

**LAKE MINNETONKA CONSERVATION DISTRICT  
SAVE THE LAKE COMMITTEE  
MINUTES**

8:00 a.m., Thursday, April 29, 2013

LMCD Office, 23505 Smithtown Road, Suite 120, Shorewood, MN 55331

**Present:** Chair Dan Baasen, LMCD Board- Wayzata; Gary Hughes, LMCD Board- Spring Park; Chris Jewett; Jay Soule; Tom Skramstad; Lisa Whalen, Greg Nybeck, LMCD Executive Director.

**Approval of agenda**

The agenda was approved as amended. Skramstad requested a short discussion at the end of the meeting on the role of the Save the Lake Committee in the potential funding of whole bay/large scale herbicide treatments in 2013.

**Minutes from the 4/4/13 Save the Lake Committee Meeting**

The minutes were approved as submitted.

**Purchase of Solar Lights for 2013 Boating Season**

Baasen stated that staff had recently made a request to purchase solar lights at a LMCD Board meeting. However, this request was referred back to the Save the Lake Committee to get feedback on staff's request. He asked Nybeck to provide further background.

Nybeck requested the purchase of 19 new solar lights for 2013, at a cost of slightly below \$3,000. This would provide for: 1) four new solar lights for the channel near the Boyscout Bridge on Maxwell Bay, and 2) 15 solar lights to start replacing the oldest lights purchased in 2004. For future years, he believed that there would be a need to continue to purchase lights to replace existing older lights.

The committee discussed this request and the consensus was to recommend the purchase of 19 new solar lights with 2013 Save the Lake Funds to the LMCD Board.

**Update of 4/12/13 Save the Lake Sub-Committee Meeting to Discuss Boater Safety Education Program for Lake Minnetonka**

Baasen stated that a sub-committee meeting was conducted on April 12th to discuss boater safety education on Lake Minnetonka. He attended the meeting, which was productive and well represented, and he asked Soule and Skramstad to provide an overview of this meeting.

Soule and Skramstad summarized the following comments:

- In attendance at the sub-committee, which were non-members of the Save the Lake Committee, included; 1) Deputy John Piper and Special Deputy John Erntson (Sheriff's Water Patrol), and 2) Kim Elverum, Stan Linnell, and Kara Owens (MN DNR).
- There was discussion of educating the youth, and offering the class to adults, in a classroom setting. Soule provided further background of the on-line and classroom courses already offered by the MN DNR. The MN DNR appears to be okay with the LMCD conducting the course at the local level, provided nothing changes to the course.

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- The committee discussed the on-line course created by the Kalkomey Enterprises, Inc for the MN DNR, including whether a separate link for special Lake Minnetonka rules could be created. It was noted that further clarification on this was needed, with one alternative is for the LMCD to create an on-line course of their own.
- Skramstad provided an update on a U.S. Coast Guard course he recently took while in Florida. Should the LMCD want to consider pursuing this as an alternative to the MN DNR's on-line course, he would need to contact National Coast Guard on this. The committee also discussed the courses offered nationally, as well as locally, through the U.S. Power Squadron.
- **Best Case Scenario**- to establish a classroom situation with Lake Minnetonka components (coordinated with Kalkomey).
- **Alternative Case Scenario**- to establish a classroom situation with Lake Minnetonka components (prepared by the LMCD).
- The consensus of the committee was to coordinate with the MN DNR on this.

### **Funding for 2013 Herbicide Treatments**

Baasen stated that the LMCD Board would be considering a request from the Lake Minnetonka Association to partially fund herbicide treatments in 2013. He asked Skramstad to provide feedback on why this agenda item was added to this meeting.

Skramstad stated that the Save the Lake Committee provided the funding for the LMCD on the five-year demonstration project. Since this demonstration ended after 2012, he asked for committee members feedback on whether Save the Lake should continue to provide funding for this project in 2013 (and beyond).

The general consensus was that Save the Lake Funds should not continue to be used for funding whole bay or large scale herbicide treatments on Lake Minnetonka in 2013. Should the LMCD consider funding future herbicide treatment projects, the general consensus was that there was a better need to coordinate these management efforts with mechanical harvesting through a plan (with the LMCD's oversight).

### **What's Next**

The consensus was to:

- Schedule the next Save the Lake Committee Meeting for June 3rd (8:00 a.m. in the LMCD office).
- Action items for the sub-committee to work on in preparation for this meeting included:
  1. To further research with the MN DNR on the details of coordinating the Lake Minnetonka educational program with their program;
  2. To create education curriculum (either through Kalkomey Enterprises or an alternative approach); and
  3. To research into the details of teaching this program in a classroom setting.

### **Adjournment**

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 9:50 a.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Greg Nybeck  
Executive Director