

FRIENDS OF EAU CLAIRE LAKES AREA (FOECLA)

Board of Directors		
9:00-11:30 a.m., October 13, 2023, Barnes Town Hall		
	Agenda	Minutes
	Call to order	9:00 a.m.
1)	Roll Call, Members: Jim Bakken, Barb Cooper, Wayne Kolberg, Roger Martin, Cris Neff, Marty Olson, Marianne Paker, Katherine Stewart, Lee Wiesner, Stephen Wilbers	Present: Jim Bakken, Barb Cooper, Wayne Kolberg, Cris Neff, Marty Olson, Marianne Paker (via Zoom), Katherine Stewart (via Zoom), Lee Wiesner, Stephen Wilbers Absent: Roger Martin
2)	Agenda Acceptance or Revisions	Accepted with "Issues relating to short-term rentals" re-entered from previous agenda under New Business.
3)	Minutes 2023-09-08 : Approval or Revisions	Motion to approve, with one revision: Cooper/Olson. Passed unanimously.
4)	Executive	
a)	Committee organization & membership	Motion passed to accept Wilbers's resignation and Cooper's appointment as Secretary: Neff/Olson. Cooper will prepare preliminary agendas and minutes. Wilbers will continue to assist with preparing agenda templates, uploading documents, and creating links to FOECLA's ARCHIVES and IN PROGRESS drives. Passed unanimously.
b)	Volunteers and vacant board positions	
5)	Treasurer Report October Report Budget vs. Actuals	We continue to do well financially; we are under budget in almost all categories. Our funds on hand are \$63,581.27, which is \$761.08 over the funds on hand as of October 10 of last year. We are renewing the NBC CDs at 5.00%, the \$10,000 CD for six months and the \$20,000 CD for ten months.
a)	\$200 Bayfield Lakes Forum	As explained in her Narrative Report , Stewart recommended contributing \$200, which is more than other lake associations have contributed, but "we cover a lot of lakeshore." Motion to approve: Cooper/Wilbers. Passed unanimously.
b)	\$10,400 to AIS/CBCW	Motion to allocate: Wiesner/Neff. The designation for Barnes to use the AIS sinking fund was explained as a means to track unused funds at the end of the fiscal year. Neff clarified the grant cycle. Barnes is reimbursed by the DNR after the grant's work is completed and thus the need for FOECLA to first commit funds and to later allocate the specific amount. Olson observed that there should be publicity about results shared with our membership and the community. Passed unanimously. The 2024 grant commitment was discussed. Stewart pointed out that with wage basis increased from \$12 to

		\$15 per hour, costs could increase from \$10,400 to \$12,750, so the 2024 budget should be increased. Motion to commit up to \$13,000, based on need, to the AIS/Clean Waters programs: Stewart/Paker. Passed unanimously.
c)	Budget items, due by October 22	Stewart requested that Board members send 2024 budget needs via email. She will draft a budget based on board input and send out to the Board. Board will discuss and approve either by email or a phone/video meeting. Wiesner recommends a \$500 allocation to Bony Lake for water quality testing and he will follow up with his contact about 2023 funds.
6)	Membership 2024 fundraising plan	Paker presented the 2024 Fundraising Plan. There will be two major fundraising efforts prior to April, 2024. She recommends additional Board meetings over the winter months, and Wilbers suggested we dispense with formal minutes for any additional meetings. The November membership drive will be approximately 500 renewal/join/re-join letters, which will include a donation envelope. Cooper has drafted a letter and Paker asked board members to add personal notes to the letters. Board members should e-mail her to get involved. The Spring newsletter will be designed to reduce duplicate memberships. The insert page might not be needed. Printing costs may not increase; however postage has increased from 37 to 44 cents per piece.
7)	Communications Plan Chair, Website , DYK & Musing articles, Constant Contact, Facebook, Newsletters	Paker reported that our website move from Lakekit is in progress, though not without some hitches. We need DYK topics for November and December. One idea is to feature a volunteer. Stewart volunteered to take over updating Facebook from our long-serving volunteer Jeri McGinley.
8)	Water Quality	
a)	Sept. 23 Bayfield Co. Lakes Forum Annual meeting & wake boat damage to lakes	Stewart and Wilbers attended, with Stewart recommending \$200 contribution (see item 5a) and Wilbers highlighting discussion points regarding wake boat ordinances as well as presenter Ted Rulseh's emphasis on the importance of keeping shorelines natural to protect our lakes.
b)	AIS FOECLA letter of support , LOS Budget , & Aquatic Plant Management Plan Eligibility	To facilitate Bakken and Neff writing a letter of support, Stewart provided past letters of support and information on past support .
c)	\$500 drawing gifts for BAISS boat & landing volunteers?	
d)	Volunteer Hours AIS and CBCW	Neff distributed a form to submit volunteer hours for monitoring the shoreline and lakes for the grant. Wiesner urged Board to recruit more volunteers. The Town has asked FOECLA to identify two members to serve on its AIS Committee.

e)	Gauges	Bakken reported we still need water level gauge readings for Lower Eau Claire Lake and he plans to do the fall calibration of gauges with assistance from Kolberg and Olson.
9)	Dark skies & glaring lights	Wilbers met with the property owners who reported the glaring light on Upper Eau Claire Lake, and they expressed appreciation for the Board's efforts to address the issue. Wilbers also shared tips provided to him by Todd Burlet of Starry Skies North on how to talk constructively to neighbors about light trespass. Another Board member will invite the various family members who now own the divided property with the glaring light to become FOECLA members.
10)	New Business	
	Issues relating to short-term rentals	To be discussed in a future meeting. Wiesner and Stewart will gather information for Board discussion and a possible letter to the Town Board regarding regulation and enforcement.
11)	Upcoming meetings & events	
	Board Meeting	9:00-11:30 a.m., Fri., April 5 , Barnes Town Hall
	Taste of Barnes	Sat., June 15, 2024
	Vatten Paddlar	Sat., July 13, 2024
	Annual Meeting Planning	Fri., July 19, 2024
	Annual Meeting	Sat., July 20, 2024, Barnes Town Hall
12)	Adjournment	11:29 a.m.