

“Subject to approval by BOD on March 10th”

Tainter/Menomoin Lake Improvement Association, Inc.
“Meeting Minutes, February 10, 2009
Tainter Town Hall

Meeting Called to Order: by President Robyn Morin, 7:02 P.M.

Board Present: Robyn Morin, Lloyd Peterson, Sandy White, Ted Ludwig, Dave Spenle, Diane Bassett, Lynn Engelhorn, and Glenn Steinbach

Board Absent: Holly Wagner, Lissa Marsolek, Bill Olson

Chairpersons Present: Dick Lamers, Scott McGovern

Chairpersons Absent: Peggy McAloon, Todd Maki

Guests: Ted DeZurik, Thomas O’Neil, Jerry & Kim Porter; Darwin & Candy Anderson; Ian & Jessica Edhlund, Tim & Jane Schutz; Pat Culbert; Brad O’Connor; Josh Miller, Randy Sommerfeld; Pat Flynn

Minutes: by Glenn

Board minutes of January 13 amended to read: (“Special Board Meeting” called by President Robyn Morin). Minutes approved.

Treasurers Report: by Robyn:

January income: Dues \$50.00, Dividends – \$46.85, Private donation - \$100.00, Barley straw donation – \$11.26
Net Income – \$208.11
3 month CD – \$5,027.49
6 month CD (2) – \$5,034.35
6 month CD – \$3,050.54.
Checking – \$6,309.37
Savings – \$3,428.95
Total = \$22,850.70

Strategic Plan: by Dick Lamers:

Review strategic plan. Lengthy discussions. Numerous changes were made. Strategic plan approved (Attachment #1). Dick to revise the strategic plan with noted changes. Plan will be E-mailed with the minutes.

Barley Straw Project: by Lloyd and Lynn

As of the meeting time, Lynn was unable to locate a barley supplier. Lloyd felt the use of barley islands will be questionable. Waiting to hear from DNR? We may have to use different type of mesh bags. Scott will contact the packaging department at UW-Stout to see if they could design new bags. Speak to Scott’s class to recruit students to help with the project.

Colfax Erosion Project: by Glenn and Lynn

“Subject to approval by BOD on March 10th”

Colfax superintendent Dennis Geissler closed RFP project bids on Feb.6. It was unknown at meeting time how many bids were received and what the range of bids were from low to high. Will continue to work with Mr. Geissler as he requests and meets TMLIA board approval.

E-Mail and Blog: by Robyn and Ted

Blog started in January by Lissa Marsolek. Progress has been good. The TMLIA E-mail list will be for members only and for TMLIA business only. Mail information should follow the strategic plan guidelines. Other information could go be put on the blog or links put on the web site or blog. Ted will coordinate TMLIA E-mails.

Use the blind copy e-mail function

Web Site: by Robyn (.tmlia.com)

Robyn and Ted met with Sitepro for training on the website. It will be updated and kept current.

Budget: by Robyn and Ted

1. No formal budget. It was discussed at the “Special Board” meeting of Jan.13 that By-Laws require Holly be bonded and that a two-signature check signing procedure would eliminate the need for this. This will require a by-law amendment.
2. Ted requested reimbursement \$20 for copies of Articles of Incorporation, and \$59 for E-mail program, noted that the TMLIA has not maintained annual reports to the state and they dissolved us. Owe state 120.00 for 10 years of reports and \$45 for the application. When completed, the registration with the state will be retroactive and that the TMLIA must register and pay \$165.00 for past fees. Approved to pay \$165.00 to the state. Ted will complete the registration and serve as Registered Agent. Checks approved.

Newsletter: by board

Discuss about need to have a quarterly newsletter. No volunteers. Need to have a newsletter mailed in March.

Annual Meeting: by Board

Discussion followed. Lissa recommended two social events, one on each lake. After discussion it was motioned that the Annual Meeting be a business meeting to be held at the regular meeting on Tuesday, July 14. Site: Tainter Town Hall. Time: 7:00 P.M. Approved. Following this, it was suggested that the social events, which had been held with the Annual Meeting, be held in September. No action was taken.

River Alliance Symposium: by Robyn

Held Jan.24 at UW-Steven Point. Contact Robyn for more in depth details.

Dunn Co. Conservation Alliance: by Glenn

Discussed why the TMLIA should join. Approved to join the Alliance. Lynn volunteered to be the Association’s representative.

New Meeting Format: by Robyn

“Subject to approval by BOD on March 10th”

Robyn explained: three month trial period. Meeting will start at 7:00 P.M., with guest speakers from 7:15 to 7:45 P.M., followed by a question and answer session. A board meeting open to the public will be held following the guest speakers.

New Business: By Board

1. Scott announced that his UW-Stout class would be doing a health survey of lake property owners to test if there are any affects from the algae and cyanobacteria.
2. Wisconsin Lakes Convention in Green Bay. Board discussed sending a representative. Approved to send Robyn and the TMLIA to cover costs not to exceed \$250.00.
3. Lloyd asked audience for feedback about the meeting.

Motion made to adjourn, seconded, and approved. Meeting adjourned at 9:02 P.M.

Next Meeting: Tuesday, March 10, 7:00 P.M., Tainter Town Hall

Guest Speakers: from the DNR, Paul LaLiberte and Buzz Sorge

What has been done, what is being done and what can be done to clean the green from our watershed.

April Meeting: Tuesday, April 14, 7:00 P.M., Menomonie Public Library

Guest Speakers: Sarah Braun and Anna Brady, Beaver Creek Reserve

“Clean Boats, Clean Waters” program and Invasive Species.

Tainter/Menomine Lake Improvement Association, Inc.

“Strategic Plan for 2009, 2010, and Beyond”

----Revised 2/10/09.

Vision:

That the waters of both Tainter and Menomine Lakes become clean and safe.

By 2018, Clean and safe will be defined as:

- **Reaching the World Health Organization’s (WHO) standard “Vigilance Level”.**
- **Listed in the Excellent Category of the Wisconsin Trophic State Index (WTSI).**

Mission:

- **To provide educational information on water quality and environmental issues affecting Lakes Tainter and Menomine and the watershed feeding these lakes.**
- **Unify, mobilize and facilitate actions that improve the health and recreational capability of these waters.**
- **Maintain a tactical plan to support the goals and objectives of the Tainter/Menomine Lake Improvement Association, Inc. (hereinafter referred to as the Association) Strategic Plan.**

Objectives:

- 1. We will reduce phosphorous (P) levels of input to our watershed by 45% from the DNR tested values, and reduce cyanobacteria (CB) levels to 2000 cells/ml. in our lakes.**

Strategy: Reduce runoff from all sources.

Tactics:

A. Create buffer zones – some money is earmarked for a UW-Stout class to explore home shore buffers.

B. Gardens by Lambs Creek and other areas. This effort is targeted for the 2nd quarter of 2009.

C. Reward agricultural industry for best management practices. This is part of the TMDL (Total Maximum Daily Load) Plan project sponsored by the DNR. Publication of this project to the public is expected in early 2009.

D. Develop and conduct an educational package related to the TMDL Project (Best Management Practices). The Association will work with the DNR, Cooperative Extension, County Conservation Districts, and other agencies/groups to develop informational and educational materials, and design/conduct outreach programs related to the TMDL for the watershed.

E. Measure P levels (prior to and after) of each of the 10 Townships in the Red Cedar River basin to determine what level each contributes. The team responsible is planning to initiate this testing prior to the spring runoff and complete during 2009.

F. Educate communities on what can be done to develop tertiary (going beyond the minimums in water treatment plants) water treatment systems. This effort was started in November 2008.

G. Research & test other means to reduce phosphorus levels in our lakes.

- Use a health study to show how increased algae blooms are affecting the health of citizens in our community. This may be accomplished by educating doctors in the watershed.
- Eliminate phosphorous in lawn fertilizers. Explore local and State regulations as needed. Bills have been introduced in the Wisconsin Legislature to complete this tactic
- Publish and endorse non phosphorus dishwashing detergents. Nationally there is an effort to eliminate phosphorus in all dishwashing detergents by July 2010.

H. Gain total community support for the effort to have clean and safe waters.

- Teachers and supportive agencies/associations met 12/22/08 to start planning/coordination of efforts for students of the Menomonie Middle School, local high schools and the UW-Stout to begin spring sampling of streams in the area.
- The Association will continue our efforts on stream monitoring.
- Efforts to reach out to other associations and lake districts with similar objectives will also be required.

I. Explore/Analyze short term fixes to the algae levels through inhibiting growth methods.

- Complete the barley straw project submitted for 2009.
- Develop a project plan in cooperation with the “Solar Bee” company that would detail testing, expected results, and budget numbers. Plan to be submitted to the Board of Director’s by 3/31/09.
- Start research/analysis of chemically treating our waters. The Sweetwater Parallel Project has been proposed. Information will be presented at the March meeting.

2. Increase membership in the Association.

Strategy: Gain greater participation of existing members to solicit new members and gain support from the greater community defined as the Red Cedar Basin.

Tactics:

A. The Board of Directors to fill the chairperson opening on the Membership Committee. (By 2/11/09)

B. Increase the number of paid members by 50% in 2009.

C. Increase active membership. (Active--designated as those participating in Association events or those contributing to committee actions).

3. Increase Funding for the Association.

Strategy: Provide sufficient funding to carry out the current plan and meet the long term objectives established for 2018.

Tactics:

A. Develop a specific committee to address short and long term funding of the projects sponsored by the Association. The Association is currently funded by various grants and membership dues. The Board of Directors shall initiate appropriate actions.

B. Develop a grant writing sub-committee for approved projects forwarded by the Board of Directors.

C. Coordinate the funding and implementation of an economic impact study regarding the current condition of our lakes. Secure this funding by 4th quarter of 2009.

D. Contact the Rivers Alliance of Wisconsin to arrange a training program for the Association. If completed the Association would be eligible for grants of \$500-\$5,000.

E. Research other grants available for the Association use in achieving the Vision and Mission. Committee members expect to report on this by 6/30/09.

F. Develop a public relations process. A chairperson has been designated and the Publicity Committee will complete a process description by 4/30/09.

G. Publish the Strategic Plan. It was approved at the 2/10/09 meeting. At a minimum, annual reviews and suggestions will be submitted to the Association prior to the August meeting, starting in August 2010. The Strategic planning committee chairperson will be responsible for initiating and completing above reviews.

H. Fill open board positions. Action complete as of 1/13/09.

4. Promote existing Clean/Safe water programs.

Strategy: Support past approved measures of the Association.

Tactics:

A. Continue to support the “Slow No Wake Speed” zones on our lakes.

B. Continue to support the DNR’s “Clean Boats, Clean Waters” project. Board of Directors will solicit and train members to staff launch sites on our lakes.

5. Develop projects that deal with erosion of our banks in the Watershed.

Strategy: Engage other agencies, associations, municipalities, lake districts, and individual property owners in the need to prevent erosion of soils flowing into the Red Cedar Watershed.

Tactics:

A. Continue efforts to stop the erosion behind the Colfax School buildings in Colfax.

B. Other erosion projects as developed.