

Black Lake Association

Minutes of Board Meeting

May 10, 2021

Present Brett Trepanier, Cindy Trepanier, Sharon Dulak, Ron Dulak, Roger Selvig, David Turzewski by phone, Erin McLean, Roger Bergstedt,

Absent John Roby

Call to Order Brett Trepanier, president, called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. at the Grant Township Hall. In addition to the Board, 10 people were present. Proper social distancing protocol was followed. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Rules of Meeting Questions and input were solicited for each report. Time for additional public comment was provided at the end of the meeting.

Secretary's and Treasurer's Reports Minutes from the October 12, 2020, meeting approved as read with no corrections. Treasurer's report approved as read subject to audit.

Committee Reports

Membership Sharon Dulak reported that 299 memberships have been received to date, which is good for this time of year.

Fish Erin McLean and Roger Selvig reported on the following topics:
The 10 year general fish study to be conducted by the DNR has been postponed again this year because of personnel changes.
Stocking. Waiting to hear from Bay City this spring re fingerlings.
500,000 fry from Sioux for fall. Will dye.
No problems at Rainey this spring because walleye came in and were gone before season opened.
DNR has \$5000 in an account from us from the past several years to provide food for fingerlings. Because of DNR program restrictions due to COVID, they don't need any additional support right now.

Townships Large item disposal days for the townships follow:
Grant: May 13 and 14
Waverly: June 5
Bearinger: July 17
N Allis: June sometime

Old Business

Swimmers' Itch Cindy Trepanier reported on a recent Freshwater Solutions Zoom seminar on swimmers Itch. Cindy will post the seminar presentation on the BLA web site.
Three northern Michigan lakes that have been relocating mergansers for the past three years have discontinued the process and are now looking at other means of prevention.

Water Level in Lake and River	<p>Dr. Ron Reimink of Freshwater Solutions has identified a snail in Black Lake for which the Canadian Goose is the specific host that could be responsible for swimmers' itch outbreaks. Reimink says that there is no way to chemically treat whole lake. His current research focuses on a preventive cream that may be available later this summer.</p> <p>Cindy Trepanier will look into scheduling Reimink for another program with the BLA to update us.</p> <p>BLPS is now in the third year of a program to relocate mergansers from Black Lake, so you may see that process happening on the lake.</p>
TotM Watershed Academy and Scholarship	<p>Lack of snow and rain led to lowest lake level ever this spring. Current protocol is to keep lake level low until April 29 before starting to raise level. Started to raise, then 3 ½ inches of rain brought water to summer level and .24 above. Debate is still ongoing re water level management. Dam owner Nelson Turcotte is trying to amend license to change target level.</p> <p>He has retained a microbiologist and fisheries and lake sturgeon expert to study the impact of rapid change in water levels and of low spring levels on the bio environment in the river and the pond.</p> <p>Reflections group on S River Rd becoming more involved in discussions. Review of history, role of Smith Rapids, and discussion of impact on river as well as lake.</p>
Shore Line Study	<p>Discussion re possibly establishing scholarship for Onaway HS student from TotM Watershed Academy. Committee established with Dave Turzewski to head to look into concept and see what other associations might be doing Will need to work with someone from the school to develop plan re process, application, evaluation, selection committee for annual scholarship. Funds could come from general fund and be built into annual budget.</p> <p>Roger Selvig moved to establish committee; second by Cindy Trepanier. Motion carried.</p>
Harmful Algae Blooms	<p>Jim Filipowski is now the BLA ambassador to MI Shoreline Partnership. On their website, a person can request shoreline evaluation for stewardship program, and MI Shoreline Partnership will make recommendations for improvement, provide information and assistance.</p> <p>TotM is working to obtain a grant, which has not yet been made, to develop a management plan for the Black Lake watershed.</p>
Annual Banquet	<p>Roger Bergstedt reported that MI EGLE is monitoring 12 lakes for blue green algae, and Black Lake is expected to be one of the lakes. USGS and EGLE are taking samples every 2 weeks and comparing results with data from multiple states. A monitor on a buoy will collect data re environmental changes before, during, and after blooms to help predict future HABs. Analyses of toxins from last year are also being done.</p>
Channel Markers	<p>Connie Nadjarian has scheduled the banquet for July 10 at UAW Education Center. More info re time, cost, etc., later. Contact Connie if you want to volunteer to help or have donations for a raffle.</p> <p>License for 50/50 needs to be obtained.</p>
New Business	<p>Jim Coleman and Andrew LaLonde are taking over the installation and removal of the buoys that mark the channel to the Lower Black River in the north end of the lake.</p>

TotM Boat wash	<p>TotM asked the BLA to participate and sponsor boat washes at the state park. Their staff would be there and BLA would assist their crew. 2-3 volunteers per shift are needed. Purpose is to prevent spread of invasive species into lake and educate boaters. Need volunteers: Bill Fink and Daniel Nunez volunteered.</p> <p>Sharon Dulak moved to support TotM boat wash, Roger Selvig seconded, and motion was approved.</p>
Info Pamphlet	<p>Last fall, Sharon Dulak asked Linda VanSickle to draft materials for new members or people new to the lake. Linda gathered info and drafted an FAQ that can be placed on the web and also printed to be given to new members. Information included pointers to authoritative sources, such as DNR, EGLE, Michigan.gov, etc. Discussion re printing enough to distribute to membership and potential members with revisions made online. Roger Selvig moved to approve up to \$1000 for printing, and Cindy Trepanier seconded; motion was approved. Linda and Sharon to obtain revised estimate for printing.</p> <p>Discussion included possibility of developing app to use, small postcard type doc to distribute with contact info only, emailing to membership. First step is to meet membership chair's request for booklet that beach reps can distribute this year.</p>
Nominations	<p>John Roby, Erin McClean, and Brett Trepanier were nominated for three-year terms. Three requests for additional nominations were made before nominations were closed.</p> <p>Membership will vote on these three nominees at next meeting.</p>
Next meeting	<p>Monday, June 14, 2021: Potluck dinner at 6:00 p.m., meeting at 7:00 p.m.</p>
Adjournment	<p>Ron Dulak moved to adjourn. Meeting adjourned at 8:35 pm.</p>
