

**LAKE MINNETONKA CONSERVATION DISTRICT (LMCD)  
SAVE THE LAKE COMMITTEE  
MINUTES**

7:30 a.m., Tuesday, March 11, 2014

LMCD Office, 5341 Maywood Road, Suite 200, Mound, MN 55364

**Present:** Dan Baasen, LMCD Board- Wayzata; Jay Green, LMCD Board- Mound; Gary Hughes, LMCD Board- Spring Park; Tom Skramstad; Jay Soule; Greg Nybeck, LMCD Executive Director.

**Approval of agenda**

The agenda was approved as submitted.

**Minutes from the 1/14/14 Save the Lake Committee Meeting**

The minutes were approved as submitted.

**Discussion of 2014 Save the Lake Recognition Banquet Dinner**

Baasen asked for background on this agenda item from Nybeck.

Nybeck stated that the most recent banquet was coordinated on February 5th. He believed that some things went well and some things could be improved. He questioned whether the committee should consider making a recommendation to the LMCD Board on changing up the event for 2015.

A summary of the committee discussion was as follows:

- A discussion of the 2014 program details (positive feedback about Soule's presentation).
- Attendance from the city representative seemed to be down.
- A discussion of possible changes for the future (i.e., engaging the audience similar to Soule's presentation about the 2013 boater safety education pilot program).
- Possible alternative dates and formats to host this banquet dinner (i.e., a charter boat).
- The need to better identify the beneficiaries, who is the target audience, and what could be done to attract them.
- The need for more professional and polished presentations, possibly through a videographer (i.e., the special deputy of the year that is annually recognized)
- Whether the event should be budget neutral (possible using it as a fundraising opportunity).
- Nybeck was to check with committee member Lisa Whalen on whether she would be willing to provide some leadership on this, working through the committee.

**Discussion of 2014 Lake Minnetonka Boater Safety Education Program**

Baasen stated that a great deal was learned from the 2013 pilot, in which some issues are being smoothed out. He believed that two or three training sessions are planned in 2014 and he asked for update from Soule.

Soule stated that he and Nybeck had recently met with Minnesota Department of Natural Resources (MN DNR) staff to further discuss how they could support this program in 2014. There are two options that the MN DNR offers the public the ability to receive a boater safety education certificate. First, the MN DNR offers a take home booklet and test. For this option, the participant will review the materials and return the workbook and test. This test is then graded by the MN DNR and a certificate is processed

(based on whether the participant passes this test). This booklet has not been updated for 2014 so he did not believe that this was an option for LMCD. Second, the participant could take the on-line Kalkomey course as part of the training session. Two things that were learned from the 2013 pilot included additional time is needed to allow the participants to get through the various sections, as well as there were broadband concerns at the Water Patrol training room to support 20 tablets and/or laptops. This concern has been raised by the Water Patrol to Hennepin County Information Technology (IT) staff and is currently being checked into, which is pending.

A summary of the committee discussion was as follows:

- Further discussion of the IT issues at the Water Patrol training room, including whether the necessary upgrades could be done on a temporary basis. The consensus was that this was the best location for this training, subject to the IT issues being addressed.
- The idea of utilizing the Minnetonka Community Center as a back-up plan.
- The advantages of continuing training sessions at the Water Patrol training room.
- There was discussion of the length of the training sessions, in which the general consensus was that one long day was better than multiple shorter days.
- An advantage is that participants walk out of the session with a MN DNR certificate (subject to passing the test).
- At this time, continuing with the Kalkomey on-line course seems to make the most sense. However, the committee should continue to investigate the appropriateness of the LMCD developing its own curriculum in the future (subject to approval by NASBLA).
- Review of the proposed curriculum, including planned breakout sessions and proposed changes based on the 2013 pilot program.
- How to improve the beginning part of the training session (pre registration and knowledge of the Minnesota Boating Guide).
- Discussion of possible updates to the Lake Minnetonka Summer Rules pamphlet (possibly through a professional service offered by an Al and Alma's seasonal employee who has graduated in graphic arts).
- The consensus of the committee was the following:
  1. Schedule a training session tentatively for Saturday, April 26th (location to be determined based on Hennepin County resolving IT issues at the Water Patrol training room).
  2. Two additional training sessions are planned for June and in the fall (dates to be determined).
  3. Staff will need to adequately get the word out for the April 26th training session (local newspapers, local school districts, LMCD Board members, LMCD member cities, etc.).

### **Next Meeting**

The next Save the Lake Committee Meeting was scheduled for Monday, April 7th, at 7:30 a.m. in the LMCD office. Future meetings are scheduled for the first Monday of each month.

### **Adjournment**

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:45 a.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Greg Nybeck  
Executive Director