**Big Fish Lake Association Board Meeting**

**3/27/19**

**Kit Ferber’s House**

**6:30 p.m.**

In attendance: Kit Ferber, Megan Johnson, Allen Schmitz, Matt Peters, Paul Steil, Chris Wenner, Doug Adamek, Josh Hirschfeld

1. Call to order (6:33 p.m.)
2. Treasurer’s Report – Matt Peters
   1. Current balance of BFLA funds is: $18,825.51.
   2. Matt went over budget as well as expenses, and balances.
   3. Reminders for payment for the Membership Drive for those who haven’t contributed yet will go out this week. There could possibly be an addition of $4000 if these members contribute.
   4. We had a few more expenses this year (e.g. Campaign brochures, video, etc). \*Matt will add an item line to the budget of “Campaign Expenses” instead of listing them under “Misc Expenses.” Will also add “AIS Management” as a budget line.
   5. $1400 came in for business advertisements. Matt will also keep these ad fees separate on the expense account.
   6. BFLA applied for a Grant again to help with the cost of boat inspections. Our share is $14,800. We also have a refund of approximately $800 coming to us from hours that weren’t used for boat inspections in 2018.
   7. Question was raised as to whether or not to transfer any of our bank funds into the “Emergency Fund” and the answer was “no” for now. It was proposed to wait until this fall when the next vegetation survey is done. The Membership Drive has gone very well again this year.
   8. Matt will contact Steve McComas from Blue Water Science to set up a yearly vegetation survey in the fall.
3. BFLA Board Insurance
   1. Insurance for the BFLA Board is now officially in place. Matt Peters will add this information to a line item in the budget. The insurance coverage is for 3 years for each officer on the BFLA Board.
   2. Coverage is up to 1M.
4. Elections for BFLA Board
   1. Team 2 is up for re-election. Mark, Allen, Matt, Nina, and Chris. All except Nina offered to stay on for another term. Allen will step aside if someone wants to take his place. Nina’s position as secretary needs to be filled. Megan Johnson (currently on Board) offered to take secretary position if no one else wants the position.
   2. Position will be mentioned at the June BFLA meeting to see if anyone is interested in being on the Board.
5. Newsletter
   1. Information for the BFLA Newsletter and the upcoming BFLA meeting in June: an update on possible research methods regarding Zebra Mussels, an article about Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS), Annual Meeting election for any positions open, and an informational meeting with the Stearns County Sherrif’s Water Patrol Department.
6. April Meeting
   1. Possibility to invite County Commissioner Jeff Mergen to a future BFLA Board meeting to discuss: loon upkeep, law enforcement on Big Fish (stronger presence), AIS, and how the transport of AIS is illegal.
   2. Doug will look into the grant program from the oil companies to help maintain our loon populations.
7. Donations from BFLA Board to other organizations
   1. Stearns County Coalition of Lake Associations – normally around $60/year. This is due in April.
   2. Minnesota Lakes & Rivers Advocates – normally around $300/year. This will be due sometime in July.

BFLA Board will vote:

\****Nina made a motion to keep contributing the donations to the two organizations this year. Matt Peters second. All were in favor.***

1. Campaign for Legacy Fund
   1. Campaign party at Chris & Jen Wenner’s in January went well. About 25 people attended. Thank you Chris & Jen!
   2. We have had a few donations so far. Josh will follow up with phone calls to attendees. Would like to see this done in the next two weeks.
   3. Important to note that when people donate to the Legacy Fund they have two choices of where they can donate their money. Inserts will go into brochure to explain. Also important to point out that checks should be written to the Initiative Foundation and NOT to the BFLA.
   4. At the June 22nd Annual Meeting – Josh will play video, and discuss the Legacy Campaign. Kit will try and come up with a “thermometer” to gauge the progress of the campaign and to put gold stars on the picture of the Lake Board to designate those that have donated thus far. Also, this picture will show the locations of the Zebra Mussels that have been found at this point.
   5. Josh will send a copy of the final campaign video to all of the Board Members.
2. Future BFLA Board Meetings/Gatherings:
   1. April 24th 6:30 p.m. at Kit’s House,
   2. May 29th 6:30 p.m. Kit’s House
   3. June 22nd – Annual Big Fish Lake meeting 8:30 a.m. at Township Hall on County Rd 50
   4. August 15th – Annual Picnic
3. Adjourn (8:11 p.m.)

\****Matt made a motion to adjourn. Allen second. All were in favor.***