

TLPOA Membership Meeting Minutes

August 21, 2021

Meeting Called to Order at the Lewiston Elementary School by President Tom Conquest at approximately 9:00 AM. Tom welcomed all attendees including several first-time members who were then recognized by the larger group. Executive Board members in attendance then introduced themselves and Tom led the membership in the Pledge of Allegiance

Executive Board Attendance:

Tom Conquest, Bill Siegrist, John Jackson, Tim Manganello, Karen Wilding

Board Introductions:

The board members introduced themselves by indicating which lake they resided on as well as their responsibilities on the TLPOA Executive Board.

Opening Remarks:

Tom reviewed the meeting agenda.

Treasurer Report:

Tom reviewed the current account balances, deposits, and expenditures. He indicated the account balances were healthy and that the TLPOA was in a strong financial position. Recent donations for EWM have exceeded expenditures and we are not requesting further donations for treating EWM at this time.

Current Account Balances

Areation:	\$8,600
EWM:	\$101,500
General Fund	\$60,100

Tom reviewed the current number of memberships including Lake Stewardships and Family memberships, noting that while the number of Lake Stewardships are up from 2019, the total number of memberships are down slightly.

<u>Membership Totals</u>	<u>May 2019</u>	<u>May 2021</u>
Total	277	252
Lake Stewardships	104	119
Family Memberships	173	133

Membership Campaign:

Tom Page discussed the new membership campaign which has been quite successful so far with 40+ new memberships to date out of a goal of 65. He passed out copies of a new membership information brochure being circulated around the community which has helped with the membership drive. All members are asked to talk to their neighbors on the lakes about the TLPOA and the work that it does to keep our lakes healthy, and to encourage them to join.

Tom Conquest stated the TLPOA is also looking for new board members and volunteers to assist with various projects.

Social Events:

Karen Wilding explained the Beach Party was not held again this year due to continuing concerns over Covid, but that the TLPOA intends to resume the party beginning next year. And while there will not be a wine and cheese party this year, the TLPOA is hosting an end of summer party. Tom Conquest will host the party at his home on Saturday, August 28th at 5pm. People are asked to bring a dish to pass.

Awards:

The Greenbelt award was given to Ron Compton on West Twin Lake. This award is given to a property owner that demonstrates good lakeshore management.

The Chickadee award was given to Jim Morphey who undertook a project on his East Twin Lake home to create a natural shoreline which previously had been eroding. While Jim was not able to attend the meeting, he provided several photos and a short video of his shoreline project that were shown at the meeting.

East Twin Aeration:

Tim Manganello thanked those that have contributed toward the aeration project. Tim explained the benefits of an aeration system. The bubbling exposes the muck to oxygen which then helps to dissolve it which then improves the clarity of the water. Our contractor monitors muck levels every year and maintains the aeration equipment. The system was started up on April 3rd and all of the diffusers were professionally cleaned on May 17th. There are a total of 24 diffuser locations across the lake. All of the compressors and diffusers have been replaced over the last 24 months at a cost of \$25,000. An additional \$11,000 was spent on normal electricity and maintenance costs.

Eurasian Water Milfoil "EWM" Management Program:

Tom Conquest explained that while EWM cannot be totally eradicated from a lake, regular application of proper herbicides can keep it under control. Our contractor, PLM, currently treats West Twin Lake 3 times per year with herbicides that are safe but effective.

Water Clarity:

John Jackson reviewed a chart showing Secchi disc readings on East Twin over the past 15 years. The chart showed that water clarity is greatest during early spring with declining clarity over the summer months as the water temperature and boat traffic increase. Water clarity on East Twin is the best it has been over the past 25 years with one secchi disc reading this year over 21 feet.

One reason for the improved clarity is the drought we experienced this year. Lower snow levels and rainfall reduced the water shed input and stormwater runoff into the lakes from surrounding land which improved clarity. Another reason is the presence of Daphnia (Zooplankton) in the water. Algae reduces water clarity. Daphnia eat algae which in turn improves clarity.

John also discussed a process called biomanipulation which has been very effective in Lake Mendota. The TLPOA is undertaking biomanipulation to improve water clarity in our two lakes. This includes stocking the lakes with Walleye which eat the fish that eat Daphnia, thereby reducing algae levels and improving water clarity. The DNR stocked East and West Twin lakes with 65,000 Walleye fingerlings in the past year.

Another action being taken is to reduce phosphorus levels in the lakes. Higher levels of phosphorus contribute to increased vegetation growth which reduces clarity. The TLPOA is exploring with PLM the use of EutroSorb filters at critical source locations on both lakes to help reduce phosphorus from runoff water before it enters the lake. Once we have a proposal from PLM including pricing, the board will then make a decision whether to proceed.

Open Forum / Q&A:

A property owner complained about the number of lights left on all night on West Twin Lake and asked if there is anything that can be done. Mike Dombrowski said that 10 years ago the township tried to address this by educating residents of the benefits of dark skies at night. He will look for information that was used before and have the TLPOA include something in the next newsletter. Noise is also a problem and the TLPOA agreed to include something in the newsletter asking people to respect their neighbors.

A question was asked about the spraying the county did to control the Gypsy Moths. The feedback so far indicates it had mixed results. Some property owners said they hired private contractors to spray their trees and had better results.

The meeting was adjourned at approximately 10:30am.

Minutes prepared by Bill Siegrist