

DRAFT 8/15

Friends of the Eau Claire Lakes Area

MINUTES

Board of Directors Meeting

August 11, 2014

Maki's Restaurant, Barnes WI

Present: Carl Heltne (President, Chair), Fred Haueter, Cris Neff, Ted Eastlund, Thom Storm, Denny Scharlemann, Ron Carlson, Bob Hershey (timekeeper)

Members absent: Leslie Hall, Tom Boman, Barbara Possin

Minutes. A motion by R Carlson, seconded by F Haueter, to accept the minutes of the July 14 meeting of the Board passed unanimously.

The minutes of the July 19 Board meeting were reviewed and discussed with revisions identified. A motion by R Carlson, seconded by D Scharlemann, to accept the minutes of the July 19 meeting of the Board, as corrected, passed unanimously.

Treasurer Report. F Haueter reported on the finances of FOECLA with handouts. There were some corrections. Paid membership at 212 is ahead of same time last year (190). A motion by R Carlson, seconded by R Hershey, to accept the Treasurer's report passed unanimously.

Bank checking account signatures. With the changing of board membership and officers, the Board of Directors has determined to make the following changes in the bank checking account signatures card requirements:

Past President Tom Boman **(remove from signature card)**

New President Carl Heltne **(add to signature card)**

Past and Current Vice President: Cris Neff **(continue on signature card)**

Past and Current Treasurer: Fred Haueter. **(continue on signature card)**

The Board has also decided that the Secretary should no longer be one of the checking account signatures.

Therefore ,

Current and future secretary: Ted Eastlund in current secretary (**remove Ted Eastlund from the signature card. It will no longer be a requirement that the Secretary sign the signature card or have the capacity to sign checks**)

R Carlson agreed to look for a local attorney to help with submitting new Articles of Incorporation.

Board and President Roles and Responsibilities. C Heltne led a discussion about what the Board expects of the President's roles and responsibilities and the expectation that he, as president, expect from the Board members. A member offered that the president needs to represent FOECLA to the public and the town boards. Another expected that the president should delegate work and responsibilities. Another expected that the president chair Board meetings keeping focus on agenda items without unneeded time wasting.

C Heltne discussed his expectation of the meetings and of members:

1. Meetings will start and end on time
2. The members will give input to develop the agenda and it will be followed during the meeting
3. Members offering suggestions, topics and motions for the Board to consider should first provide a one-page synopsis for review before and during the meeting.
4. The agenda should include reports by standing operational committees and some on a rotational basis

C Heltne introduced a plan to have a Board member "mini-retreat" by extending the duration of the October Board meeting by 1-2 hours . His intent is to review, clarify and affirm objectives and accomplishments of current activities and committees and our operations (LEEP, CBCW, shoreline monitoring, annual meeting, annual community educational seminar) and progress on our initiatives. From this the treasurer use our operational priorities to develop a budget

C Heltne led discussion as to how to facilitate his introduction to Town Board Chairs, Conservation Club leadership etc.

Membership Committee Report. D Scharlemann reported on membership building activities. D Scharlemann offered to send to the Board the informative comments that new members and renewals had written on their application form since 2010.

C Heltne plans to review comments written on current and future membership applications and renewals every month and poll the Board , if needed, to develop a response to the comments.

A motion by R Carlson, seconded by D Scharlemann, to hold a patron event in June 2015 passed unanimously. T Eastlund addressed use of his home as a venue.

Communications Committee Report. C Heltne led a discussion of the website and newsletter.

A motion by R Carlson, seconded by B Hershey, to approve the expenditure of \$118.00 (includes \$105 for scrubbing the mailing list used for the print copy of the newsletter and \$13 for WordPress activity) passed unanimously.

A membership survey will be conducted in September seeking topics and timing for future annual August educational seminars, input about issues that FOECLA should address, membership demographics and their interest in volunteering.

C Heltne announced that C Rusch agreed to continue serving on the Communications committee and serve as Newsletter editor. Digital newsletters will be emailed during August, September, October and November. A printed newsletter will be mailed in November. T Eastlund agreed to arrange with C Rusch that the minutes of the July Annual Meeting be published in the November Newsletter.

C Heltne reported that content development in the website's planned Lake Stewardship Library will be discussed by the Communication committee at its October meeting. Online payment of dues is functioning. Website activity was reported.

C Heltne proposed a plan to add an "ACTIVITIES" tab on the website to call attention to local opportunities to participate in activities such as hiking trails, bicycle routes, canoe trips etc. It could result in the website being a "go to" site and raise our profile in the community. A motion by R Carlson, seconded by C Neff, to add a tab in the website for announcing community activities. C Heltne will develop a proposal for the tab contents.

Nominations for filling Board openings. The Board discussed Board membership openings.

C Heltne will send an email blast to seek members who may be interested in serving on the Board.

D Scharlemann will mention Board openings at the August 23 Bird Habitat seminar.

T Eastlund will contact B Hammond about whether he has interest in serving.

T Eastlund will chair a Nominations committee meeting by the end of August. D Scharlemann and F Haueter offered to participate.

Strategic Plan and Balanced Score Card. Due to the absence of B Possin, we will table the Balanced Score Card and initiatives progress report until the September meeting

Dams and Hydrology Committee formation. T Eastlund discussed the need to form a Dams and Hydrology Committee. Significant repairs to Mooney Dam on Lower ECL are being planned and Douglas and Bayfield counties might seek partial funding through formation of a special benefits assessment district of Lower ECL shoreland owners and others. This mechanism was used by Washburn and Douglas Counties to fund 50% of the cost to repair the Minong Flowage Dam in 2013. Shoreland owners were assessed \$10.50 per \$1000 in shoreland property market value.

A motion by R Carlson, seconded by C Neff, to form a Dams and Hydrology Committee. T Eastlund agreed to serve as Interim Chair, to hold its first meeting by the end of August and to meet regularly

thereafter. Board members Bob Hershey, Carl Heltne and Ron Carlson agreed to be members. We will invite Carroll Person, John Storlie and Tom Feiden. Membership should approximate 6-12 persons

The charges are: A standing committee to monitor the structural soundness, inspections and function of the dams and the waterflow through the Eau Claire chain of lakes. The committee

1. shall keep the Board up-to-date regarding county and private owner-arranged structural inspections by engineers, dam failure analyses, repair and replacement plans, etc ,
2. shall keep the membership of FOECLA informed (via reports to the Board) about the dams, other water level control structures and waterflow issues, e.g., dredging, structural or development impingements, etc., and
3. shall provide a Status of the Dams and Hydrology Report annually to Board.

Shoreline AIS Monitors. The Board discussed the need for additional AIS shoreline monitors and the expense of AIS identification manuals and other needed training materials.

A motion by R Carlson, seconded by C Neff, to offer to accept proposals from the Barnes AIS committee to provide up to \$1000 in funding for AIS educational supplies for training of increased numbers of shoreline monitors carried unanimously.

August 23 Bird Habitat Educational Seminar. D Scharlemann discussed current plans. C Neff will pick up the food. D Scharlemann will get the Town Hall key. Board members will show up early, 730AM, to help set up. T Eastlund will provide a laptop to drive the slide lecture presentations and projections to the electronic wall video monitor. C Heltne will arrange an email blast this week to members inviting them. T Storm offered to staff the registration table. T Eastlund and D Scharlemann will provide materials for the table: sign in, membership applications, program agenda handouts, name tags, opportunity to sign up for volunteering,

Exhibits will include FOECLA, LEEP, LoonWatch, ECL Conservation Club, M & M Nursery for native plants.

Other New Business The Board discussed donating to the Gordon Firehouse Building Fund (rebuilding after fire) and decided that it wouldn't be consistent with our mission, thus, an inappropriate use of member's dues and donations.

Submitted by T Eastlund Aug 16, 2014