

RLAA Board Meeting Minutes for March 12 2020

Location: Maple Grove Public Library (Room 132)

Time: 7:00 p.m.

Regular RLAA Board Meeting

- **Call to Order at 7:10 pm**

- Present

<i>George</i>	<i>Hente</i>
<i>Jeremy</i>	<i>Mike</i>
<i>Curt</i>	<i>Luke</i>
<i>Scott</i>	
<i>Gary Shubinsky</i>	<i>Darrick Moe</i>

- Absent

- *Mark*
- *Rick*

- **Approve the Agenda**

- *No changes suggested*

- **Treasurer Report (Mike)**

- *24k in Checking/Savings accounts*
- *Autopay has been set up for Xcel Energy bills (power meter for aerator)*

- **Old Business**

- **RLAA Insurance coverage – should we pursue? (Jeremy/George)**

- Cedar Island is the only MG lake which I found that has coverage.
- Should we pursue getting our own policy? Do we want D & O coverage? This may be even more necessary if we have more of an investment in the boat ramp.
 - *It was decided by the group to not pursue at this time, but maybe bring this up after some of our other projects are tackled first.*
 - *Maybe pursue this with the City as part of their umbrella plan?*

- **Carp Assessment (George)**

- Tracking & Removal Phase II
 - Supported by City, TRPD, ECWMC and FLARA with funding assistance
 - Radio Tracking device purchased in 2019 by RLAA (\$1,000) and is being used this winter
 - No carp removal yet, but commercial fisherman has been engaged with both Rice & Fish Lakes with hopes of doing some netting either this winter (ice) or spring (open water)
 - *Carp were not cooperative to congregate where they could be netted under the ice this winter on either Rice or Fish Lakes. Next step is for an open water netting possibly this spring/summer/fall.*
 - *Volunteers will continue to track the carp to identify their migration patterns.*
 - *There should be no expenses to RLAA in 2020 for this project.*

- **Winter Aerator upgrade (George)**

- Completed last fall; system is up and operating with no issues
- *Thin Ice signs are not strung together this year, so will need to gather them individually (ice is too suspect now to get out there and tie them together).*
- *Mike stated that monthly energy bills are about \$80.*

- **Boat Ramp update (requested by Curt)**

- *Scott briefly spoke to the subject about the boat ramp and future access to it by RLAA members. The property owner, Dick Drangeid, continues to allow members access to the ramp and will continue doing so while he owns the property with a 10-year lease agreement. He would consider an option to have a control at the ramp to only allow dues-paying members access (plus an emergency access for entities who need it (police, fire, etc.).*
- *RLAA will also offer to help Dick if any improvements/repairs are done to the boat ramp. (Scott Roeglin will serve as the RLAA Board Liaison.)*

- **Channel Dredging (George/Scott/Gary/Darrick)**

- *Gary Shubinsky gave the group a walk through on the Channel Dredging/Rip-Rap projects.*

- *Emphasized the channel has never been dredged in 40+ years and this action should give us at least another 50+ years of unlimited access to the boat ramp.*
 - *The Rip-Rap project for the private homeowner is a requirement for the integrity of the dredging project.*
 - *ALL lakeshore property owners would be able to enjoy the benefits of the ramp in their home values.*
 - *Project costs:*
 - *Dredging – \$20k*
 - *Permit Survey – \$2k*
 - *Rip-Rap - \$5,650*
 - *Funding from private homeowner and boaters fund (GoFundMe)*
 - *Goal is to maintain a minimum of \$7,500 in RLAA accounts at all times.*
 - *Contractor (TDT) prefers to do work either during a drawdown or low water (late summer). Does not want to do the work during the winter through the ice.*
 - *Cost will not vary if done at any of these times.*
 - *Suggestion to open up the funding for the project to both boat and non-boat owners who own shoreline property. This funding will cover the required Rip-Rap work and any dredging overage.*
 - *\$350 for boaters; \$175 for non-boaters*
 - *Project communication to be done by e-mail, website and US Mail to 100 lakeshore owners.*
 - *Goal is to announce project before end of March and seek funds via GoFundMe site during the month of April. This will allow enough time to determine where funding for the project is at and deliver it to RLAA members at the Annual Meeting (May 5th).*
 - *If funding falls short, need to share at the Annual Meeting and get direction for next steps.*
 - *Board voted 7-0 to move forward with this project per the below action items.*
 - *Action Items*
 - *Draft communication to shoreline owners (Jeremy/Mike by 3/27)*
 - *2-sided oversized postcard with project communication on one side and RLAA Annual Meeting notice (along with what RLAA does for you) on reverse side.*
 - *Set up GoFundMe page (Mike by 3/27)*
 - *Post communication on website and deliver via e-mail & US Mail (by 4/5)*
 - *Compile results and have ready for Annual Meeting (by 5/1)*
- **2020 Projects**
 - **Invasive Aquatic Plant Survey (George)**
 - *Proposal for \$950 by FSS*
 - *Normal process is to get resident feedback on early growth (May) if survey is warranted*
 - *Submitted to LQC for reimbursement of \$475*
 - **Channel Dredging (see above)**
- **New Business**
 - **2020 Annual Meeting prep (George)**
 - *Scheduled for Tuesday, May 5th at Cambria Suites (Scott has confirmed reservation)*
 - *Stick with same PPT format as in the past?*
 - *Rick suggested we scale down the deck to move the meeting along faster.*
 - *PPT deck will be scaled down with less detail. Run the “carp animation” of the deck during the social portion of the meeting before the formal part begins.*
 - *Guest Speakers?*
 - *Decided to not have any guest speakers this year in order to allow necessary discussion time for the dredging/rip-rap projects.*
 - *Trivia and prize giveaway (Scott/Joy?)*
 - *Yes, we can do this again this year, since it is well received by members.*
 - **Winter Aerator sale plans (George)**
 - *Has been listed on Craig’s List for \$995 since last fall*
 - *No bites on this yet. Craig’s list ad has expired; do we want to extend it?*
 - *We are still storing old system at Don Tyler’s location in Greenfield (\$125/year)*

- *Jeremy may have a potential buyer; let him check and get back to the group. In the meantime, suspend the Craig's List posting.*
- **How to engage more residents in being RLAA paying members (Hente/George)**
 - 51 out of 250 in database paid in 2019
 - 44 out of 100 shoreline owners
 - 39 out of 55 boat owners
 - Idea: Contact those who haven't paid by US Mail prior to 2020 Annual Meeting?
 - *Yes, and include the Annual Meeting notice along with the Channel Dredging project communication to members.*
- **Adjourned at 9:00 pm**

Minutes by George Schneider 3/13/2020

Rice Lake Area Association website = <http://www.ricelakemn.com>