

# FRIENDS OF THE EAU CLAIRE LAKES AREA

## Annual Meeting Minutes

July 16, 2022

Barnes Town Hall

**Attendance:** 49 people attended.

The meeting opened at 9:00 AM with a welcome by board member Kevin Shriver.

### **Minutes of the 2021 Annual Meeting:**

The minutes of the July 17, 2021 annual meeting were available to attendees at the registration table and had also been posted to the FOECLA website. The board approved the minutes on September 13, 2021.

Motion by Carol LeBreck to approve the 2021 annual meeting minutes. Seconded by Mike Milliken. Motion carried.

### **Treasurer's Report:**

A complete 2021 income statement (revenues and expenses) with budget information was available to attendees at the registration table. Cash on hand as of June 30, 2022 was \$64,492.62.

We maintained our 501(c)(3) nonprofit status, so contributions remain tax-deductible. Our revenue in 2020 was 68% membership dues and 32% donations. We ended 2021 with 219 household members.

### **Report from the Board of Directors:**

- **Lake Ecology Education Program** – Board member Cris Neff provided an overview of LEEP activities during the pandemic. Work has continued to update learning module materials. Classroom labs and field experiences with Drummond 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> graders was completed this spring and the fall outdoor lab is planned for this fall. Neff announced LEEP Coordinator Melissa Kjelvik, former LEEP coordinator has been working on curriculum updates and should complete this task in September. Parker Arntsen-Beaudin, 2021-22 LEEP Coordinator has resigned and will be attending UW-Madison in the fall. Retiring English instructor, Amy Wiebusch has accepted the position of LEEP Coordinator.
- **Student Scholarship Committee** – Board member Marty Olson informed attendees that three \$1,000 FOECLA Student Scholarship were awarded this year. Alex Skoraczewski from Drummond, and Syver Gulbrandsen from Northwood were awarded scholarships as graduating seniors. Kayla Schultz from Northwood High School, last year's graduating senior winner, was awarded a \$1,000 scholarship as a sophomore attending UW-Eau Claire.
- **Citizen Lake Monitoring Network** – Board member Lee Wiesner discussed ongoing citizen involvement in monitoring lake water quality.
- **AIS Remediation Efforts** Wiesner also summarized efforts to identify invasive aquatic plants found in area lakes. Chemical treatments of Eurasian water milfoil in Tomahawk Lake were recently completed using a portable barrier to contain the chemicals used to treat the milfoil. The BAISS Boat was used this spring to remove curly-leaf pondweed from Upper and Middle Eau Claire Lakes. Curly-leaf pondweed was recently discovered in Lower Eau Claire;

currently a plan is being developed to address the invasive in Lower. The BAISS Boat will be used later this summer to remove patches of Eurasian milfoil in Tomahawk and Sand Bar Lakes.

- Clean Boats Clean Waters (Barb Clements), and the BAISS boat (Julia Lyons) are overseen by the Town of Barnes AIS Committee with financial support provided by DNR grants and FOECLA donations.
- **Shoreline Health** – Board member Jim Bakken explained ongoing initiatives undertaken by FOECLA to help preserve shoreline habitat and water quality: the volunteer lake level monitoring program using staff gauges, and participation in the WDNR’s Healthy Lakes & Rivers grant program.

**Other Business:**

- President Kevin Shriver explained that FOECLA wrote a letter of concern for the proposed campground development on Robinson Lake. That campground proposal was subsequently removed from consideration by the owner.
- Shriver also stated that FOECLA will be writing a letter of concern for the proposed Mooney Park campground expansion, addressing the issues that are contained within the FOECLA mission.
- The Barnes proposed municipal campground has been in planning for some months. Because the planning is ongoing, FOECLA is simply attempting to keep its members informed of public meetings and other available information as it develops

**Election of the Board of Directors:**

The Nominations Committee recommended the re-election of the following directors for 3-year terms: Kevin Shriver and Wayne Kolberg as returning members, and Roger Martin and Steve Wilbers as new members joining the board. There were no nominations from the floor. Motion by Katherine Stewart to approve the election of the above four persons. Seconded by Terry Kolberg. Motion carried with no negative votes.

On behalf of FOECLA’s board and members, Shriver thanked outgoing board members Jeri McGinley and Denny Scharlemann for their years of service and dedication to the community.

**Adjournment:**

Motion by Anne Torrey to adjourn. Seconded by Terry Kolberg. Meeting adjourned.

Prepared by Jim Bakken, Secretary

.....  
**Educational Event following Annual Meeting:**

Presentation entitled “Preventing Oak Wilt” was presented by Andy Wilcox, Forester.