



Boot Lake Newsletter

Boot Lake Association Annual Meeting Minutes

(Thanks to Melodie Lincowski for expertly capturing the meeting interactions!)

OFFICERS

- Cliff Lafreniere Chairperson
- Pat Staples Secretary
- Kathie Kavolak Treasurer

- ◆ **Secretary's Report:** Minutes were approved without amendments.
- ◆ **Treasurer's Report:** There are 35 paying members; half have paid dues to date. Total available balance is \$1,012.50. A total of \$120.02 in bills were paid during the year.

◆ Old Business:

- ◆ **DNR Fish Count:** The DNR Fish Study was distributed. Cliff recommended the DNR website which includes water quality, mercury levels, etc. Fish meals should be okay for one meal per week. Pregnant women should limit lake fish meals to one per month.
- ◆ **Loon Count:** Barb Stecker reported seven loons have found Boot Lake as their home this year.
- ◆ **Water Clarity:** The Secchi reading showed 21 feet on 6/16; 20 feet on 7/16 and 7/25.
- ◆ **Paving Boot Lake Drive:** The team of Dorothy, Burt and Pat reported their findings:
 - ◆ It costs \$50,000 to \$100,000 per mile to pave a State Aid Highway.
 - ◆ The Becker County Engineer said the county's current policy is to maintain current paved roadways, not to do any new paving. He said the funding is such there is not enough money to do both. He also suggested the township may be willing to cost-share the chloride application with residents, and recommended we check into this. A quarter mile costs \$277, and the county pays half.



- ◆ If there were to be a cost-sharing approach, the township would pay assessment for homeowners and pass along cost to each. However, earlier this year, Becker County passed a resolution to eliminate this option. A letter was written to Pat Staples, which overviews this action.
- ◆ Merle Early, State Aid Engineer for Becker County, encouraged continued lobbying with county commissioners to pave the road.
- ◆ The incumbent county commissioner for District 1, Carolyn Engebretson, is being challenged by James Kovala, Osage; Lester Ristinen, Frazee; and Teri Osterman, Frazee. Attendees were encouraged to vote against the incumbent in upcoming primary election on September 10. The thought was Jim Kovala would be most receptive to getting County Highway #46 paved.

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REMINDER

if you haven't already done so please get your dues into Kathy Kavolak.

Kathy Kavolak
33750 535th Ave
Park Rapids, MN 56470



Coffee Party Schedule

- Oct 8th Kathy Kavolak
- Nov 12th Darlene Swanson
- Dec 10th Dorothy Theisen
- Jan 14th Barb Stecker
- Feb 11th Chris Luckeroth
- Mar 11th Darlene Swanson
- Apr 8th Barb Stecker
- May 13th Sandy Thelen
- June 10th Kathy Kavolak
- July 8th Dorothy Theisen
- Aug 12th Pat Sellers

Call for directions or just come all are welcome



IMPORTANT DATES

Summer Picnic at Jim and Judy Theisen's **June 8th at 3:00pm Potluck**

ANNUAL ASSOCIATION MEETING / FALL POTLUCK Aug 17th, Meeting at 2:00pm followed by potluck



- ◆ **Lake Directory:** Progress on the lake directory was started by sending out the membership questionnaires. Some questionnaires were collected at the meeting. If you haven't returned your questionnaire yet please do so soon.
- ◆ **New Business:**
 - ◆ **Slalom Course Permit:** There was some conflicting direction from the Sheriff's office, the county attorney and the leader of the Minnesota Lakes Association about the authority of the Boot Lake Association to grant approval of a seasonal permit for a slalom course. Bruce Anderson, from the Sheriff's office, indicated the local lake association would need to approve a seasonal permit for the course. Upon getting this direction, Cliff polled by phone lake residents to get their input. The consensus was mixed. Cliff then spoke with Association officers and consensus was to approve the permit for this year and to vote on next years permit at the annual membership meeting in August. Cliff gave a note of permit to the vacationer.

Burt Swanson made a motion that our lake association does not object to the slalom course next summer for a one-week time period. The motion carried.
 - ◆ **Bylaws:** Current by-laws require a Board of Director for every 20 members in the association. This would require two directors. Chris Luckeroth and Burt Swanson volunteered to be our new directors.
 - ◆ **Registration with State:** One benefit of registering with the State is being recognized as an official representative of lake property owners. It would also be a first step in moving toward a non-profit organization status to allow the privileges that go with that legal designation. Basic fee for this is \$25-35 and is renewed annually. Cost benefit of this move will be evaluated by the officers and the board of directors.
 - ◆ **Minnesota Lake Association Membership:** The Association is not currently a member of the MLA. The MLA charges dues based on the number of dues-paying members in the local lake association. Given this rate structure, the idea of reinstating local dues of \$10 per family unit was discussed. The current rate structure is \$5 per person.

Judy T. made a motion, with a second by Pat Sellers, for the Board to review the bylaws and investigate the benefits and costs of registering with and joining the Minnesota Lakes Association. The motion carried.
- ◆ **Election of Officers:** Cliff, Kathy and Pat volunteered to serve another term. Jim T. motioned to re-elect them and to elect Burt S. and Chris L. as directors. Richard L. made a second to the motion. The motion carried.
- ◆ **Tuesday Coffee:** Chris L. distributed a calendar of dates and hosts of Tuesday coffee get-togethers.
- ◆ Richard L. motioned to adjourn the meeting; B. Frost made a second; the motion carried.

BOOT LAKE DIRECTORY

The directory is being worked on. If you haven't submitted your information please do so as soon as possible to be included in the directory. If you have a picture of your family that would be a nice addition. I always like to put a face to a name especially after I first meet a lake neighbor and maybe don't see them again for several months.