

General Membership Meeting Minutes

Sandstone Flowage Association

Lynda's Supper Club, September 25, 2007

- Present: 61 members and 6 non- members, guest Greg Cleereman.
- Winner of the drawing from member surveys received back on time, Ken Boren.
- Winners of the 50/50 raffle: Jean Stroika \$10, Travis Dorn \$30, Ken Boren \$50.
- Greg Cleereman of the Marinette County Land and Water Department was introduced.
- Approved May 2007 minutes..
- Accepted May and September 2007 Treasurer's report. Balance on hand May 2007 was \$4783.41. On September 29, 2007 was \$6330.35.
- For the record, Ted reported on action taken earlier by the Board: Acceptance of Richard De Groot's resignation as Vice President. Board appointment until position elections occur: Bonnie Vick Vice President and Catherine Stichmann, Secretary.
- Reported that the Board had approved a 3 year contract for a new Sandstone Flowage website. Steve Mikulsky was instrumental in arranging this and volunteered to continue his assistance in this regard. This allows the association to also make better use of potential e-mail, as well as to better share and collect information. It was noted that currently about ½ of the membership is on-line. The Association will continue to use regular mail as needed. Total cost for 3 years is \$363.
- Bob Bemis reported as of 9/15/07 our Association is covered by a General Liability Insurance Policy. This is not for the Board but rather a broad coverage for our Association. Cost is \$160 annually. For policy details contact Bob.
- Members were updated on the Aquatic Plant tour of the Flowage on August 9th. Touring were Greg Cleereman, Marinette Land and Water Department, Greg Seevenor, DNR, Ted Ver Haag, Cathy Stichmann, Bonnie Vick, Ken Boren, Charles Larsen, Don Stroika and Al Glish. A brief meeting followed the tour, however this yielded little new information. Greg Cleereman updated the membership on new information he had obtained since that tour. Age of our Flowage and recent weather (hot and dry) created optimal conditions for Aquatic plant growth this summer. Any effects of a drawdown would be short term; DNR has said any change in Run Of River is not an option. Public Service has said the only draw down they would approve is for Dam maintenance. Greg believes the only options available to Sandstone would be harvesting and /or chemical treatment.

Over

- Survey results and future planning for our Association based on survey mailed to the membership. 48% (61) of the membership voted representing 43% (45) of all properties on the Flowage.

1. Our Board should restrict planning to small projects that can be done by volunteers &/or are within our current dues/income. **yes 44%**

2. Our Board should explore and cost out potential large projects and the pros and cons of becoming a Lake District to fund these projects, findings to be reported to the General membership. **Yes 56%**

3. Should we change our Spring General Membership meeting date? **yes 4%**

4. Should we change our Fall General Membership meeting date ? **yes 2%**

5. Should we keep our General Membership meeting dates as is? **Yes 94%**

Our Board had noted that only a weak majority said yes to #2 above. This indicated a weak response to move ahead with this and a slim approval to even explore, particularly related to that of a Lake District. The Board's recommendation was not to explore a Lake District further at this time but to explore in more detail options and costs related to large projects and to report back to the membership; also to keep our meeting dates as is. A long discussion ensued. The recommendation of the Board was approved. One non-member attending this meeting voiced concern if a Lake District would be forced upon them without their input. Ted reiterated the motion that was just passed regarding any Lake District planning. He also stated that even if our Association strongly agreed to explore a Lake District it would still require many open public meetings. The basis for open communications is that any formal action in this regard requires a minimum of 51% of all lake property owners, not just Association members, voicing their interest via a legal petition. This petition itself would still be only information for Township and or County Board action.

Submitted by Catherine Stichmann Secretary