

FRIENDS OF EAU CLAIRE LAKES AREA (FOECLA)

Board of Directors		
9:00-11:30 a.m., May 12, 2023, Barnes Town Hall		
	Agenda	Minutes
	Call to order	9:07
1)	Roll Call, Members: Jim Bakken, Wayne Kolberg, Roger Martin, Mike Milliken, Cris Neff, Marty Olson, Marianne Paker, Katherine Stewart, Anne Torrey, Lee Wiesner, Stephen Wilbers	Present: Jim Bakken, Wayne Kolberg, Roger Martin, Cris Neff, Marty Olson, Katherine Stewart, Lee Wiesner, Stephen Wilbers Absent: Mike Milliken, Marianne Paker, Anne Torrey
2)	Agenda Acceptance or Revisions	Motion to accept: Stewart/Martin; passed
3)	Minutes 2023-04-14 Approved	Motion to approve: Stewart/Wiesner; passed
4)	Executive	
a)	Vatten Paddlar: July 8	New coordinator Kelly Knaus has asked FOECLA for volunteers rather than funds to support the event this summer. The Board expressed its eagerness to help out. Neff reminded the Board that the Boy Scouts will not be available at portages this year and that volunteers don't necessarily have to come from the Board. Bakken pointed out that FOECLA is not in the position to identify all of the volunteers needed. Stewart noted that FOECLA donated \$500 last year. Martin moved and Stewart seconded a motion to retain last year's organizational model and to hold \$500 in reserve to allocate if requested.
b)	Barnes Short-Term Rental enforcement	Wiesner reported on problems in enforcing limits on maximum occupancy of rentals. The fine of \$50 per day for being in violation is rarely enforced, and some owners continue advertising occupancies greater than allowed even after they have been notified they are in violation. The Barnes Board relies on neighbors to report violations but also doesn't want to create a vigilante atmosphere. Because Barnes and Bayfield codes differ, zoning is a larger issue requiring consistency and clarification of which code supersedes the other. Stewart voiced her support of county zoning taking precedence, and given our \$200 membership fee to the Bayfield County Lakes Forum, she questioned whether that organization could be more proactive on this issue. Bakken noted that the Board may want to designate a zoning subcommittee.
5)	Treasurer	
a)	Financial Report	Stewart reported that we are "doing well" with our 2023 donations and membership dues, and she noted that our total assets of \$62,733.19 as of 5-10-2023 are down approximately \$6K from last year.
b)	Expenditures vs. Budget	She noted our expenditures were large this month due to newsletter mailing production and expenses. She also

		noted that her monthly Board budget reports may differ somewhat in format because she is still working on finding the best format for indicating categories and individual line items.
6)	Membership	The Board expressed appreciation for Paker's efforts in planning and executing the membership mailing and for her detail "Members Report" and "Lapsed Members," with Neff noting it was helpful to list new members so that Board members can welcome them individually, and Stewart recognizing the effectiveness of the personal notes added to the letters.
a)	Members Report	
b)	Lapsed Members	
7)	Communications: Spring Newsletter	Bakken thanked those involved in producing "a very nice newsletter." Wieser and Kolberg noted that the reference to donating "more than \$10,000 in 2022 to fund scholarships . . . and LEEP" might have misled readers into thinking the full amount went to scholarships. Martin pointed out that those funds supported our education efforts generally, \$5,000 of which, Neff noted, were to pay our LEEP coordinator.
	Website move to a new server	On April 20 Paker met via Zoom with Bakken, Jeri McGinley, and Wilbers to discuss her findings on comparative costs and services for website hosting: \$200 annually for Network Solutions, a national company, and \$400 annually for Complete Computer Solutions (CSS), a Hayward company. Also discussed were efforts to fix access problems for making online contributions. Last month's decision to wait until fall to move our site from Wisconsin Lakes was revisited and affirmed.
8)	Water Quality	
a)	Robinson Lake campground	The Board expressed its concern for campgrounds exceeding septic limitation of 30 gallons per person, especially given larger campers with washers and dryers that essentially become semi-permanent homes. It hopes for discussion of the issue at the Northwest Wisconsin Lakes Conference to be held on June 23 at Spooner High School.
b)	LEC Mooney Bay boat landing & campground	At this point the campground will not be moved perhaps partly in response to Bakken's Nov. 14, 2022, letter .
c)	Bony Lake chemistry	Wiesner reported that Carol LaBreck has lined up two volunteers, but she still needs someone to take charge.
d)	Wake boats: Water Quality Committee	The Board discussed working with other lake associations so that our recommendations to limit the ecological harm done by these boats would be taken more seriously. At present there are nine wake boats operating on our Eau Claire chain of lakes. Because enforcement of ordinances requiring minimum distance from shore are nearly impossible to enforce, Wiesner recommended that wake boats not be permitted to use their ballast systems on

		lakes smaller than 3,000 acres. Jeri McGinley is checking contacts and identifying legislators whose support we might solicit. The Water Quality Committee will meet again to make recommendations and identify next steps. Neff noted that the growing popularity and speed of personal hydrofoils may present new lake safety challenges.
e)	LEEP briefing	In response to Martin's question about expanding the LEEP program and curriculum to the Northwood School District, Neff said limitations in staff and budget precluded operating a second program for now. "It's a question of how much we can handle," she explained.
f)	Wisconsin Lakes & Rivers Convention report	Neff reported on getting the word out about LEEP and FOECLA, establishing many useful contacts, and discussing pressing topics such as surface water quality.
g)	ALS Committee report	Wiesner reported that treatments for Eurasian watermilfoil on Tomahawk Lake will begin in June. He also said he will check out a report that curly-leaf pondweed has been spotted near where the river enters Middle. Neff noted the BAISS boat will begin operating for 12 weeks beginning June 5 and that volunteers are needed to wash the boat between lakes. She also expressed her concern about finding someone to replace co-designer Gus Gustafson, who since 2016 has done lots of maintenance on short notice to keep the boat operating.
h)	Clean Boat, Clean Water (CBCW) & Aquatic Plant ID Training: May 20	This important and timely event was noted.
9)	Education: Scholarship briefing	Olson reported on the six \$1,000 scholarships awarded since 2019, including two new scholarships and one continuing scholarship in 2022. The recipient of one 2023 scholarship will be announced on April 17. As noted in our April 14 minutes, with only one new scholarship being awarded this year, a continuing scholarship may be awarded in June to one of the two 2022 scholarship recipients (after completion of their freshman year).
10)	Taste of Barnes: June 17 handout materials	Kolberg reported there will be no Friday night activities so that the event is not too spread out. Booth setup will be at 9 a.m., with the event scheduled for 10 a.m.-3 p.m. Donations will be requested and outreach to prospective members is planned with posters and membership forms, as well as photos of our LEEP scholarship recipients. Stewart noted that \$2 cupcakes were "not in our future," recommending instead a \$60 flat cake decorated with "FOECLA 50 th Anniversary" that would serve 90 people. Martin will check on the supply of boating and FOECLA brochures.
11)	New Business: Annual Meeting planning	

	Three Board seats to fill	<p>With the Annual Meeting split format (9-10 a.m./10-10:15 a.m. Break/10:15-11:15), Board members will use the break to engage members and prospective members.</p> <p>With members Anne Torrey and Mike Milliken not continuing and one currently vacant seat, we will have three vacant seats to fill next year.</p>
12)	Upcoming meetings	
	Board Meeting	9:00-11:30 a.m., June 9, Barnes Town Hall
	Annual Meeting planning	9 a.m., Fri., July 7 , Kathy & Bill Stewart's, 49720 River Rd.
	Board Meeting	9:00-11:30 a.m., Fri., July 14 , Barnes Town Hall
	Annual Meeting	9:00-11:15, Sat., July 15 , Barnes Town Hall
13)	Adjournment	11:48