



MANITOWOC COUNTY LAKES ASSOCIATION

“The Manitowoc County Lakes Association will protect and enhance the quality of area lakes and watersheds for the benefit of all.”

Minutes of the MCLA member’s meeting
Thursday February 21, 2019, 6:30 PM
Manitowoc County Office building

MEETING SUMMARY:

President Tom Ward introduced the MCLA Executive committee and Gene Weyer as the first presenter.

Gene initiated the MCLA water quality monitoring program for the past number of years to create a data base on our county lakes. Gene has recruited volunteers to help with the seasonal water quality sampling and secured funds from DNR and other donations to pay for the sampling. Gene shared his data by lake and displayed the data available thru the DNR website SWIMS for each lake, encouraging people to view the information.

We have a number of lakes that are in good shape, however others are showing signs of degradation or internal cycling of phosphorus that is affecting their water quality. Lakes with declining water quality are encouraged to develop a Lake Management Plan.

Guest speaker was Darren Kuhn, DNR Conservation Warden, currently assigned to the Recreation Warden Team which is responsible for the training of the municipal boat, snowmobile and ATV patrols. Warden Kuhn responded to questions from the audience regarding creating local boating ordinances, specifically to deal with mirrors on ski boats and PFD use. He addressed legal issues as well as explaining the boating ordinance process and getting State approval to boating ordinances.

Warden Kuhn explained the ordinance-making process and the fact that the DNR has review authority over all the boating ordinances. However, the DNR can’t tell a township that they can’t pass an ordinance, except the DNR will put in it writing if a proposed ordinance would not meet state or Federal boating standards. There is a DNR ordinance creation manual (<https://dnr.wi.gov/files/PDF/pubs/le/LE0317.pdf>) to assist in the ordinance process. He also discussed examples of ordinances that the DNR would not support, as well as ordinances that the DNR would support. Ordinances can’t ban boat size or horse power. If the ordinance is more restrictive than state law a report needs to be submitted identifying the problem and need for the restriction.

He talked about the importance of life jackets and the law requiring life jackets to be Coast Guard approved, readily acceptable and of the proper size but there is not a requirement to wear life jackets on inland waters. The DNR strongly encourages all boaters to wear their life jackets. When on Federal waters, as on Lake Michigan, all people 12 and younger are required by Federal Law to wear their life jackets when the boat is underway, and if they are on deck.

He explained about boat lights and the requirements to have a boat light on when operating during hours of darkness. Water ski/tubing laws, specifically distances from shore, and the new law relating to mirrors replacing the observer requirement were reviewed. Anybody under the age of 34 has to have passed ‘boater safety’ to operate a boat. Classes are online and require 10 hours of training. Anyone with questions can call Warden Kuhn at 920-615-6075.

2018–2019 Officers:

President: Tom Ward

Vice President: Dave Pozorski

Treasurer: Marcia Salm

Secretary: Hanna Edelglass

Past Presidents:

Gene Weyer, John S. Durbrow

Lake Directors

Bullhead Lake
Ron Gerrits

Carstens Lake
Brian Robley

Cedar Lake
Cindy Leitner
alts: Phil Knauf, Richard Jens

English Lake
Steve Bosiacki

Gass Lake
Richard Blashka

Harpts and Tuma Lakes
Dan Dufek

Hartlaub Lake
Gene Weyer

Horseshoe Lake
Robert Christian

Lake Michigan
John S. Durbrow

Long Lake
Chuck Kiehn

Pigeon Lake
Jerry Gospodarek

Silver Lake
Jaret Paltzer

Spring Lake
Bill Braam

Wilke Lake
Tom Payne

MCLA Business Meeting Summary

The MCLA Business Meeting followed the programs.

Members and lake representatives were encouraged to attend the Lakes Convention April 12th thru April 14th. It's a practice to send two Board members to the Convention.

The AIS education grant was partially funded. Of the three Counties in the project application only Manitowoc County was approved for the project if they can come up with \$7500 of match. A full time coordinator will be hired using our grant and remaining funds from the Sheboygan grant. A boat inspector will be hired for this summer. The grant will be managed by Glacierland RC&D.

Conservation Spring Hearings are on Monday April 8 @7 pm. Online voting will be allowed for the first time.

Election of Officers this fall: could lake delegates email potential candidates that they think would make good officers. The Board will contact them in the future.

For our next meeting if we go to the 4th Thursday, it would be April 25, John Durbrow will present the Economic Study results related to Water quality.

Lake Reports:

- **Lake Michigan**; volunteers are invited to help plant over 2,000 trees at Point Creek Park on May 3, 4 and 5th.
- **Carstens Lake**: Consultant Stantec is ready to start the Watershed project and is requesting help from UW Stevens Point.
- **Harpts Lake**: they had 180 participants in the Ice fishing Derby this winter; they are also adding rocks to the walleye spawning reef.
- **Pigeon Lake**: In 2017 they treated their EWM and in 2018 no plants were found so they are impressed with the treatment. Their winter golf fundraiser was a success with over 107 participants.
- **Cedar Lake**: ice fishing has been sporadic due to the deep snow.
- **Silver Lake**: received a lot of ice fishing pressure this winter.

Hanna Edelglass
Secretary MCLA