

**FRIENDS OF EAU CLAIRE LAKES AREA (FOECLA)**

<b>Board of Directors</b>	
<b>9:00-11:30 a.m., September 8, 2023, Barnes Town Hall</b>	
<b>Agenda</b>	<b>Minutes</b>
<b>Call to order</b>	9:09 a.m.
<b>1) Roll Call, Members:</b> Jim Bakken, Barb Cooper, Wayne Kolberg, Roger Martin, Cris Neff, Marty Olson, Marianne Paker, Katherine Stewart, Lee Wiesner, Stephen Wilbers	<b>Present:</b> Jim Bakken, Barb Cooper, Wayne Kolberg, Marty Olson, Katherine Stewart, Stephen Wilbers <b>Absent:</b> Roger Martin, Cris Neff, Marianne Paker, Lee Wiesner
<b>2) Agenda Acceptance or Revisions</b>	Accepted with revisions.
<b>3) <a href="#">Minutes 2023-08-11</a>: Approval or Revisions</b>	Motion to approve by Kolberg/Baken; passed with revisions.
<b>4) Executive</b>	
a) <a href="#">Unsolicited letters to buy lake/wooded property</a>	The Board thanked Cooper for her good work following up on how these unsolicited low-ball offers from outsiders might be targeting vulnerable people, particularly the elderly. In response to her contacting a number of area Aging Disability and Resource Centers, Bayfield and Sawyer ADRCs have assured her they will take action. Cooper also drafted a Facebook post that might be helpful to get the word out to other residents.
b) Committee organization & membership	<p>In response to Bakken’s request for Board members to volunteer as they are able, Cooper offered to continue assisting Paker with membership and Treasurer Stewart offered to manage our Facebook postings, noting that we may want to expand our communication to Instagram for better outreach to younger members.</p> <p>The Board also noted Paker’s good work handling multiple communications tasks, Weisner’s continued good work in heading up its Water Quality Committee, Olson’s leadership with its scholarship program, Neff’s leadership with AIS and LEEP efforts, Kolberg’s liaison with Taste of Barnes planning, and Martin’s willingness to take on website updates. Also discussed were options for relieving Wilbers of minute-taking so that he could assume other responsibilities.</p>
c) Volunteers and vacant board positions	The Board will continue recruiting.
d) Issues regarding short-term rentals	Stewart and Wiesner will look into and report findings.
<b>5) <a href="#">Treasurer Report</a></b>	Stewart noted her successful efforts to correct an IRS paperwork error. She also explained that line item 8560 “outside computer services” would probably go over budget due to our planned move of the FOECLA website to another website hosting service. Our receipts continue to significantly outpace last year’s.

<b>6)</b>	<b>Water Quality</b>	
a)	<a href="#">Wake boat damage to lakes</a>	An article appearing in the <a href="#">Aug. 25 Wisconsin Outdoor News</a> detailed the degradation of our lakes and shorelines by “wakesurfing” was forwarded by Wiesner, who noted in an email to the Board: “What is most alarming, if the article is correct, is that wake boats now make up 4 percent of new boat sales in inland lakes but their sales are increasing 20 percent each year. If this is true, we are only seeing the beginning of the end to our lakes as we know them today.”
b)	AIS & LEEP updates	Neff and Amy Davies will coordinate Sept. 25 Canoe Practice Day and Sept. 26-27 LEEP events. The 2024-28 <a href="#">aquatic plant management plans</a> for our area lakes were noted as important and “a good read.”
<b>7)</b>	<b>Website move</b>	Motion by Olson/Stewart to support <a href="#">Paker’s recommendation</a> to move FOECLA website from LakeKit to CSS Hayward was approved.
<b>8)</b>	<a href="#">Dark skies &amp; glaring lights</a>	After a lengthy discussion of how to get something done about the glaring light on Upper when the Board has no enforcement power, it was decided that Wilbers will meet with the neighbors who complained to FOECLA, and another Board member will speak with a member of the property owner’s family about their bright light.
<b>9)</b>	<b>New Business</b>	
a)	DYK/Musings	A schedule for publishing these articles was discussed.
b)	Lead Tackle Strategy	More needs to be done to eliminate this deadly toxin from our lakes and waters. One problem is obtaining viable alternatives to lead tackle. One idea is to hand out non-lead tackle at boat landings.
c)	Middle Dam	Bakken received a <a href="#">letter from the DNR</a> explaining the plan to study the seepage problem that led to the closing of the lock and dam and to make repairs and have it usable by July 2024.
d)	Annual meeting speaker	We discussed possibly inviting Josh Spiegel to talk about reintroducing elk, as well as maybe having two summer events, as was done in the past, the second being a fun event linked to membership.
<b>10)</b>	<b>Upcoming meetings &amp; events</b>	
	Board Meeting	9:00-11:30 a.m., Fri., <b>Oct. 13</b> , Barnes Town Hall 2024
	Taste of Barnes	Sat., June 15, 2024
	Vatten Paddlar	Sat., July 13, 2024
	Annual Meeting	Sat., July 20, 2024
<b>11)</b>	<b>Adjournment</b>	11:34 a.m.