Minutes of the June 3, 2017

Barlow Lake Association Meeting

The June 2017 Barlow Lake Association meeting was called to order by Luke Miller at 9:05 AM with 27 homeowners and 4 officers present.

The current officers were introduced and Area Captains and event volunteers were recognized. The minutes of the August 20, 2016 meeting were distributed for the homeowners to read.

**Treasurer’s Report**

Don Visser gave the Financial report. Don commented that dues received to date were $1400 less than the prior year. Don plans to send out dues reminder notices towards the end of the year. Don expressed his appreciation that many members paid their dues and also for paid above the $40 annual dues amount for the fireworks and fish funds.

**Fireworks**

Luke reported that this year’s fireworks will be on Saturday July 1, 2017. Raindate will be determined in the weeks ahead.

**Boat Parade**

The Boat Parade will be Saturday, July 1, 2017 at 2PM. Contact Mary Lou Johnson to let her know you are participating. Meet in Turtle Cove. The theme for the 2017 Boat Parade will be Fantasy Vacations or Patriotic. All are encouraged to participate and have fun in the parade.

**YMCA/Association 2017 Picnic**

Luke reported that the date for the Lake Association picnic at the Y Camp will be August 5, 2017 from 4 to 7 PM, with food served at 6 PM. All members are encouraged to attend this fun event. Our attendance is increasing each year. Activities include climbing wall, archery, a zip line and s’mores. Deb Mousseau and Donna Cook were recognized for their help at the reception desk during the picnic.

**Fish Program**

It is with much sadness that the Board reports the death of Mike Hoekstra, our long time fishing coordinator on 9/23/16. Todd Huizinga has agreed to be the new fishing coordinator. 500 5” – 8” walleye were planted in the lake on October 27, 2016. The DNR allows fish planting every other year so there are no plans to plant fish this season.

**Newsletter**

Luke thanked Tony Groves for his help in providing the Barlow Lake information and doing the printing for the May newsletter. Also recognized was the Patterson family for their article on their family’s history on Barlow Lake. The Patterson’s are celebrating their 95th year on Barlow and invite boaters to stop by this afternoon to celebrate with ice cream and candy. Luke encouraged everyone to send articles, pictures, and more family histories for the newsletters. It was discussed that it would help the Area Captains to have the newsletters in their hands by Wednesday/Thursday of the week prior to the holiday. Also discussed were printing the newsletter in color which received favorable comments and also mailing the newsletters due to the difficulty in having enough Area Captains to do the job.

**Milfoil Update**

Tony Groves reported that the lake would be surveyed on Tuesday (June 6, 2017) for the weed control program. The goal is to control the growth of invasive exotic plants that compete with the native lake plants. The two plants of concern are the Eurasian Milfoil and Starry Stonewort which is a new weed recently seen. Affected areas will be treated later in the week or early next week.

**Water Quality**

Mike reported on the water testing performed weekly on Barlow during the peak season. Our water quality remains good.

**Old Business**

Boater Safety Poster – a few of the new laminated rules sheets are available for new residents.

**New Business**

Water safety and the possibility of electrocution where AC power is used on or near docks was discussed. http://www.electricshockdrowning.org is a good website for information.

All Lake Association officer positions are currently filled but anyone interested in holding an office is encouraged to do so. Election of officers will be held at the August meeting.

Volunteers are needed for the picnic, water sampling and also Areas 3 and 5 need captains.

**Member Comments**

There was discussion about whether Barlow Lake was a private lake. Online dues payment possibilities were discussed. It was decided that the August newsletter should recognize and thank the residents who have paid their dues. Also an annual due date for dues was chosen to be July 4th to encourage timely dues payment. Barlow Lake t-shirts and other products were discussed. Sinking buoys under the water surface during the winter season was discouraged due to the hazard to boaters. Also discussed was active skiing in the narrows. Boaters are encouraged to get through the narrows as cleanly and quickly as possible. Wave surfing was discouraged in the narrows.

Following the group discussion, the meeting was closed at 10:35 AM.

Respectfully submitted,

Barb Cunningham