at Bob and Laura Spolums'

Saturday, August 16, 5-7 p.m. – Social at Rich Jacobson's

Board Members: Candy thanked the following retiring board members for their years of service: Cynthia Jones, Bob Klepinski, Terry Klepinski, Cindy Rehkamp, Todd Zimmerman, Marlene Fairchild, and Heather Wittman. Marlene, although not present, was recognized for her many years as secretary with a Big Sand blanket. The following were presented for election to the board: Scott Preusse, Bonnie Brand, Aaron Roseth, Ellis Jones, Beth Kruger, Bill Eichten, Irene Weis, and current members for reelection, Barb Kimer and Tom VanBruggen. Presented for board officers for the coming two years were: President – Candy Malm, President Elect – Richard Jacobson, Treasurer – Al Judson, Secretary – Jo Judson.

M/S/C (Bob Klepinski/Jeff Brand) to accept the slate of board members and officers.

Drawing: Kristin Haugan was the recipient of the white pine tree that was raffled off. (Thank you to Terry Klepinski for the wonderful display of native and invasive plants.)

M/S/C (Bob Klepinski/Chris Hilger) to adjourn the meeting at 12:05.

Following the meeting a picnic lunch, catered by the Good Life Café, was served.