Minutes of the August 8, 2015

Barlow Lake Association Meeting

The August 2015 Barlow Lake Association meeting was called to order by Luke Miller at 9:07 AM with 8 homeowners and 4 officers present.

Current Officers and homeowners in attendance were introduced.

**Meeting Minutes**

The minutes of the June 6, 2015 Lake Association meeting were read.

**Treasurer’s Report**

Don Visser gave the Financial Report noting that to date, 12 less members had paid their dues than last year at this time. Contributions to the Fish fund were down 20% while contributions to the Fireworks fund were up 20% from last year. Don encouraged dues non-payers to pay. It was suggested that Don provide a list of residents who have not paid their dues to the Area Captains for their use. Distinguishing payers vs. non-payers in the Lake Association Directory was also discussed. It was suggested that other lake Associations be contacted to learn the amounts charged for their dues. This information along with an explanation of what our dues provides to lake residents would be a good article for the next newsletter.

**Fireworks**

The 2015 Fireworks were discussed and received excellent comments. The only negative comment was that the fireworks were not as high in the sky as in other years and families watching from certain shore lines had difficulty seeing them. The specific start time set at 10:15 pm was liked and will continue next year. July 4th 2016 will be a Monday next year. It was decided that the preferred date for the fireworks would be on Saturday night, July 2nd with Sunday July 3rd as 2nd choice. If a premium is required to have the fireworks on Saturday, the group agreed to pay an extra $1000.00. Earl Krol will be contacted so that he can make the arrangements.

**Boat Parade**

The 2015 Boat Parade received many nice compliments. The theme was Patriotic and also Kid’s Favorite Electronic games. Next year’s boat parade will be on Saturday, July 2nd at 2PM. The theme will be Patriotic plus a second theme yet to be determined.

**YMCA/Association 2015 Picnic**

The picnic was held on August 1st from 3 to 6 PM, with food at 5 PM. 158 people (105 adults and 53 kids) attended and a great time was had by all. The attendance was slightly higher this year than last year. A special thank you was given to Donna Cook and Deb Mousseau for handling the registration table during the event. Everyone had a wonderful time and enjoyed the activities that were available and also enjoyed the delicious food. Saturday, August 6, 2016 has preliminarily been set as the date for the Y Camp Picnic next year. It was decided that a donation in the amount of $500 would be made again this year to the Y Camp in appreciation.

**Fish Program**

Mike Hoekstra was not able to attend the meeting. It was mentioned that Mike had not gotten much information on recent fish catches for the fishing contest. Luke will contact Mike to learn about the fish planting options for this Fall.

**Newsletter**

The next newsletter will be distributed near Labor Day. Articles, pictures, ideas are all appreciated.

**Milfoil Update**

The weed control program is ongoing and members reminded not to cut the Milfoil if seen but to report it to Tony Groves. A new species of weed has been spotted in areas of Barlow Lake and it also is being treated for control.

**Old Business**

Area bulletin boards – Area 1’s bulletin board has been finished and installed. Remaining areas will be worked on over the winter.

The Boater Safety Poster has been printed and laminated and will be distributed by Labor Day. It was emphasized to owners who rent their homes out, that it is especially important that this information be posted for renters to see.

It was also suggested that Area Captains check with those living in their Areas to verify the address information in the Directory.

**New Business**

Officer elections were held. The current officers (Luke Miller – President; Mike Cunningham – Vice President; Don Visser – Treasurer and Barb Cunningham – Secretary) were elected to serve another two year term.

**Member Comments**

Topics discussed included a request for information on the snow plowing and maintenance of the private roads around Barlow Lake. A potentially serious accident with injuries during the weekend after the 4th of July was reported where a resident was knocked off of his dock by a large wave in the Narrows. Discussion continued regarding boats that make large waves, hours of operation and the use of common courtesy so that all residents can enjoy Barlow Lake.

Following the group discussion, the meeting was closed at 10:45 AM.

Respectfully submitted,

Barb Cunningham