

Minutes of the 2012 Special Meeting of the Potter's Lake Protection and Rehabilitation District held Saturday, May 5, 2012 at Town Hall, East Troy, Wisconsin.

Present: Commissioners Barry Bonneau, Christine Celley, and Bob Rice

Also Present: 12 Electors and Kathy Aron

Chairman Bonneau called the meeting to order at 9:00am. and the commissioners introduced themselves.

Our aquatic consultant, Kathy Aron, from Aron & Associates, reported on the condition of Potter's Lake. She expects that this year is going to be a difficult year based on the warm spring and little snow cover plant growth has been 6 to 8 weeks ahead of normal. Conditions have favored Milfoil and Curley Leaf because of their early growth patterns. Some native plants are back as well lots of Allodia in the bay by the boat launch. Our Milfoil problem consists of areas of patches. We also have Hybrid Milfoil in our lake. The DNR will take samples of the Hybrid Milfoil for testing and then allow chemical treatment with 24D which is effective on the Hybrid Milfoil. Our harvesting permit is good through this summer and we must let Heidi at the DNR know 4 days prior to starting. Kathy will be out on the lake in late June to develop a new plant management plan for 2013. The management plan should be into DNR by next March and a copy will be provided to the district. The plan will be good for 5 years and is tied to the harvesting program. It is anticipated that we will need to get the harvester out this summer to help control the weeds as they have had an early start. DNR is short handed and will supervise the chemical treatments but probably not the harvesting even though they could show up at any time. We need to wait at least 2 weeks to harvest in areas that have been chemically treated but can start right away on the other areas. A constituent asked about the political atmosphere in WI regarding the recall election of the governor and if there was any direct tie. Kathy said not really as the only area that over laps is the larger permitting (building on wetlands or protected areas). Another constituent asked about the possibility of another whole lake treatment. Kathy stated that the DNR is opposed to whole lake treatments and that our last whole lake treatment was deemed too aggressive and damaging to the lake by the DNR. What also makes it more difficult is when we did the whole lake treatment the plant life was primarily Milfoil and now we have many established natives. The DNR also reorganizes about every 2 years. Last year the Water Resource Manager was in Milwaukee and now there is one for the state that is located in Oshkosh. We have had a good relationship with the new guy.

Kathy commented on the geese and we can apply for a permit to do a round up this year if we decide to. However, we do need 7 adult birds to do the round up. If we don't have 7 that are captured we would still have to pay a fee of about \$2000-\$3000 and they wouldn't be able to take the birds. You have only a 3 or 4 week window to collect the birds and that is when they have lost their flight feathers. Window is mid June – July 4th. We need permission slips from the home owners in order to access their properties. A vote was taken and there were 14 in favor of the round up and 1 who was not in favor. A constituent asked about Hydrilla and if any has been seen in Wisconsin Lakes. Kathy stated that there was some found as close as Iowa and Indiana but not in WI. as of yet. Zebra mussels were discussed and due to our water clarity the

numbers should be kept down. Zebra mussels tend to thrive better in clearer lakes. Barry asked about the carp in our lake and Kathy commented that the bigger the carp the better. She stated that the problems start when you have many smaller carp as they disturb the fish population. So far our numbers have not shown a problem. The best time to get them out of the lake is late May to early June when they spawn. Barry updated the group on the fish stocking that was done this past fall. 450 Northern were stocked last year in the 12" range. Bob commented on the Clean Boats Clean Waters program. The program will run again this year on Fri, Sat, and Sun's as well as holidays. Flares for the 4th of July celebration will be sold at the launch. Questions were posed to whether these people were paid and who hires them. The positions are paid and they are employees of the district but payroll is being handled through the Town. Christine commented about the audit and asked for volunteer's to go through the books. Carol Cole offered to get together with Christine for a checks and balance of the books. Barry commented on the board (3 voted commissioners and the 2 appointed). There will be a change in the county rep as Roy will be retiring. The board recommended Dale Marciniak to the county for appointment. We have since learned that the county appointed position cannot be filled by a person who is a member of the group on which they are sitting for. We have also spoken to Joyce Ketchpaw who the county is considering appointing.

Bob commented on flares and our case cost going up. He asked the group about raising the cost from 3 for \$10 to 4 for \$15. It was pointed out that this is not our main money maker and we should hold the cost at 3 for \$10.

Christine commented about updating the directory and has a couple volunteers to help out. She also stated the importance of having emails to alert homeowners of important communications as well as a cost savings for the district. She also suggested that maybe it be posted on the website and password protected. Bob commented that we had spent \$80 for a mailed notice to people who don't have email. Mike Cole offered to help out with the technology side to make sure things are cost effective and protective of our information. Mike suggested that we monitor the number of hits on our website to see if expanding our website is worth our time (as of now we don't know the number of hits each month). Christine would like to make it so that people would be able to change and update their own information. A vote was taken to move forward with updating the directory and exploring online options for the information.

Christine talked about a carp out as there has been interest with several homeowners who would like to see it brought back as well. She thought that it would be worth exploring for next year. It would help to build commerodary as well as help our lake by removing the rough fish. There was a consensus that if there were people willing to lead; we would help to support it. There was a recommendation that a committee be formed to organize the carp out a vote was taken and approved to form the committee. We will wait for feed back at next spring meeting.

The 4th of July falls on a Wednesday this year. There was discussion as to when the district should celebrate the 4th of July. There was a vote for the date with 5 votes for the date of July 4th and 8 votes that we do it on June 30th the Sat before. Options for the boat parade were discussed and the ideas brought forward were; Titanic, Favorite Song, The Avengers, Pirates, and Patriotic. A vote was taken and the theme for this year's boat parade is "Favorite Song" or "Patriotic". The boat parade will start at the launch at 7:00pm on June 30th and the lighting of the lake will follow at 9:00pm. Comments were made about throwing of water balloons and we asked that people refrain from throwing anything at the boats during the parade.

Annual meeting is slated for Aug 25th the budget meeting at 9:00am followed by the annual meeting at 9:30am and the district picnic will follow.

Mike Cole suggested a winter get together maybe a bonfire, fishing jamboree, or a pot luck. It was decided to discuss further at the annual meeting.

There being no further business, on proper Motion, the Special Meeting was adjourned at 11:35am.

Respectfully submitted,

Robert C Rice
Secretary

Minutes of the 2012 Annual Meeting of the Potter's Lake Protection and Rehabilitation District held Saturday, August 25th, 2012 at Town Hall, East Troy, Wisconsin.

Present: Commissioners Barry Bonneau, Christine Celley, Bob Rice, Joyce Ketchpaw and Jack Basso

Also Present: 20 Electors.

Chairman Bonneau called the Annual Meeting to order at 9:05a.m.

Christine went over and explained the current 2012 year to date budget and the proposed 2013 budget. She commented that some of the numbers may be higher than what we use on an annual basis but we need to approve the higher amounts so that we are in a position to make payments for the care of the lake as needed. For 2013 we have increased the budget for lake projects so that we have funds to cover anticipated treatments for next year. Payroll was also increased so that we have the ability to harvest full time again next year if need be. This number was based off of 4 men working 30 hours per week for 20 weeks (we are looking to add 2 more individuals in 2013 if conditions warrant). Christine made note of the decrease in funds and noted the purchase of the trailer for the harvester and the waiver of the special tax in 2011. A constituent asked if we had purchased a truck for the weed harvesting operation. Barry commented that the truck was purchased 2 years ago and a trailer for the harvester was purchased this past year. Christine commented on making sure that we have enough in the budget for maintenance as we needed tires for the truck as well as hydraulic hoses for the harvester. The more the harvester and truck are used the higher the maintenance cost. Bob commented on the rough shape of the piers by both conveyors and we are looking to replace them with something safer. He asked that if anyone had a pier to sell or donate to let us know. The below budget was voted on and approved unanimously.

**POTTER'S LAKE PROTECTION AND
REHABILITATION DISTRICT**

25-Aug-12

9:07am

DESCRIPTION

2013 Proposed Budget

Receipts:

District Tax	12,000.00
Special Tax	42,000.00
Interest on Savings	4,000.00
Grant	0.00
Flare Sales	1,000.00
Transfer from Savings	67,100.00

TOTAL 116,100.00

Expenditures:

Office, Advertising, Mtgs	1,500.00
Dues and Subscriptions	700.00
Legal	1,500.00
Equipment, Tools & Vehicles	10,000.00
Computer & Web Expenses	2,500.00
Lake Functions	1,000.00
Utilities	400.00
Reserve for Special Projects	10,000.00
Lake Projects	30,000.00
Insurance	5,000.00
Fuel	4,500.00
Maintenance	2,000.00
Payroll Expenses	45,000.00
Misc Expenses	2,000.00

TOTAL EXPENDITURES 116,100.00

Barry started the meeting and introduced Joyce Ketchpaw as our new Walworth County commissioner. She was on our board prior and has experience in local

8/25/2012 ASSETS:

Citizens Bank of Mukwonago

Checking Account	8,005.57
Money Market	20,942.07
Certificates of Deposit	209,610.05

Landmark Credit Union

Certificates of Deposit	103,397.98
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Total Assets 341,955.67

politics. Minutes from the 2011 annual meeting were available for all and a motion was made to approve the minutes as drafted and approved. Christine provided copies of the proposed 2013 budget and went through several line items. A comment was made about the low flare sales and asked if there was a better way to sell the flares. It was explained that the flares were sold at the launch by the Clean Boats Clean Waters crew. It was suggested that we may want to put up a sign so that more people are aware. Barry also stressed the importance of email so that it is easier to communicate with the lake residents. Kathy Aron was unable to attend and provided the below summary that Barry went over.

Potters Lake Summary

Aron & Associates is in the process of updating the Potters Lake Plant Management Plan. This plan is a DNR requirement for obtaining harvesting permits. The harvesting permit for Potters Lake expires at the end of this year. The new Plan will allow the District to apply for a new 5-year permit.

The Plan will also provide recommendations for conducting chemical treatments. Those permits are issued annually.

Currently, DNR will not approve a whole-lake chemical treatment, but they are allowing what I would call “large-scale” treatments. I have attached a map that shows the two primary areas in need of treatment. The boat launch bay is 6.5 acres, and the western area is 53.8 acres.

It is my suggestion, that these two areas be treated this fall, using liquid 2,4-D. This will require a change to the permit since the existing one does not include the center portion of the large area on the west. The added area is 31 acres. It is unknown at this time if DNR will require a new permit or will amend the original one. If you proceed to do the treatment, I will argue for an amendment, since you have already paid the maximum permit fee this year. The treatment would be done in mid to late September. This helps avoid the issue of dissolved oxygen problems that can occur when large amounts of weeds die after being treated. Fall treatments have been an effective tool in managing Eurasian water milfoil.

Water levels and temperatures have been significantly affected by the unusual spring and summer weather. The high water temperatures have resulted in very high algae concentrations in a number of area lakes. The temperatures also negatively impact fish such as Northern Pike. The larger Northerns are especially susceptible to fish kills – they cannot handle the sustained water temperatures above 80 degrees. Quite a few shallow lakes in Northern Illinois and Southeastern Wisconsin have had fish kills caused by the heat. The hot, dry temperatures also increase evaporation rates on lakes which have been measured to be as much as 1/4 to 1/2-inch per day. The dropping water levels can restrict homeowner’s access to the lake.

If homeowner’s have specific concerns or comments about the plants and the management of plants, please provide them in writing to your board, so that they can pass the information along to us.

Thanks and have a great meeting.

Kathy Aron
Aron & Associates

Barry explained that the DNR will not allow whole lake treatments as they deemed our prior whole lake treatment a failure. They do not want to do treatments where the entire plant population is eradicated. He went over the provided map to show people what the suggestion was for the fall treatment. Our current permit would have to be amended to incorporate the larger requested area. Part of our current problem is due to the low water levels created by lack of snow and rain as well as the early spring and unusually warm summer. The proposed treatment would be divided into two treatments due to the large area to be covered. The harvesting season will stop at the point of treatment as you can not harvest treated areas for two weeks. If this works the milfoil should be killed and we don't enter spring where the milfoil is in a growing mode and emerges quickly and becomes a problem early on in the year. A question was asked if the 200ft area would include pier areas. Barry stated that we would treat what ever area the DNR would allow and individual homeowners could clear up to a 30ft area in front of their homes. 2-4D would be used to treat the lake as it is effective in targeting the milfoil and the DNR is comfortable with the application as they have experience with using it. Sonar was used in our whole lake treatment but is not typically approved by the DNR as they deemed our whole lake treatment a failure. Lilly pads were also asked about but due to the low water level this year the lily pad fields have dried up and have not been growing. The dam level was also asked about but due to the lack of snow and rain there has not been any water even close to the dam. Barry had talked to Kathy Aron prior to the meeting and other lakes are experiencing similar and in most cases more severe problems than what we are experiencing (Wind Lake, Pewaukee Lake, and Eagle Springs Lakes were mentioned). Bob mentioned that Delavan Lake was also experiencing problems with low water and boats being stuck on lifts. A constituent asked for an email to be sent if people were experiencing boats stuck on lifts or problems at the launch. Bob commented that 2 emails have been sent and his boat is currently stuck on his lift. He stated that you could try and use a floatation devise to float your boat off or contact a pier service to pull your boat off the lift. Currently there have been no problems at the launch with getting boats on trailers. Joyce asked about the run off from the farm and another constituent asked about the purchase of the triangle property. Barry commented that due to lack of rain this year we haven't experienced the problems we have had in the past and due to the cost of the property in question and lack of cooperation from the farmer it is currently not a realistic solution to the problem. Our district has contacted the DNR and Walworth County and this is beyond our control at the current time. A constituent asked about blue green algae and it was noted that Kathy Aron was on the lake and found that the algae was not the poisonous kind. Christine asked about applying for permits now as apposed to waiting for spring to file. Barry stated that we can apply for permits and they would be issued about the first of March. Christine commented about the early spring and the chemical was not yet available for treatment and suggested that maybe we prebuy the chemical for next year so that we are ready when weed growth permits. Bob commented that we could look back at what we have used in the past and should be able to come up with an estimate of what we need based on those prior years. This way we could be first in line for treatment and not have to be waiting for chemicals to arrive.

Old Business. Carp out was discussed. Christine's neighbor wants to organize and bring this back. It will be a good way to promote community as well as doing something beneficial for the lake. There will be some small prizes, food, and games. Those interested in helping are encouraged to contact Christine. Joyce asked about where the funds would come from for prizes. We would ask for donations and some funds could come from lake functions. Based on research this would have to happen in June when the fish are spawning. On another topic our website should be updated regularly with meeting minutes. Also our lake directory update is still of interest and we will work on updating it this winter.

Barry commented on weed harvesting and to date we have taken out over 300 loads of weeds. The weeds were taken to two different places, one farmer who has taken as much as he can and a local nursery. This works out good for us as they are both local and we don't have to pay to dispose of the material. On an average day they pull out 5 to 9 loads and run 4 days a week depending on weather. It was asked if there was any consideration of hiring additional employee's for next year based on the amount of harvesting that needs to be done. Barry explained that we have budgeted for 60hrs of payroll per week for next years harvesting program. We will have 2 to 4 people lined up for next year. Based on the addition of more people this is another reason that we will be using a payroll service next year. A constituent asked if it would be more efficient if there was an established cutting pattern for harvesting as he noted the zig zaging pattern of the harvester this year. Barry explained that they focus on the launch area and the west end of the lake. Based on the low water level there are areas where they can't get into that they would normally harvest. There are area's where we have seen growth this year that have not been problems in the past due to the low water levels making it an unusually hard year on everyone. In addition to harvesting they have been doing shoreline pick up for homeowners who have raked up piles of weeds that need to be disposed of. The harvesting crew prefer to have the piles in the water away from piers and lifts as it is easier to load them on the conveyor. Christine commented that an email should be sent to direct home owners on what to do with the weeds piled for pick up.

Bob commented on the condition of the piers that are being used for the harvesting operation and that the district is looking to replace our current piers. He asked if anyone had a pier or sections they would like to donate or sell to contact us so we could come take a look.

Christine commented on payroll services. The Town of East Troy has been handling our payroll for the last 4 years. With our expanding payroll requirements we need to take over this function and Christine recommend using a payroll service that would file our taxes, issue W-2's, and 1099's for us. The service would require direct deposit. Christine got quotes from three different services and received the most favorable quote from IPS Service's. On the months where we don't have checks issued IPS would just charge us the minimum fee of \$7 while the other's wanted \$20-\$50. It was suggested that we use independent contractors to avoid some of the payroll issues. Christine stated the independent contractors would need to provide proof of their own insurance and for the jobs these people do it would be unreasonable to request that they provide their own insurance. We would end up loosing some of our key employee's if we asked them to go that route. A motion was made from the floor to move forward to obtain payroll services starting January 1, 2013. This motion was unanimously approved.

The term of Commissioner Barry Bonneau is up at the end of the year 2012 and he asked if there were any interested parties that would like to come forward. No one expressed an interest and Barry said that he would be willing to serve another term as commissioner. All those present approved Barry for another term starting January 2013.

Barry started going over the resolutions for next year. The date for the next annual meeting was discussed and it was recommended that the date be changed to the end of September. Joyce went over the current restrictions and end of September falls outside the current rules but could be changed based on majority vote at the previous annual meeting. A motion was made to move the annual meeting to the first Saturday after Labor Day and approved by majority vote. It was brought up to also set the date of our 4th of July celebration to the 4th of July each year. It was decided to table the final decision till the spring meeting

where it would be put on the agenda and voted on. All resolutions were reviewed voted on and approved as presented and updated with the approved amounts from the budget meeting of 2013.

Fisheries were discussed and Barry commented about the stocking of Northerns that the district did last year. Zebra Muscles were commented on and it was noted that they are present in our lake. At this point they do not present a great problem. Christine asked about the harvesting permit and what areas could be harvested based on several inquiries's that she has received. Bob had a copy of the permit and read the restrictions to the group and offered to show the permit to those that were interested in reviewing it. Christine suggested that based on the expansive area that is permitted that we should aim to cut 6 days a week. Bob commented on areas of the lake that seem to be left uncut and that a great amount of time is being spent on the shoreline area and would like to see a definite cutting pattern established. He would like to see more time being spent outside the buoy line as this is where the majority of the boat traffic is. Bob would like to see more chemical treatment as he doesn't see harvesting as the solution but a very temporary fix. Harvesting creates fragments that float, potentially causing the milfoil to spread. Bob suggested to expand the permitted area for chemical treatment next year to cover the whole lake. He stated that while the DNR would not allow a whole lake treatment it would make sure that if milfoil were to show up in another area of the lake at least it would be within our permitted area and then it would be up to DNR to approve just like we have for our current shoreline permit. Christine commented on the area by the marsh that was left uncut. A constituent asked why we were not cutting that area since we were trying to eradicate the milfoil. Barry commented that area by the bog was not in our current permit to harvest but we are seeking to expand it but it is subject to DNR judgment. Barry suggested that we get Kathy Aron to meet with the commissioners and invite anyone interested to attend to go over harvesting and chemical treatment going forward. Paul Celley said that he would be happy to attend the meeting and offered his assistance in helping with the milfoil problem. Christine asked if it would make sense to interview another lake management company to make sure we are doing everything we can for our lake. Bob agreed and had stated that he had contacted a former commissioner this spring who agreed with our concerns but also stated that it would be hard to find someone better than Kathy. Barry commented on his history with the lake and thought that it would be worth while to interview other consultants to make sure we are moving in the right direction. The commissioners will work on this and report back at the spring meeting with our findings. Problems with muskrats eating wires and wooden boats were mentioned. Live traps were brought up as a possible solution. Bob commented again that if you have not turned in your permission forms for the goose round up that we need those back in order to do the round up. The company that does the round up needs a signed permission form from each property owner in order to enter onto their property and if the lake district does not have enough signed forms it would limit the success of the round up. There were forms available at the meeting for residences to sign. Joyce commented on the clean sweep program that the county is running to get rid of hazardous waste and had informational forms on the back table for those interested. Meeting was adjourned at 11:40am.

Minutes of the 2012 Special Meeting of the Potter's Lake Protection and Rehabilitation District held Saturday, September 8th, 2012 at Town Hall, East Troy, Wisconsin.

Present: Commissioners Barry Bonneau, Robert Rice, Christine Celley, and Joyce Reed

No Electors present

Chairman Bonneau called the meeting to order at 9:10 am

Commissioners gathered at the town hall to discuss fall weed treatment, 2013 harvesting program, and talk about the interview process for other lake consultants.

Barry went over the proposed treatment map and brought up areas of concern in the launch area and the west end of the lake. Because of the large area of milfoil there is a concern of dissolved oxygen levels and the treatment would be split up into two parts done about 3 weeks apart. We had a proposal back from one consultant that suggested treating at 3—3.5ppm for the hybrid milfoil that in their estimate 2ppm is not sufficient. Brian from Marine BioChem was conferenced in and questioned about proposed treatment levels. He provided factual information on several different area lakes that treatment had been done on with varying treatment levels. He said that treatment levels can vary as there have been some lakes that have shown improvement after being treated at .5ppm and other lake have been treated at 3ppm depending on the condition being treated. The other lake consultant that was contacted for proposals said that different parts of a lake may be treated at different levels depending on plant concentration. Based on our past treatments at 2ppm and continued spread of the milfoil the group decided to request that our fall treatment be at 3ppm to try and get control over the issue. Next years permit was also discussed. This past year we experienced milfoil that was beyond our permitted area and were denied treatment because of it. Questions came up as to why we have not been getting a permit for the full acreage of the lake as we don't know year to year where the problems will be. Next year we will apply for a permit for the entire acreage of the lake. Also noted was that even though the permit may be granted the DNR still has the final say over where treatment can be done based on observations prior to treatment.

Christine had contacted Jeff Stelzer of Lake and Pond Solutions Co as he was recommended to her by a friend of hers on another lake that he manages. Bob had made contact with Mary Knipper in Delavan and learned that Kathy Aron also manages Delavan Lake but Mary said that Tim Hoyman of Onterra LLC was respected and would be a good contact for us to make. Both company's should prepare a proposal for the management of our lake, provide references, and their philosophy of treatment. The board will meet at a later date to interview the candidates and make a decision going forward. We will try to set this up no later than the end of October.

Officer's responsibilities were talked about and Barry, Christine, and Bob agreed to stay in the same roles moving forward; Barry as President, Christine as Treasurer, and Bob as Secretary.

Harvesting was talked about (rest of this year and next years). Right now the hydraulics on the harvester are being fixed and may be out for a couple weeks. Shoreline pick up was talked about through October and the town dump was suggested as a possible site for the weeds. We need to make sure that the weed pickups continue through the fall once a week. Conversation was brought up about having two crews for next year as the harvesting is requiring more than what 2 people can handle. Based on the increasing need and time it was suggested that we entertain having someone responsible for the program who the harvesting crew would report to. We need to be more formal and consistent with our operations next year to insure that operations are being done efficiently and according to issued DNR permits. The board will look for interested party's to manage the weed harvesting for 2013.

Permits for geese treatment were talked about and getting a list together of people who still need to get their permits in and going door to door to get them signed as well as updating the directory and emails at the same time.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:45am.

Respectfully submitted,

Robert C Rice
Secretary

POTTER'S LAKE DISTRICT BOARD MEETING MINUTES 10-11-12

Present: President Barry Bonneau, Treasurer Christine Celley, Town Board appointee John Basso and County Board appointee Joyce Reed.

Barry brought the meeting together at 6:35 p.m. reviewing the purpose being the interviewing of 3 prospective Lake Management consultants. (Our district was frustrated with dealing with Eurasian water milfoil this past summer and wanted to take an overall view of past and future management and treatment).

Barry used the questions to guide interviews:

1. Comment on the history of the lake;
2. review past treatment of lake;
3. suggest their approach to invasive milfoil
4. treatment plan for 2013 and beyond;
5. projected costs and
6. lakes they have and currently work with.

Jeff Stelzer, biologist with Lake and Pond Solutions Co., Elkhorn, was invited by Christine because of his solid reputation at Camp Lake. Jeff didn't have the history of treatment of the lake but told us "milfoil is milfoil" and treatment depends upon our budget, balancing harvesting/chemical treatment, you usually begin treatment in May (this season it was April) and you need to obtain a permit in Jan/Feb. He has done treatment 100' off shore. He pointed out you never get rid of milfoil.

Regarding the 5 year plan Jeff pointed out the first year is a new plant survey and that is all we need. The second year another plant survey is needed. We need to talk to Heidi to find out when our plant survey needs to be done.

Jeff always applies for 3 points per million of 2-4-D for treatment of milfoil. This chemical is a growth agent and grows the plant so quickly, it is negatively affected. He likes harvesting, but not for milfoil. He emphasizes the importance of EARLY SEASON TREATMENT. With harvesting, topping is recommended— i.e. taking off top quarter or 1/3 of the plant, allowing for recreation. DO NO HARVEST MILFOIL; HARVESTERS NEED TRAINING.

Jeff currently serves a number of lakes in south eastern WI.

At 7:35 a call was made by Barry to Tim Hoyman, with Ontarra Lake Management. Tim had provided Bob Sullivan with a comprehensive Planning Proposal which Bob mailed to each board member. Tim spells out a detailed planning project that would involve education of residents, a team of volunteers to be trained and serve beyond the board members, ID the watershed, potential point-sources of pollution, plant community diversity, ID rare or threatened plant species and their abundance, steps to improve the lake, fishery data, funding sources and a host of additional services. The plan calls for an in-kind contribution from volunteers in addition to a grant. Tim spoke extensively to Heidi about our history. The company currently serves numerous lake districts in central and northern and eastern WI.

In the phone conversation, Tim said we do need a new aquatic plan and a complete master plan. He focuses on a “group plan” using volunteers that are actively involved. Philosophically, Tim’s treatment idea is to just try and get weeds under control for better ecology of lake. Their company gets a lot of whole lake treatment permits. They use liquid for large areas; granules for smaller areas. He believes in a higher dosage for hybrid milfoil. He too emphasizes the importance of early spring treatment.

At 8:15 p.m Kathy Aron joined the board; Kathy is our current lake management person. Kathy has been involved with Potters Lake since the late 1980’s when harvesting was the primary means of getting rid of weeds. People did not want chemical treatment. A survey was done in 1992 and residents again did not want treatment. Only harvesting was done. By 1995-96 the lake had lots of milfoil; residents became willing to use chemical treatments. In 1997 a whole lake treatment plan using Sonar was done followed by spot treatments. In 2003 milfoil was found again—spot treatment. In May, 2005, there was no milfoil but in 2 weeks, 90% of the lake was covered with milfoil; 2nd Sonar treatment done with a low dose.

When our Lake Management Plan was written the goals written into it were reasonable at the time, i.e. increase plant diversity and improve water quality. However, DNR would “fail” our progress when the water quality wasn’t what was expected or the lake didn’t develop a lot of plant diversity.

In 2011 milfoil was not a problem. This year the problem became out of control.

Kathy emphasizes we should request “Control of plants”; she recommends we do 6 Secchi samples per summer and a plant survey every 3-4 years. We need a Plant Management Plan or Lake Management Plan. The board thanked Kathy for the good job she has done over the years.

Briefly the board discussed our need to obtain more information. Thus far we are not comparing apples to apples. A meeting with Heidi Bunk, DNR, has been proposed and discussed. The idea of working with Jeff Thornton is also a means by which we can obtain more information. When these notes are available they will be distributed to board members. Barry believes we’ll need to get together again. Not every company does both planning and treatment, therefore we may need to look at treatment options.

Meeting adjourned approximately 9:20 p.m.

Notes were compiled by Joyce Reed, County Board appointee and typed for board members to review.

Joyce Reed
10-13-12

