**Big Fish Lake Association Board Meeting**

**4/24/19**

**Kit Ferber’s House**

**6:30 p.m.**

In attendance: Kit Ferber, Nina Steil, Matt Peters, Allen Schmitz, Doug Adamek, Chris Wenner, Mark Backes, Megan Johnson and Paul Steil

1. Call to order (6:34 p.m.)

Approval of notes from 3/27/19 Board Meeting: Notes from previous meeting on 3/27/19 will be sent out for approval by Kit via email.

1. Treasurer’s Report – Matt Peters
   1. Currently the BFLA Account has $16,058.02. Matt will report on finances at the June meeting.
   2. 2019-2010 BFLA Membership dues: Another $3500.00 came in after a reminder was sent out. We have collected just under $27,000 from our membership dues for the year.
2. Loon Nest Discussion
   1. Currently Big Fish Lake has three aluminum loon nests on the lake. A HUGE thank you to Matt Peters, Ted Ruzanic and Ted’s daughter, Louise, for putting out the nests!!! We are so grateful for their help. This year Matt added a lot more nesting materials to the nests to help the loons feel more at home. The goal is to have someone from each location be responsible for the nest (pulling it in at the end of the season, checking on it, etc). There has been a few offers to fill this role.
   2. The old wooden nests that used to be on Big Fish were very heavy and outdated. Someone inquired in purchasing them from BFLA.

\****Chris Wenner make a motion to give away the wooden loon nests, Mark Backes second. All were in favor.*** Old nests will now be given to the person inquiring.

1. Alleyway

Stearns County Board of Commissioners were presented with Alleyway information. Information is currently being reviewed by them. BFLA Board will not take any action.

1. Wake Restriction
   1. Currently there is a suggestion to have a wake restriction advisory on Big Fish Lake due to the high water. Kit will contact the County to check on how we push for this restriction.
   2. The outlet structure on Big Fish Lake has been affected due to the ice and high water. Allen will request that the DNR take a look at it. The water is currently 4-5 inches higher than normal.
2. Letters from Environmental Services

Reviewed letters regarding homeowners on Big Fish Lake who are making improvements, or building. \*Strictly just an FYI for the BFLA Board.

1. Zebra Mussel Hunt for Big Fish Lake property owners

The Board is discussing a date to invite all property owners on Big Fish Lake, calling it “Find your Mussels Day.” A date will be designated (there will be training at the June Annual Meeting). The idea would be to take a day to look at boat lift tires, rocks around your shore, and other places Zebra Mussels like to attach to. We all need to be aware of where these Zebra Mussels are so we can track the spread and record with AIS team for research.

1. Annual Meeting June 22, 2019

Plan for the meeting will be for Josh to kick off the meeting talking about the Legacy Campaign, talk about Elections to the BFLA Board, do training to look for Zebra Mussels and other AIS and Sheriff Steve Soyka (or one of his deputies) will speak on boating safety/rules on the lake.

1. Campaign Update
   1. Board member Doug Adamek spoke with a few Big Fish property owners who were very enthusiastic about “protecting our investment” (Big Fish Lake) and are willing to approach friends regarding donating, as well interested in perhaps hosting a party for the Campaign.
   2. Board discussed breaking into teams and reaching out personally to other property owners, such as neighbors. Board discussed using the same lists we had in the past when we were handing out shoreline booklets to our neighbors, and wanting to start conversations about the Campaign. Kit will send Board members the previous list. Goal would be to arrange three meetings per Board member before our next meeting on Wednesday, May 29th.

X. Future events

a. May 29th Board meeting: plan for Annual Meeting

b. June 22nd – Annual meeting at Township Hall

c. No Board meetings in July and August unless deemed necessary

d. August 15th – Annual Picnic

e. September 15th – Board Meeting

XI: Adjourn (8:13 p.m.)

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