

**Tainter/Menomomin Lake Improvement Association**

**Meeting Minutes, November 11, 2008 (M&I Bank)**

**Call to Order: David Whiteley, president, 7:04 PM**

**Board members present: David Whiteley, Lloyd Peterson, Holly Wagner, Lissa Marsolek, Robyn Morin, Bill Olson, and Glenn Steinbach**

**Board members absent: Dave Spenle, Diane Bassett**

**Association members and guests present: Randy Sommerfeld, Neil Koch, Bruce Trimble, Ted DeZurik, Lynn Engelhorn, Dick Lamers, Bill Schaus**

**Minutes: Dick Lamer noted he was not receiving minutes nor agenda's (Dave and Glenn would make sure his email address was correct and on the list). Bruce Trimble questioned the accuracy of that Wolske Bay was deemed "better" following the barley straw experiment. Long discussion ensued with Scott explaining his testing, of which the data computation would be completed at a later date; and that cooler lake water temps, less rain, and shifting winds had an affect on the algae but that testing the bays treated with barley straw showed a statistical difference on average compared to none treated bays. Robyn noted that the new storage area was located in the basement of Jeatran Associates across the highway from Culver's. Minutes approved.**

**Financial report: Robyn wanted to make sure the \$250 contribution noted in the last financial report was made by Dairyland State Bank and to be earmarked for use by the Strategic Planning Committee. Holly, Checking account has \$5990.84; Savings 3426.09; 3 Mon. CD 3031.18; 3 mon. CD 5000.00 and 6 mon. CD 5,000.00. Total 22,448.11 Excel Energy grant of \$10,000.00 is included in the figures; membership fees increased 305.00; Expenses: check of 31.63 for part of the barley straw project. Interest is 7.59. 6-mon CD is coming due on 11/24. Consensus is to allow the CD to roll over. Financial report approved.**

**Planning committee report: Robyn and Dick – SPC progress report; read vision and mission statements (see printout) based upon a 10-year goal of the year 2018. Lissa questioned what are the possibilities of reaching the 2018 goals? Dick responded that he believed it could be done if a similar initiative was taken like that of Minnesota. Ted D. noted that our watershed was considered one of the third worst and a large contributor to**

the dead zone in the Gulf of Mexico. Dick went on to explain numerous aspects of the SPC database. Ted questioned who was following “clean water” legislatively and what money was being set aside? Bill noted that 5-million had already been spent in the state on ground water studies. It was thought that 3.8 million has already been spent on watershed activities. Lloyd explained the “Reverse Auction” plan being studied in conjunction with the changing to “best farming practices”. Grant support is through the Land Conservation office. Discussion followed on various aspects of SPC vision, mission, objectives, goals, and tactics. Tried to clarify that: the SPC is a committee, organized by the Board to develop a strategic plan of direction for the Association – a template for ideas and actions. The SPC will continue to meet and would like more feedback and involvement of all the Association members. During the interim prior to the Dec 3 SPC meeting anyone is welcome to email comments to Robyn or Glenn. Dick invited anyone at the meeting to join the SPC. It is open to anyone. The entire Board was invited to be involved in the SPC so there would be an ongoing understanding of the Strategic Plan. Committee report was approved.

**Possible changes for barley straw experiment:** Lloyd, since the mesh bags did not hold up to consider barley straw islands (4’x 8’x 6’ x 3’D floating islands of PVC pipe and netting to hold the barley straw). Project would need DNR approval. Plans have to be developed.

**Scott** stated Solar Bee is interested in possibly putting units in Bays 2 and 3. It would be at Solar Bee cost and DNR would provide stiff requirements for them to uphold. Solar Bee does not have peer review literature. **Lloyd** reported that two men – one being Don Wick (sp) – built a prototype of a scum sucker and had successful tests on Tainter Lake.

**Algae harvester:** Bill, to remove surface algae by use of a flexible, Styrofoam boom like those used for crude oil spills. The algae water would pump into trucks and hauled to farms to use on there center pivot irrigators.

**Testing ground water:** Neil Koch, took 91 soil samples to test the aquifer for rechargeability. Have to 1) protect the aquifer for rechargeability and 2) protect these areas from contamination. Is working with a chemist at Stout to do a study of wells in Birch Creek testing for different constituents, particularly caffeine which is not a natural ingredient in ground water and may be coming from a neighbor’s septic system. Want to include Woodland Terrace and test for phosphorus on Tainter Lake. Unless a \$5,000 grant is found, homeowners would have to pay (\$40) for their own testing.

**Shore land Planting:** Dave, Scott; Scott’s Stout students are developing plans for the gardens.

**Education Committee:** Dave, introduced the members he selected for the Education Committee, (Bill Olson, Lloyd Peterson, Scott McGovern, and himself). Selected on the basis of have background and understanding of the problems facing the Association.

For the purpose of understanding, Glenn, questioned the purpose of this committee and do they have to report to the Board before every decision. Example was the shoreline planting idea, which was never approved by the board, nor was an actual vote taken for the approval of the \$1000 they requested. Bill move to approve the shoreline planting project with expenditures not to exceed \$1000 or another request would be needed. Holly second. Yes-4, No-2

**Meeting adjourned:** at 8:40 PM

Next meeting, December 9 - Tainter Town Hall 7:30 pm

Respectfully, Glenn Steinbach