BPLA Membership meeting
Saturday, May 27, 2017
MEETING MINUTES

1. Call to order; Pledge of Allegiance – Jim
   Meeting was called to order at 10:02 am.

2. Welcome, introduce board — Jim
   The board was introduced

3. Presentation of Labor Day meeting, September 3, 2016 meeting minutes– Jeff
   The minutes were presented

4. Ask for motion to approve meeting minutes– Jim
   Motion by Bob P., 2nd by Dean, Motion passed

5. Treasurer’s report – Roger
   The report was presented

6. Ask for motion to approve Treasurer’s report– Jim
   Motion by Gary, 2nd by Greg T., Motion passed

   Raffle drawing – Drawings were held at 10:14

7. Committee reports
   a. Membership report – John
      204 sign-ups so far this year vs. 190 last year
      Phone numbers have been included in new membership directory if elected by member
      i. Ice-out drawing
         Ice-out was April 2, 13 members chose that day, a drawing was held to determine the winner as Don and Pat Makela
   b. Fireworks – Jim
      Fireworks will be at 10 pm, Saturday July 1. Special thanks to Don and Pat Makela!
   c. Boat Parade – Lisa Drake / Rick Meier
      The boat parade will be at 4:30 pm on July 1. Line up at Lisa’s (Big Pine) and the boat landing (Pine)
   d. Roadside clean-up – Roger
      Only 3 people showed up! Need more volunteers! Fall clean-up will be Saturday, September 23, 9 am at the south boat landing.
      i. Project days – meet at the south boat landing at 9 am.
   e. Water quality projects – Dave
      One beaver was removed near the dam in March.

      A total of 300 pounds of walleyes were stocked in both lakes by the DNR and the Mille Lacs Band of Ojibwe. Walleyes grow slower than normal in our lakes. Strawberry Creek is the best walleye spawning habitat in our lakes.

      Dave attended a workshop regarding Zebra mussels. If you see them on your boats or docks it is probably too late to do much. Best thing to do is check and drain your boat after taking it out of the lake. Allowing your boat to dry completely before launching in a
new lake is best. Our lakes are at a slightly lower risk due to lower water clarity.

Strawberry Creek suffered considerable damage in the big storms last year. Aitkin Co. says it is not their responsibility. The DNR is looking at the possibility of outside help in stream restoration for better spawning habitat.

The perch habitat project is still on hold.

f. Buffer Zone projects – Dave
   i. Aitkin County
      There are 5 or 6 new buffer projects this year
   ii. Pine County
      Pine Co. has some grant money and has a couple projects lined up this year.

g. Picnic – Ron
   This year’s picnic will be at Ken and Artie Johnson’s house again. The Association provides some food and pop, please bring a dish to share.

Raffle drawing – Drawings were held at 11:00

8. Speaker:
The speaker cancelled.

   There was no old business

10. New Business – Jim
   a. There will be a golf tournament for all interested parties on June 10, at 8 am. at the Sandstone Area Golf Course.
   
   b. Open Forum: Loon nesting: Members were advised to try and stay away from loon nesting areas. One area in front of Bryan and Lynn’s place was lost due to unknown reasons. There was a brief discussion about the Association helping with building loon nesting platforms. A motion was made and seconded to investigate spending up to $500 for building the platforms. Motion passed.

   c. The question was raised about lowering the dam elevation in the fall and restoring it in the spring. It was noted that the state has been removing dams in many places around the state. It was mentioned that removing the dam would probably result in not being able to navigate the channel between lakes at a lower water elevation. The DNR does not allow others to modify dam elevations.

Raffle drawing – Drawings were held at 11:17

11. Adjournment – Jim
   a. Motion to adjourn
      A motion was made by Gary R., 2nd by John, motion passed at 11:22.

   There were approximately 123 people in attendance at the meeting.