



Boot Lake Newsletter



OFFICERS

- Fred Luckeroth, Chairperson
- George Thelen, Vice Chair
- Dan Simms, Secretary
- Chris Luckeroth Treasurer
- Dave Kloss, Director
- Barb Stecker Director

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Boot Lake Association Annual Meeting Minutes

MINUTES:

Vice Chair Fred Luckeroth called the meeting to order. New members, Mike and Mickey Willard, and Dan Simms were introduced, and for the benefit of full time residents other weekend and part time residents present were introduced, Shirley Simonson, Annette and Larry Theisen, Dave and Julie Ewert, Dave and Sandy Christenson, Dick and Vera Brown.

1. OLD BUSINESS

A. Secretary's Report

- ◆ The minutes from the 2004 annual meeting were reviewed and approved.
- ◆ Motion to accept by George Thelen and second by Jim Theisen.

A. Treasurer's Report

- ◆ The current balance of the checking account is \$1,478.03
- ◆ There were \$314.23 total expenses for the year. This included \$50 for state lake association dues, and \$250 for the annual meeting picnic.
- ◆ There are 30 paying members.
- ◆ Motion to accept by Fred Luckeroth, and second by Iris Shepard.

C. Loon Count Update

- ◆ Boot Lake's loon population consists of 8 adult loons. There were no surviving baby loons this year.

D. Water Clarity Update

- ◆ Secchi disk clarity was measured at 27 feet in June.
- ◆ The August 2005 reading was 18 feet.

E. Lake Directory Update

- ◆ A proof of the directory is ready.

F. Monthly Coffee Group Update

- ◆ The August 2005 coffee has been

rescheduled to August 23rd.

G. Slalom Course Permit Update

- ◆ There was no discussion; a motion to approve the permit for 2006 was passed unanimously.
- ◆ Motion to accept by Kathy Kavolak and second by Iris Shepard.

H. DNR Lake Level Meter

- ◆ The DNR installed a lake level meter on the south end of the lake. The lake is currently at a normal level.

1. NEW BUSINESS

A. Election of Officers

- ◆ The following positions were unanimously elected:
- ◆ Fred Luckeroth as President
 - ◆ Motion made by Pam Harvala, with a second by Jim Theisen.
- ◆ George Thelen as Vice President
 - ◆ Motion made by Dick Lincowski, with a second by Dick Schmaus.
- ◆ Dan Simms as Secretary
- ◆ Motion made by Roger Stecker, with a second by Bert Swanson.
- ◆ Dave Kloss as a member of the Board of Directors
- ◆ Motion made by Judy Theisen, with a second by Iris Shepard.
- ◆ Calendar
 - ◆ There will be two picnics in 2006, to be held at Jim and Judy Theisen's place.
 - ◆ Potluck: 1pm, June 4, 2006
 - ◆ Annual Meeting Picnic: 12 noon, August 13, 2006

REMINDER

If you haven't already done so please get your dues into Chris Luckerth .

Chris Luckerth
35554 E Boot Lake Rd
Park Rapids, MN 56470



Coffee Party Schedule

- Dec 13 Pam Harvala
- Jan 10 Iris Shepard
- Feb 14 Dorothy Theisen
- Mar 14 Kathleen Lafreniere
- Apr 11 Barb Stecker
- May 9 Sandy Thelen

Rest of schedule to be determined.

Coffee is the second Tuesday of every month.

Call for directions or just come all are welcome



IMPORTANT DATES

Summer Picnic at Jim and Judy Theisen's **June 4th at 1:00pm Potluck**

ANNUAL ASSOCIATION MEETING / FALL POTLUCK
Aug 13th, Meeting at 12:00pm followed by potluck

Thank You to Outgoing Officers

The Board of Directors would like to thank the outgoing Officers for their time and efforts in support of the Association during their terms of office:

- Cliff Lafreniere – President 3 years
- Pat Staples – Secretary 3 years
- Bert Swanson – Director 2 years

C. other BUSINESS

- ◆ An Association member informed attendees of earlier observations of young adults showing disrespect for Boot Lake's environment (i.e., driving personal watercraft into reeds/shallow areas, throwing alcoholic beverage containers into the water) and disregard for boat safety (i.e. jumping off boat while engine is running). A motion was made to send a letter from the Boot Lake Association indicating to the property owner(s) these actions were observed and should not be repeated in the future.
- ◆ Motion to accept by Dave Christianson, with a second by Dick Brown. Approval was unanimous.
- ◆ It was reported that Two Inlets Township has solicited comments to determine if there is interest in building a Community Center. Fred Luckerth asked if anyone present could provide any more information on this Township initiative. There was no one present that could.
- ◆ Some Association members expressed an interest in the Association erecting an informational sign or bulletin board at the Public Landing. It was reported that some other lakes in the area have done this (e.g. Little Sand Lake Association). A motion was made by Dick Lincowski, with a second by John Theisen, to contact the DNR to determine what their regulations are concerning such items. Dick volunteered to contact the DNR.
- ◆ Fred Luckerth reported that theft of mail occurred on June 11 at several mail boxes on County 42 and the township road surrounding the Lake. It was part of a large incident that occurred in Becker County that weekend. Members were reminded that they probably should avoid putting mail with checks in their mailboxes for mail carrier pickup. It was not known if any arrests were made in the case.
- ◆ Fred Luckerth reported that if members are concerned about real property taxes, here are two sources of information and/or action:
 - The Becker County Taxpayers Association holds periodic meetings in Detroit Lakes to disseminate factual information about county tax and spending policies. For more info you can contact them at PO Box 201, Osage, MN 56570
 - You can obtain property tax information on line at the Becker County website to compare your taxes with similar property in the area. The website is at:
<http://www.co.becker.mn.us/>

D. Meeting Adjourned.

- ◆ Motion to adjourn by Dick Lincowski, with a second by Dan Simms.

THANKS, Jim and Judy, for hosting our annual meeting year after year!!! And, special thanks to Chris Luckerth for organizing the food for the picnic, and Chris, Judy Theisen, Pat Sellers and Darleen Swanson for providing bars.



Actions from October 2005 Board of Directors Meeting

The Board met to discuss the motion that was passed at the August Annual to send a letter to the property owner concerning observations of inappropriate behavior (See Annual Meeting Minutes Item 2.C.). The Minnesota Lakes Association was contacted and based on their response the Board decided that incidents such as the one that was observed should be reported directly to the DNR by the observer thus taking our Association out of the role of law enforcement. Consequently the Board voted unanimously on a motion to rescind the decision to send a letter to the property owner that was passed at the August Annual Meeting.

In other actions:

-The Board discussed a motion on how to handle future incidents of this type. The Board passed a motion to allow a member to send a written complaint to the Association which the board will record in its files. The complaint should contain the approximate date, property and a description of the incident.

-At the annual meeting an idea was discussed for the Association to erect an informational

sign at the Public Access. The DNR was contacted and they indicated Dick Kimball at the Bemidji office must approve any signs before they are posted. A proposal must be made to the DNR explaining the size and contents of the sign. Chris Luckeroth will form a committee to put together a proposal that will be presented at the next Association annual meeting and if approved will be submitted to the DNR.

-The Minnesota Lakes Association will host a web site for our Association at no cost. The Board passed a motion to create our Association web site. Dan Simms will head up this committee.

-Fred Luckeroth is obtaining information on a special water monitoring program handled by RMB Environmental Labs in Detroit Lakes in conjunction with the MN Pollution Control Agency. The water is monitored and tested for phosphorous and chlorophyll that can determine fertility and productivity of the lake.



Stewards of the Lake

In 1998 a group of Boot Lake Property Owners organized the Boot Lake Association with a mission of uniting the Lake area property owners, residents, and others who share concern in preserving our lake, conserving our wild life, promoting education relative to these ideals, and offering opportunities for social activity. In the spirit of this mission we should all remember that we are stewards of Boot Lake, we are "temporary" residents that are currently entrusted to protect our wonderful environment for all those that come after us. Many of us were attracted to Boot Lake by the picturesque undeveloped shoreline and the pristine water clarity. But Boot Lake, like the general trend with all Minnesota lakes, is undergoing increased lakeshore development. The long time residents will tell you to look around Boot Lake and you will notice that in the past ten years almost 25 new docks have appeared on the lake. And why not, a common dream of most of us was to have that "place on the lake". So with the increased lakeshore development and increased boat traffic on the lake we, as stewards of this beautiful lake, have to be aware of our responsibilities to ensure we maintain the preservation and conservation of this environment.

Here are just a few commonsense items to keep in mind when practicing good stewardship:

1. Remember to practice safe boating, e.g. using spotters when pulling skiers and tubers; using lifejackets for children and non-swimmers; yield to non-motorized vessels such as kayaks, canoes, pedal boats and sailboats; watch for swimmers in the water, etc.
2. Personal Water Craft (PWC, i.e. Jet skis) should travel at slow-no wake speed within 150 feet of non-motorized vessels, shores or docks. PWCs should also travel at slow-no wake speed when passing through emergent or floating vegetation. And State Law permits operation of PWCs between 9:30 AM and one hour before sunset.
3. Store and secure loose articles in the boat to avoid litter flying from your boat when moving at higher speeds.
4. Practice good shoreline maintenance. Refer to the website: <http://www.dnr.state.mn.us/volunteer/julaug05/newvision.html>. This will give guidelines on what can be done without a permit, with a permit and what can never be done to lakeshore.

Have a great time and see you on the water!!



Links to Websites with Beneficial Information for Boot Lake Area Property Owners

- Minnesota Lakes Association – The site includes over 600 online lake management articles and publications, lake association news and resources, as well as a link to other local lake association web sites. <http://www.mnlakes.org/>
- Becker County – Get information on property taxes and see how yours compare with similar properties in the area. And check out the GIS maps for the area. <http://www.co.becker.mn.us/>
- DNR – Go to the LAKE FINDER and get information on Boot Lake e.g. fish survey, lake map and topographic map. <http://www.dnr.state.mn.us/>
- Specific DNR online articles:

New Visions for Lakeshores

<http://www.dnr.state.mn.us/volunteer/julaug05/newvision.html>

Wetland Complexity (relates more to marsh type wetlands, but lakes too)

http://www.dnr.state.mn.us/volunteer/septoct05/wetland_complexity.html

Aquascaping: the Latest Wave in Lakeshore Design

<http://www.dnr.state.mn.us/volunteer/marapr98/aquascaping.html>

The Water's Edge

<http://files.dnr.state.mn.us/assistance/backyard/shorelandmgmt/savewateredge.pdf>

Boot Lake Tidbits

- A number of trumpeter swans spent October and November on the lake. During the week of November 7 upwards of 40 to 50 were observed on the north end of the lake.
- Eight loons made Boot Lake their summer home this year. A pair were observed nesting on the northwest shore of the lake but no baby loons were observed. One property owner has placed a nesting platform out the past two years but to date no loons have taken advantage of it !
- If you thought the past summer was one of the best in recent memory to be at the Lake for weather and water activities, you were right. While the Twin Cities area sweltered in record high temps, it was relatively pleasant at the Lake. During the period June through August we hit the 90's six times, 80's thirty times, 70's forty-five times and 60's eleven times. The great weather extended into September and October as we had a longer than normal growing season with the first killing freeze not coming until October 7th. Although rainfall in north central Minnesota was near average, the rainfalls were many times localized with many heavy rains going either north or south of the Lake. Unofficial measurements at the Lake for the recent months showed about 2.6 inches in August, only about 1.75 inches in September and about 2.5 inches in October.
- Are your fish "wormy"? Some have been concerned about small black spots under the skin or in the flesh of the fish they have caught. The DNR says these are caused by larval worms burrowing under the skin of the fish. They also say these parasites are not transferable into humans, thus the fish are edible and you can clean and prepare as usual.
- Bright and early Saturday morning, November 5th gun shots could be heard throughout the area as the annual harvest of deer began in Minnesota. Reports from the Two Inlets area showed a decrease in the numbers of deer harvested. Some believe the deer population was less than earlier projected by the DNR, while others believe the deer movement in the daylight hours during the hunting season was very light. Anyway, until next spring when the new fawns arrive you will have less deer to dodge on the roads!!

