

MINONG TOWN LAKES COMMITTEE

April 7, 2011

PRESENT: Russ Robinson Tony Tubbs Ron Brown
 Pamela Toshner Kate Zimmerman Laurie Johnson
 Lisa Burns Doug Bush Barb Robinson

Meeting called to order at 9:00am by Russ Robinson.

The first order of business was the Northwest Lakes Conference Meeting. Russ and Tony explained that the format was going to be a little different from last year in that there would be an extra session in each session period..

Tony brought up the idea of Minong Town Lakes Committee (MTLC) sponsor students at Northwoods School to attend the NW Lakes Conference. He spoke with Ben Kidder who is associated with the new charter school at the Northwoods School. Mr. Kidder, who said that the school's emphasis is on environment issues, thought the idea was excellent. The committee also thought the idea was a good one. Doug put forward a motion for the MTLC to offer 4 scholarships of \$25 each to Northwoods students to attend the NW Lakes Conference this year. Kate Zimmerman seconded the motion and it passed.

Lisa Burns had several things. First, there is a new AIS sign that is available to every lake that has a boat launch. Doug pointed out that there were several areas on the Flowage besides the two public boat ramps that could use signs. He and Ron came up with 6 signs needed for the Flowage and Cranberry Flowage. The Committee went down the list of lakes Lisa provided and determined a contact and how many signs were needed. Doug told her to let him know when the signs would be available for pick up. He would pick them up and they could then be stored in the storage hut at the Town of Minong until people were able to install them. Lisa said her best guess would be April 27. Along with the signs, the installers will have to fill out a launch-site survey.

Lisa also had the name of a person who is retiring on Horseshoe Lake and looking for volunteer work. The Committee thought maybe he'd be interested in working the Fair and also doing some inspections. **Russ** and **Lisa** will try to get a contact number

Russ said that the grant for doing lake surveys on Pokegama, Big Bass, Kimball, Sand and Horseshoe Lakes has been approved. It is a \$2700 matching grant with the town and the committee contributing the offset. Russ asked for volunteers from various lakes to attend the actual surveys so they could then share the information with other volunteers either on their lake or on other lakes. Russ has tentatively lined up two people to make kiosks at each of the lakes in the survey program. The survey is to be done by the end of August of this year.

The piers for Gilmore, Pokegama, and Bass Lakes are complete. Everyone is waiting for the ice to clear the lakes before installing them. Russ said that they needed someone at each boat launch site when the piers are delivered. **Russ** said that he was going to ask again about the wording on the pier signs at the next Minong Town board meeting. The Committee will be providing the signs.

LAKES FAIR:

FINANCE COMMITTEE;

The MTLC has received the Besandy Grant for \$750 which is a non-matching grant. The only stipulation with that grant is that the Committee publish a news release about the Foundation. **Ron Brown** is going to contact the Spooner Advocate about placing the news article. **Ron** will let **Sam** know when the Advocate will run this news release so he can get a copy for Besandy. A matching Grant for \$3000 was also secured from the DNR. Tony said that we have a balance of \$2800 after paying a deposit for the tents and Raptor Center for the upcoming Fair. Last December the Committee received \$250 from the Nancy Lake Protection Association. Russ said that when seeking funds from the community to keep the information about the grants quiet. If the Committee has any money left over at the end of summer they might consider using it in a program to give back to the community.

Laurie will email tent and port-a-potty pricing to Tony.

Russ to check with correspondence from the last Fair for the list of vendors so they can be approached again about participating.

PROGRAM COMMITTEE:

Lisa handed out the preliminary Fair Schedule. There was discussion about Pat Goggins' presentation topic as keynote speaker. Doug mentioned that he thought with the economic crisis in the state that it might be a good idea for Pat to talk about setting up Lake Districts. Pamela suggested that it would be better to have a round table type of discussion or have it held the night before the Fair. Doug agreed. **Pamela and Doug** will try to coordinate with Pat about doing a Lake District presentation to a select group of lake leaders in our area and holding the meeting at the Wascot Town Hall the Friday night before the Fair.

Everyone decided that the topic for Pat at the Fair would be Lake Ecology and Animal Life and present it as "Ernie the Schmooze" **Pamela** will talk with Pat about that topic.

Lisa has ordered bobbers for distribution again this year. She also has some booklets that can be handed out to older children during kids' activities. **Barb** to check with Cathy Ney about that book or the Amphibian book for distribution to kids.

Lisa also has the Wild Lakes book from John Haack which was determined would be handed out one per family. **Pamela** will check on obtaining more booklets for the Fair.

Lisa will check with John Haack about using his sound system again.

Pamela will check with Jameson Wendell about bringing the fish tank like Larry did for the last Fair.

Russ will check on the Raffle License. It has been requested that Fran Bogner and Tom Bergemann be the raffle ticket sellers.

Doug suggested that Committee members be identified at the Fair in case someone needs information and answer any questions. Different colored bobbers or caps?

Discussion on the logistics and site setup pointed out that the RV display really should be moved away from the entrance of the Town Hall. **Russ** has received permission from Bill Huelsman to use part of the airport for parking to reduce the amount of cars parked on the side of the road like at the last Fair. We will need to survey the airport area for potholes prior to the Fair. **Russ** will also contact Terry Dryden and Dave Swanson about the Fair...Sheriff Dryden for traffic control and Dave Swanson to walk around like last time answering questions.

Tony said that the barbed wire fence along the property line will be flagged so we don't have any injuries like last time.

It was suggested that the lake associations be placed in more of a square formation rather than linear as they were last time. The MTLC will also have a table set up as a registration table. **Russ** said he would man that in the morning and then help out with the food committee at lunch.

It was approved that a security guard would be hired again to stay on the property Friday night and maybe stay during the Fair to help direct traffic.

FOOD COMMITTEE:

Kate said that last time they were prepared for 500 and got 600 instead. It was suggested that the amount of food be increased by 50%. Apparently there was a problem with the large coffee maker so **Russ** will bring his generator and that will be used for the coffee maker. The Committee said that they were pleased with Tom Henson last time and will go with him again for food. Doug suggested using Dollar General for paper products with the idea of supporting our local merchants. Kate said that coffee and donut holes were served at the morning break last time and it went over well. Barb suggested doing a bake sale rather than having dessert with the proceeds going to the MTLC.

Kate said that this year people would be served rather than having self service. That way people would get one serving.

ADVERTISING COMMITTEE:

Sam Lewis had drafted a letter for the last Fair that was sent to local businesses along with a Fair brochure. The Committee recommended using that same format again.

The Committee would like to have posters displayed at various locations. **Barb** to come up with a prototype using the agenda of the Fair along with the "Tree logo" and send a copy to each committee person for their review. Tony said to make sure "FREE PIG ROAST" be on the poster and on the brochure. Tony said it would be great to have one at the NW Lakes Conference. Also have information about Pat Goggin's lake district meeting at the NW Lakes Fair as well.

Pamela will do promotion of the Fair through the DNR media system about three weeks before the Fair.

It was believed that 1000 brochures were printed last time. Each committee member took

some to be handed out in their area. Laurie suggested handing them out at lake association annual meetings if the meetings were before the Fair. Placing them at various locations in town was also suggested. Barb suggested putting a site map on part of the brochure so people could figure out where things were located (Russ also suggested this but only because he wasn't listening to Barb).

Advertising will be done in the Spooner Advocate, the NW Shopper. Ron and Jeanne have new ideas for the road signs. Tony has a directional sign that could be used at the Fair.

Russ has set the next MTLC meeting for May 2, 2011 at the Minong Town Hall. Since they will be at the Town Hall, Lisa said that she would like to do a layout to get an idea of how things will be setup. **Laurie** will provide a basic layout draft.

Russ said he would like to have a Food Committee meeting before that date. That meeting is tentatively set for April 29 at the Robinson's house. **Russ** to check with Sally and Bob to see if they are available for the meeting.