

Minutes of 2002 Membership Meeting
Minutes of the LOA Board's May Meeting
Lake Owen

Lake Owen Association, Inc.
Minutes of the Annual Meeting, August 31, 2002

Interim president Dorothy Behling called the meeting to order at 8:35am.

She thanked the following individuals on behalf of the Association:
Bruce Hendry for getting the Association off the ground and moving it forward
Jack Carlson for doing extensive legal work related to the articles of incorporation and by-laws

Chuck Behling for establishing the Association's website and performing other duties

Al Woodward for agreeing to handle the legal work needed to establish the Association's tax-exempt status.

Joanne Cleary, past-president of the Namekagon Lake Association, for providing her time and expertise as an unpaid consultant.

She introduced the members of the interim board: Dorothy Behling, Jack Carlson, Bruce Hendry, Tim Louis (unable to attend), Bill McKinney, Terry Miller and Gary Nei.

The chairs of the Association's committees:
Fishery - Gary Nei
Lighting - Bill McKinney
Social - Terry Miller
Sound - Bruce Hendry
Taxes & Government Services - Ralph Owen
Water Quality - Patsy Schroeder (read by Bill McKinney)
provided brief reports on committee activities.

Terry Miller reported briefly on his attendance at the Wisconsin Lakes Association conference. He indicated that the WLA is dominated by groups from lakes in the southern portion of the state. The problems they face differ from those facing the Lake Owen Association and it is unlikely that participating in the WLA's activities will be of much value.

Jack Carlson explained the need for two changes in the Articles of Incorporation: (a) To change the Corporation's name from "Lake Owen Landowners' Association" to "Lake Owen Association" and (b) Revise articles to incorporate required language to facilitate obtaining designation as a charitable 501 (c) (3) organization. Al Woodward moved acceptance of the changes. The motion was

passed by unanimous voice vote.

The next order of business was discussion of the proposed by-laws of the Association. Jack Carlson was recognized to point out one modification of the previously distributed version. Article VI, section 3 had been changed by the committee developing the by-laws to exclude e-mail voting for officers, but this change had not been made in the draft distributed. Further, discussion was based on the proposed by-laws as modified.

Patty Anderson moved adoption of the proposed by-laws. The motion was seconded. Considerable discussion ensued, much of it focused on the question of whether membership should be limited to those who own land on the lake itself or be open to those who own or lease land on the lake or within a mile of it. Questions were raised as to whether the available grants and other benefits outweighed the possible problems associated with opening the membership to a wide range of individuals. The motion passed by voice vote with a small number of "nays" heard.

The next order of business was the election of members of the board of directors. Interim president Behling explained that the by-laws called for a written ballot and that a ballot had been prepared listing the current directors as a slate, but that nominations from the floor were in order. None being heard, a motion to suspend the rules and elect the members of the interim board (Dorothy Behling, Jack Carlson, Bruce Hendry, Tim Louis, Bill McKinney, Terry Miller and Gary Nei) was made and passed unanimously.

The floor was then opened for discussion of member concerns.

A request was made to post the agendas of the Boards of the towns of Cable and Drummond on the website. President Behling agreed to do so, if possible.

Much of the remaining discussion focused on the intertwined issues of fishing and water quality. A number of members pointed out negative changes in both and called on the association to make protection of the water and fish stock a top priority. The need for individual responsibility in assuring water cleanliness was pointed out, as was the need to investigate the role of oil from snowmobiles in creating pollution.

Questions were also raised about the need for and placement of "slow - no wake" buoys at various points in the lake. It was agreed to determine how and why the buoys were placed before determining if the Association should request their removal or changes in their placement. As a first step, Jack Carlson agreed to obtain a copy of the Town of Drummond ordinance authorizing them.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:50 am.

Chuck Behling
September 1, 2002