

Farm Island Lake Improvement Association Annual Meeting Minutes June 15, 2019

1. Pledge of Allegiance
2. Introduction of Board Members
3. Cindy explained the informational presentation before the LID power-point presentation. She asked that folks be cordial, this is informational only - not something that will be happening soon, if ever.
4. Guest Speaker Pat Rath from Minnewawa Lake Association presented a Power Point Presentation on how a Lake Improvement District (LID) has improved their lake and the steps to implement a LID for FIL
 - a) Reasons for a LID: water control, water level, AIS
 - b) LID fee – county \$500, \$2,500 in escrow, D.O.D insurance (\$800), etc.
 - c) LID board members separate from FIL association; can have 1 FIL association on LID board
 - d) Need 60% owners to sign for LID
 - e) There were a few questions. I didn't get names of questioners
 - f) Anne Bateson said we should contact state and county to find out what monies they have available that we could use for AIS
 - g) What doesn't get done if we don't pay for it?
 - h) What are we trying to solve?
 - i) Who brought the LID up and why are we looking into it?
 - j) LID concept is to make it equitable and fair to all property owners
 - k) How define who is a property owner, how are associations and resorts counted?
5. Cheryl McDonough presented financial report and website updates.
 - a) She asked if attendees wanted to hear last year's minutes and they did not.
 - b) Can now pay online. Cost is \$1.15.
 - c) 24 have paid online
 - d) Have \$51,294 total assets
6. Cheryl reported on Membership:
 - a) 185 members including 17 received at today's meeting
 - b) 58 people also paid AIS
7. Cheryl reported on Mass Mailing
 - a) 286 letters were mailed because she pulled out the owners that have already paid their dues. The mailing cost \$500. So, it takes 20 dues payments to pay for the mass mailing.

- b) That is up by \$100, due to postage costs. Last year we were able to get the bulk mail rate, but this year we did not. Not sure why – will check into other companies to use.
8. Cheryl reported on Website: <https://filialake.wixsite.com/filia>
 - a) 3,241 visitors on website, so ½ year about 430 visitors (Last year about 2,811)
 9. Cheryl thanked Jan Knotek for bringing home baked breads – banana, lemon, carrot
 10. Cindy asked if we should we raise dues, and no one said anything. So, she asked that folks think about it and tabled it for now.
 11. Russ Hoppe reported on water clarity.
 - a) June 2 10.5 feet, with a lot of water run-off
 - b) He guessed clarity at 12 feet now, which is good
 - c) Attendee asked where Russ takes the reading and he said reading is done at end of Johnson Point
 - d) Russ mentioned to check into a DNR link “Score Your Shore” which has tips on shoreline maintenance - keeping the integrity of your shore.
 12. John Pierson & Gene Nardini reported on testing for veligers (baby zebras)
 - a) They test in 4 locations – both landings, and river inlet and outlet
 13. Greg Anderson gave an AIS PowerPoint presentation which I will place on the website. Discussion followed:
 - a) DNR has spent \$60,000 since 2015 for Farm Island Lake inspection
 - b) North access gets more traffic than south access
 - c) Milfoil is manageable, zebras are not – they must be prevented
 - d) If zebra mussels found, DNR will see if its treatable at cost of \$15,000 - \$20,000. Is this our money or DNR money?
 - e) Bill said that Aitkin County will pay \$100 if selling your watercraft and you leave it out of the water for 30 days to prevent AIS critters
 - f) Jim said private resorts have Clean – Drain – Dry signs posted
 14. Bill Haroldson said we were close to a No Wake/ High Water level, but not implemented.
 - a) Lake is too high for the lake level sign.
 - b) The lake level sign was displayed at the meeting
 15. Bill Haroldson presented ACLARA updates:
 - a) ACLARA has new president Pat Murphey
 16. Cindy said there is an open position on Board, and Denise Noling was accepted as a new Board Member.

- a) We will need another Board Member since Greg will be stepping down.
- 17. Boat Parade will be on Saturday July 6 at noon.
 - a) Gordy said the parade will go counter-clockwise, and there are about 60 – 70 boats every year.
- 18. Cindy announced that electrofishing was not completed last fall, hopefully it will be completed this fall conditions permitted.
- 19. Cindy asked if other topics that need to be addressed
 - a) Someone asked if we should sponsor the River & Lakes Fair and Cindy said the Board had, a few years ago, voted to not sponsor anything. This is due to the fact that the lake association itself is a non-profit organization.
 - b) Bill said the pond weed (curly-leaf) is not as prevalent, and we can thank the heavy snow on the ice
 - c) Bill mentioned “Vets Out to Fish”, a program for volunteers to offer their boats so Veterans can go fishing. Contact Sherriff to volunteer
 - d) Aitkin High School has a Fishing Club, volunteers are needed
- 20. Door Prizes were passed out by Bill, with other board members helping
 - a) Thank you Bill for getting a great variety of prizes !!
- 21. Meeting adjourned 11:00 am

Respectively submitted,
Cheryl McDonough
FILIA Treasurer/Secretary

June 17, 2018