

Douglas County Lakes Association

November 11, 2015

Traveler's Inn Restaurant

Meeting was called to order by President Jan Beliveau at 4:30 p.m. The following were in attendance: Jan Beliveau - Mary, Jim Peterson - Ida, Linda Dokken-McFann - Mary, Bob Reynolds - Devil/Little Chippewa, Chris Risbrud - Stowe, Ron Tschaekofske - Vermont, Jerry Miller - Maple, Don Stallman - Irene, Dian Lopez - Ida, Stephen G. Henry - L'Homme Dieu, Vern Lorsung - Latoka, Sue Engstrom - Darling, Mike Cleary - Stowe. A quorum was present.

II. Agenda

Lake Latoka sediment pond was added to the Agenda. Agenda was approved by voice vote.

III. Minutes

Vern Lorsung moved, seconded by Bob Reynolds to approve the October 14, 2015 meeting minutes. Motion passed.

IV. Treasurer Report

Jim Peterson reported that all lake associations are paid up to date. The checking balance is \$12870.86. No transactions noted this month.

V. Committee Reports

Public Relations - Stephen G. Henry will follow up with Echo Press regarding cost for a monthly meeting notice in the newspaper.

Zoning & Environment - Lake Irene and Lake Vermont thanked Sue Engstrom for the heads up on proposed permits on or around their lakes.

Lake Irene Association is interested seeking outside counsel concerning the approved Conditional Use Permit (CUP) application for 5 sheds for "commercial storage use" in a Shoreland/Rural Residential Zoning District. The DC Commissioner Board decision is not consistent with current DC Ordinances. *A Conditional Use Permit is required for some land uses that under most circumstances would be allowed with appropriate restrictions. Such uses must be compatible with the existing neighborhood and conform to the county's comprehensive land use plan.*

It was suggested that their lake association contact MN Environmental Coalition Agency (MECA). Since 1974, the Minnesota Center for Environmental Advocacy has been protecting our water, air, land and people. Website is <http://www.mncenter.org/>.

Lake Vermont - General discussion held on the proposed gravel/sand permit operation near Lake Vermont. R and R Ready Mix is proposing a new 42 acre aggregate mining operation. The scale of the proposed mining operation has triggered a mandatory (EAW) environmental assessment worksheet.

The DC Planning Advisory Commission opted for a second time to table any decision on the EAW and Permit Application until the public comment period ends. Dave Rush, Land & Resource Director advised the public that he will respond back in writing to the public's questions. The next scheduled meeting is December 8th, 2015 at 6:00 p.m. at the Court House.

Website Update - No report this month.

Rental Property Discussion Private homes being rented out has become a hot topic all over the country. Douglas County does not appear to have a wide spread problem at this time, however, has received numerous complaints on one particular property. Members are requested to review other county ordinances on private rental properties and report back next month.

Water Planning Update - No report this month.

VI. Working With Other Agencies to promote *clean water projects* - Jan Beliveau, Vern Lorsung and Linda Dokken-McFann will serve on the DC Water Plan update committee. Next scheduled meeting is November 19, 2015 at 1:30 p.m. at the SWDC conference room. DC Water Plan was written in 2009. Below are areas that involve DCLA listed as one of the responsibility parties.

- Objective: Implement and promote land use practices that will reduce and/or mitigate negative human impacts on natural resources. Action item: Market Best Management Practices, estimated cost 10,000.00 Funding source: SWDC/DCLA. Completion date 2019.
- Objective: Create educational opportunities for the public. Action Item: Create data base of information on protecting and improving water quality for use by individuals or Lake Associations. estimated cost: N/A DCLA use existing staff. Create data base of speakers that would be available for speaking at Lakes Association meetings on water quality improvement and protection. Estimated cost: N/A DCLA use existing staff. Completion date 2019.
- Objective: Work to prevent SSTS failure and related sewage pollution in Douglas County. Action item: Work cooperatively with watershed and lake organizations to distribute educational materials and information to the public regarding SSTS operation and maintenance. Maintain a supply of brochures and other information for distribution. Estimated cost: N/A DCLA use existing staff. Completion date 2019.

VII: Items From The Floor

1. Lake Latoka sediment pond update. As of this meeting, no one from any governmental agency has contacted the property owner to start any process to clean out the sediment pond. It was suggested that property owner contact Dave Rush, DC Land & Resource Department Director to sign an easement agreement for starters. It should be noted that SWDC has the funding for this project.
2. MN. COLA is requesting each County contribute \$1000.00 to bring Utah Watercraft Inspector/Decon Trainers to MN. There are concerns that MN DNR AIS decontamination procedures do not follow the established standards used in Utah. Justin Swartz, DC

AIS/Shoreland Tech. offered to follow up with the email from COLA at last month's meeting. Linda Dokken-McFann reported that DC had 16 watercraft inspectors and 3 mobile decontamination units in the field this season. A total of 5611 inspections were conducted. No new infestations reported in Douglas County for 2015. Mike Sheldon, DNR, reported that 13 written warnings and 2 citations were issued this season.

3. A Fall DCLA Newsletter is being considered. Anyone with articles, please submit them to Jan Beliveau.

With no further business, Jan Beliveau moved, seconded by Linda Dokken-McFann to adjourn the meeting at 5:32 p.m.

Minutes recorded and prepared by Linda Dokken-McFann
DCLA Secretary