

EAGLE LAKE LAKESHORE ASSOCIATION GENERAL MEETING

June 17, 2017

Eagle Lake Lutheran Church

President Pat Prunty introduced our guest speaker, Aimee Zimmermann, who is the East Ottertail County Soil and Water Conservation District Shoreland Specialist. This entity is a branch of the county government. Aimee's presentation focused on lakescaping which is a means of dealing with runoff and preserving the shorelines around lakes. A shoreline buffer is designed to control erosion and filter runoff. Rain gardens are another way to capture runoff. She showed slides with examples of both types of lakescaping which are in use around Ottertail County. With lakescaping, native plants are used which are best for the conditions they are planted in. With landscaping, plants are selected for color and conditions are adjusted for growing such as fertilizing, etc. Sources for lakescaping plants are nurseries and there is up to a 75% reimbursement for the cost of plants. Technical assistance to help with lakescaping is free.

Pat called the meeting to order at 9:33 am. He thanked the the Eagle Lake Lutheran Church men's group for again preparing the breakfast. The directors and officers of ELLA introduced themselves. New property owners present for the meeting were also asked to introduce themselves. Dennis Schmidt, an Eagle Lake township supervisor was also introduced and answered questions from the attendees.

The secretary's and treasurer's reports were read and approved.

Membership: there were 116 paid members as of this meeting compared to 133 at last year's meeting.

Gary Johnson gave a report and showed slides on various lake characteristics:

- the water level is slightly above last Fall. It is approximately one foot above the average historic level.
- water transparency was 20 ft in 2016. The first 2017 reading will be made the day after this meeting.
- phosphorous levels were up significantly the last two years to mid-1990's levels. This will continue to be monitored to see if this trend persists. The measurement is still within acceptable levels.
- The culvert emptying into Middle Lake is running 2/3 to 3/4 full.
- a graph on chlorophyll level didn't show any trend.

President's Report:

1. The starry stonewort was first discovered in Lake Koronis in 2015. This is an algae or grass suspended in the water. Eight additional lakes have since reported an infestation. This invasive species likes a high phosphorous level. Fertilizers, ashes, and leaves are sources plus runoff from septic systems. Efforts should be made to keep phosphorous levels under control. It was emphasized that it is important that ashes from fire pits be disposed of properly and don't enter the lake.
2. The boat parade will be held July 2 with July 3 the backup in case of bad weather. Start in front of Kelly Hepper's cabin. Paid up member participants get a towel and extra towels are available for \$25. Towels may be picked up at Kelly's place after the parade.
3. The picnic will be held on Saturday, August 12 from 11:30 am to 1 pm. Each paid up member will receive two tickets and extra tickets are available for \$5 each.
4. West Lost Lake and Deer Lake have been added as lakes infested with Zebra Mussels. In 2016,

Ottertail and West Battle were listed as infested. 25% of the lakes in Ottertail County which are over 500 acres are now infested with Zebra Mussels.

5. Eagle Lake is the 23rd highest public access usage lake in Ottertail County. There were 91 inspections by the AIS Taskforce staff in 2016.

6. Two portable decontamination units will be purchased for the county and donated to the DNR for use in Ottertail County.

7. A boat and dock ordinance is being worked on to govern installation of a dock or boat lift in another lake.

8. COLA has provided a \$55k grant of which \$30k is continuation and \$25k for water testing.

9. The camera will be installed at the public access June 22. ELLA contributed \$3000 of the \$13,000 cost. We would like to replenish the \$3000 paid out of the ELLA treasury through some type of fundraiser. Some ideas include an increase in membership fee, pledge drive, and a raffle.

10. Plug in/out flex tags were handed out to property owners to place in their boats as a reminder to remove plugs from their boats when leaving a lake.

Craig Andrews gave a presentation on the ELLA website showing what is on it. The website is <http://minnesotawaters.org/eaglelakelakeshore/>.

OLD BUSINESS

An example of a property map of a lake was passed around for attendees to view. Work will proceed to develop a similar map of Eagle Lake.

NEW BUSINESS

There was a question about the dock ordinance and it will be enforced on a request basis by the county sheriff. Another question on well water monitoring and this was done several years ago.

Election of officers:

President: Kelly Hepper

Vice President: this is an open position, seeking someone to fill this.

Secretary: DuWayne Witt

Treasurer: Connie Prunty

Membership Chairman: Craig Andrews

Director Positions:

North Side – Steve Fernholtz (1/2016 – 1/2020) Tam Fjoslien (1/2016 – 1/2020)

East Side – Jane Ohland (1/2018 – 1/2020) Warren Pramann (1/2017 – 1/2019)

South Side – Randy Elmer (1/2018 -1/2020) June LaValleur (1/2017 – 1/2019)

West Side – Joy Teiken (1/2018 – 1/2020) Gary Johnson (1/2017 – 1/2019)

The meeting was adjourned at 11 am.

Respectfully submitted,

DuWayne Witt

Secretary