

## **Minutes of Aquatic Invasive Species Committee Meeting**

**Wednesday, April 21, 2021**

The meeting was called to order by Chris Webb at 3:00 pm. Roll call of committee members verified quorum was present. The meeting was held at the Barnes Town Hall.

**1. Roll call: Members Present:** Sally Pease, Marcia Wellnitz, Diane Menard, Chris Webb, and Gerald (Gus) Gustafson.

**Other Attendees:** John Loughren (Middle EC), Scott Bell (Middle EC), Judy Schmidt (Lower EC), Doug Stearly (Lower EC), Therene Stearly (Lower EC), Rocky Clements (Upper EC), and Donna Porter.

**Members Absent:** Ingemar Ekstrom and Andy Teal (Bayfield County AIS Coordinator).

**Verification of Public Notice:** Public notice of meeting was posted on April 15, 2021 at 3:40 pm by Judy Bourassa, Clerk/Treasurer.

**2. Approval of Agenda:** A motion was made by Marcia Wellnitz and seconded by Sally Pease to approve the agenda. A voice vote was taken and the motion carried.

### **3. COVID Guidelines:**

The COVID Guidelines were passed out and discussed. Social distancing and face masks are recommended. Use hand sanitizer as needed.

### **4. Committee expectations and submitting completed paperwork:**

Sally showed the boat inspection sheet that the monitors must complete when inspecting boats at the landings. She described how to fill it out accurately. At the end of each shift, place the completed form in the plastic envelop. Sally collects them on Sunday evenings. New this year: all monitors should record their round-trip mileage from home to the landing or from one landing to another landing if travel is required. Write it in the comment section. Also in the comment section, write in boaters questions or suggestions that they mention to you. These comments will be compiled at the end of the season and analyzed for patterns.

### **5. Clean Boats Clean Waters schedule:**

We have five boat landings to monitor: Upper EC, Middle EC, Lower EC, Tomahawk, and Robinson Lakes. To fulfill our CBCW grant, we need to compile 200 volunteer hours at each landing. Volunteer hours are given a preference and the paid monitors will try to adjust their work schedule around the volunteer's schedule, when possible. The paid employees work 4 hours on Fridays (4:00—8:00), 8 hours on Saturdays and Sundays (usually 8:00—4:00), 6 hours on holidays, and the October Musky Tournament weekend. The monitoring begins on the 1<sup>st</sup> weekend in May and continues weekly until Labor Day weekend.

Sally is working on the May schedule. Volunteer time sheets were handed-out.

#### **6. Location of A.I.S. in our lakes:**

Brochures are being printed that describe the Aquatic Invasive Species that we are concerned about and where they are located in our lakes. There are separate, but similar, brochures for Upper EC, Middle EC, and Tomahawk Lakes. There will be signage at each of these three landings soon. Try to talk to boaters about the areas of the lake that they should try to avoid so the AIS is not disturbed and spread. Curly-leaf Pondweed is present in Upper EC and Middle EC Lakes. Eurasian Watermilfoil is present in Tomahawk Lake.

#### **7. Educational Handouts:**

Brochures are being printed. They will be sent out to lake property owners, resorts, businesses in the community, and located in a box at each landing to be distributed to interested boaters. Signage with lake maps and AIS locations marked for boaters to see at each landing.

#### **8. Presentation by Sally Pease- Plant identification, inspection procedures:**

\* Sally showed the boat inspection check-list sheets. She mentioned a few troublesome items that monitors should watch for and make sure all water is removed, such as motors, swim tubes, swim mats, and ladders. Watch for AIS inside the boat on anchors, fishing poles, and floor, etc.

\* A suggestion to hand out towels and bobbers with AIS messages was made.

\* A suggestion to make cards about blowing out jet-ski motors was made.

\* A suggestion to plan with the monitors earlier in the season was made. However, our AIS committee does not begin meeting for the season until the second week in April.

\* Sally and Chris will meet next week (Monday 10:00) to check AIS supplies and reorder items as needed.

**9. Adjourn:** A motion was made by Marcia Wellnitz and seconded by Diane Menard to adjourn the meeting. A voice vote was taken and the motion carried. The meeting was adjourned at 4:00 pm.

Respectfully submitted by Diane Menard  
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