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ROUND LAKE PROPERTY OWNERS ASSOCIATION  
SEPTEMBER 17, 2005 MEETING MINUTES

The meeting was called to order at 9:00AM by Secretary Dave Andersen who was filling in for President Bob Strachota. Directors Andersen, Ardoyno, Narr, Reinemann, and Whitlock were present. Absent were directors Kingston, Nancekivell, and Strachota.

- 1) The minutes of the June 18, 2005 General Membership were reviewed and approved.
- 2) The financial status as of July 31, 2005 was reported. We had \$17, 623.85 in the General Fund and \$23,962.64 in the Milfoil Fund for a total of \$41,586.49 as of that date. It was pointed out that our expenses per year for treating milfoil and monitoring the new zebra mussel threat are increasing much faster than our income per year to deal with them. We should be all right financially for another 2 or 3 years but we are going to have to go back to our membership for voluntary donations to continue to fund these programs. The report was approved.
- 3) Membership: Wally Narr reported that just 155 of a possible 625 owners have paid their 2005 dues. He will be sending a special mailing to those who have not paid, probably in November.
- 4) Reported on behalf of the president:
  - Bill Whitlock has resigned from the board of the Couderay Waters Land Trust. He was thanked for his contributions. We need to replace him. People present were asked to consider volunteering for the job.
  - The core analysis from the DNR we received at our June meeting was summarized. The lake is still very clear, but has deteriorated over the past century, in particular over the past 25 years. Much of the deterioration is due to increased development on the lake and resultant runoff. Shore owners are encouraged to maintain a 35-foot vegetative buffer strip, minimize non-impervious surfaces, and to not fertilize their yards.
  - It was reported that we have not yet gained tax-exempt status. The IRS has asked for more information to supplement our application.
- 5) Nominated and elected to board positions were incumbents Andersen, Narr, and Nancekivell. Added was Sue Kintzinger.
- 6) Bill Whitlock gave a brief update on Shore land Ordinances that are being redone at the state (NR115) and county levels. Several issues are under review. The most controversial ones seem to be what changes to nonconforming properties will be allowed and impervious surface limits. Both the state and county ordinances are scheduled to be updated this fall.
- 7) Shoreline Management
  - Eurasian Milfoil: A large outbreak has been found in Leder Bay. It will be treated chemically next spring. Other outbreaks have been found in Schoolhouse Bay and Little Round Lake. As noted above, the cost of dealing with this problem is going up as the problem is increasing. People are reminded that boating, especially skiing and jet skiing in affected areas

is one of the worst things we can do as it tears up the plants and allows them to spread.

- Zebra Mussels: A third-year sampling which we funded is being done this year. Results should be known by next spring. It was pointed out that the divers refurbishing the fish cribs have been asked to be on the lookout for adult zebra mussels. To date only velagers (immature mussels) have been found.
  - Vegetative Buffer: People present were reminded a 35-foot vegetative buffer is one of the best things we can do for our lake. In some cases Sue Miller is writing citations on new construction where the buffer has been destroyed, but developed properties are not being addressed unless a land use permit is sought. The audience was reminded of a real life comparison in Sawyer County. Lakeshore values are largely driven by lake size, water clarity, and to a lesser degree, quality of fishing. Values on Round Lake are at least double those on Lake Chetac, which is also a 3000-acre lake that gets green in the summer. We can't change lake size but by keeping water quality as high as or higher than it is protects our investment.
- 8) Water Safety: Director Ardoyno reported that warden Sue Miller wrote many citations this boating season. He also reported the buoys will be coming out in about another month.
- 9) Fish Committee:
- a) Director Al Reinemann reported that about 100 fish cribs were refurbished in 2005 by the volunteer divers.
  - b) Director Reinemann had pictures of LCO Tribal Fisheries Development stocking approximately 1337 extended growth (6 to 9 inches) walleyes in the lake. It was recommended that we make a donation to the organization to defray the costs of raising these fish. At the start of the year we had \$1,700 in the fish crib program plus \$1000 donated by Walleyes for Northwest Wisconsin (total \$2,700) and spent approximately \$800 for fuel, air, pizza and beer for the dive team to refurbish old cribs, leaving a balance of \$1900 in the fish crib program. A motion to allocate another \$1,000 of the general account to the fish crib program and donate \$1,000 to LCO Tribal Fisheries Development was made, seconded, and approved. Al reported that most of the stocking of Round Lake over the last decade has been done by LCO.
  - c) The DNR (Frank Pratt) decided to stock trout in the lake the last few years, and the ones caught appear to be "eating machines" as they contain in some cases more than 20 perch. The 6 to 9 inch brown trout stocked a couple of years ago are now 18 to 22 inches. Input at the August meeting held by the DNR indicate trout are a low priority
  - d) Al indicated the DNR estimates there are fewer than 100 adult muskies in Round Lake. The tribe plans to stock about 2500 six to 9 inch muskies every other year to build up the population.
  - e) Smallmouth bass fishing has been very strong, with at least 2 seven-pounders and many 4 and 5 pounders reported.

- f) There was some talk about a fish rearing pond being developed near Gemoaben but that is in the very early stages of discussion.
- 10) Attendees were invited to the Sawyer County Lakes Forum meeting to be held at Comfort Suites on Sept 24 starting at 8:30AM. Both Bill Christman from Zoning and Sue Miller (DNR Warden) are scheduled speakers and both have time set aside for questions and answers.
- 11) Old and New Business – concerns raised
  - a) A motion was made to raise dues from \$20 to \$25 per year. The motion was voted down. It was suggested we appeal to our membership for voluntary donations to fund aggressive fish stocking, milfoil, and zebra mussel programs.
  - b) The low water has some of our public accesses unusable. Who owns them (the townships) and should we be asking for improvements?
  - c) We received a negative letter from a former association member. They feel it is standard practice for the association simply to object to any request for a variance without looking over the specific situation and think that is wrong/unfair.
  - d) The use of PWCs is an irritant to many. Many tend to remain in the same geographic area (bays) for extended times, go too near docks and fishing boats, and are operated irresponsibly. Ideas ranging from limiting hours of waterskiing/jet ski use to making Little Round a quiet lake were expressed. It was agreed the board needs to start discussing this issue and see what has to be done to address the problem.
    - Improve the enforcement of existing rules
    - Improve operator knowledge of existing rules
    - Pursue limits on hours of operation
    - License PWC operators (?)
    - Other
  - e) Board members were congratulated for the work they have done.
- 11) The meeting adjourned at 11:00AM

Respectfully Submitted,

Dave Andersen, Secretary-treasurer

