

Fish/Royer Lake Association Board Meeting Minutes
September 10, 2018

The lake association board met on Monday, September 10, 2018 at 1350 S 525 E, LaGrange. Present were Erik Pearson, Jan Nomina, Nancy Block, Ron Lucas, Carl Swopes, Dave Schnieders, Theresa Kirk, Tom McCue, Robin McCue and Pam Deetz. The meeting was called to order at 9:10 am.

Minutes:

- The minutes of the previous meeting were emailed out. They were approved by the group.

Treasurer's report:

- The current balance is \$9509.90.
- 89 homes have paid dues.

Fish Stocking:

- 2000 6-8" walleye (possibly more) will be stocked in mid October. Some will be put into Royer. The cost will be \$4533. The lake could support 10 per acre. Ron moved to approve this stocking, Dave seconded and the motion was passed.
- Some discussion was held regarding the shad problem. Only a hard freeze would eliminate the shad in the lake without harming the other fish, as shad are very sensitive.

Information boxes:

- Erik made 2 large and 2 smaller boxes, and Jenny Walker currently has them for decorating.
- Discussion was held about locations such as the public landing, by the Hickory Hills entrance, by 525/140, 445 off of 200, and at the end of someone's pier on both Fish and Royer.

Dead End Channel:

- We are looking at getting a grant from the state to help with the dead end channel clean up. For this we will need to be a 501 3C and file a yearly financial report.
- Nancy talked to Rex Pranger, surveyor, who provided a letter of support.
- Nancy will explore getting a 501 3C. The association did have this in the 1990s but it has lapsed. She has contacted Octavia at the Community Foundation and Regional 3A about the grant.

Buoy maintenance:

- The man on Fish Lake who maintains the buoys does not want to be paid. Carl moved that instead of paying those who maintain the buoys, we apply this payment to their dues with any additional costs to the fish fund. Dave seconded, and the motion was passed.

Scholarship:

- Jan moved to round up the dollar amount of the scholarship to \$400. Ron seconded and the motion was passed.
- We received two applications for the scholarship, which were read by the board. Ethania Tofiga, granddaughter of Theresa, was chosen as the recipient. Pam will create a certificate and it will be presented at the hog roast.

Walleye size limit/Voluntary catch and release:

- Walleye must be 16" to be kept, and the limit is 2 per person. Discussion was held about promoting a voluntary catch and release program for the first few years. This topic will be discussed at the hog roast, and needs to be voted on by the members.
- Violations can be reported to the sheriff at 463-7491 or the DNR at 800 TIP-IDNR.
- On a related note, discussion was held about livestock around the lake, which is prohibited. This is a possible topic for the newsletter.

November Fund Raiser:

- A roast beef fundraiser for fish stocking will be held at the American Legion in LaGrange on November 3, 2018 from 5-8. Tickets are \$20 and available from Dave Arrington and Erik. There will be raffles, and additional donations can go to Dave A.

Water Quality:

- Dave Arrington routinely tests the water coming into the lakes and it is good. Most of the problem with our lakes' water quality is as the result of what homeowners do.

Hog Roast:

- Tables are needed for the food. Bring lawn chairs and a dish to pass, coordinated by Jan. She also has the supplies (plates, cups, etc).
- Theresa will contact our advertisers to thank them, and invite them to come and bring a guest.

Road Captains:

- There is a consensus that re-instituting road captains is a good idea. This will be discussed at the hog roast. Pam will check about getting a larger map of the lake area so that we can define areas of coverage.

October Newsletter:

- A newsletter will be sent out in October to advertise the upcoming fundraiser.
- A BIG thank you to Theresa for her efforts in getting ads for our newsletter and website. Christine and Jay Benak are now maintaining the website.
- Suggestions for topics for the October newsletter include: Number to contact for violations, voluntary catch and release program for the walleye, livestock around the lake, water quality, the impact of leaf raking, fundraiser, financial report, response from Dave S's correspondence with Susan Glick regarding DNR funding, Fly Creek clean up (Dave will check with the surveyor's office about this), and a note about advertising in our newsletter. Theresa took copies of the most recent newsletter to give to our advertisers.

Royer Lake Channel:

- Residents of this channel have asked questions about cleaning it up. It was last dredged about 6-10 years ago, and would most likely not qualify for a state grant, as there is no incoming stream. Would the association be willing to help with the cost? Nancy will check with Rex Pranger, and we will continue to look at this issue, however only one grant per year is available.

Dues Hike:

- The topic of the dues hike voted on at the last meeting was raised, with differing opinions. This topic will be revisited at our next meeting.

Other business:

- Some ideas for fundraising and other activities were suggested including: a winter event sometime in February, creating stationery with the association logo on it, selling tee shirts with the logo on, creating membership cards that can be presented to local places such as Romer's, and creating a calendar of lake pictures to either be sold or given away with dues paid. Pam volunteered to put a calendar together. Pictures can be submitted to her for review by the group.
- Dave S sent thank you notes to those contributing to the fish stocking. Nancy will send to members paying their dues, and Pam will create a letterhead or note with the logo for her to use.

Tom moved to adjourn the meeting and Jan seconded. The meeting was adjourned at 11:00 am. The next board meeting will be at 9:00 am on Monday, November 5, 2018.

Respectfully submitted,
Pam Deetz, secretary

Hi All,

We are moving along very well toward our goal to minimize the shad impact on our lakes. We have 2000 6-8" Walleyes ordered with an October delivery date from Laggis Fish Farm. We have had nearly \$1600 donated so far and my hat goes off to those individuals that collected that money so quickly.....great job!! Our meal is scheduled for Saturday, November 3 at the American Legion. Before I order the tickets I need some input from you. That date is after a chicken night so I do not recommend a chicken dinner. After talking with Sue, we recommend a roast beef dinner which includes rolls, green beans, mashed potatoes, gravy and salad. It also will include complimentary drinks. I've talked to Erik already about this event and we suggest \$20 per ticket. Of that cost we will get \$10 which means we'll make \$1000 per 100 sold, I'm ordering 500 at my expense. Also, we need to set a time window, no more than 3 hours. So, do we want an early meal or a late afternoon meal? Please let me know your thoughts. I also think it will be possible to get items donated for us to raffle off, we could make quite a bit extra.

I've attached several water quality items with a lot more to follow. The parameters table will give the limits of each item that is considered an acceptable level. I want to stress that the data collected is for *in-stream* sampling. The only in-lake sampling is for Microcystins (blue-green algae toxins). Our lakes are sampled at all three of the major inlets. I think there may have been some confusion at the meeting. I will send some of the older data that will show just how bad our inlet streams were before we fixed several landowner issues under previous grants.

Dave Arrington

| Parameter | Target | Source |
|---|--|---|
| Dissolved Oxygen | > 4 mg/L and not > 12 mg/L | 327 IAC 2-1-6 |
| Temperature | 4.44 - 29.44 degrees C | 327 IAC 2-1-6 |
| Escherichia Coli | 235 CFU/100 ml (single sample) or 125 CFU/100 ml (geo mean-5 equally spaced samples over a 30 day period) | 327 IAC 2-1.5-8 |
| Turbidity | < 10.4 NTU | US EPA recommendation (2000) |
| pH | > 6 or < 9 | 327 IAC 2-1-6 |
| Total Suspended Solids | < 20 mg/L | Rule 50 of MI Water Quality Standards (Part 4 of Act 451) |
| Total Dissolved Solids | < 750 mg/L | 327 IAC 2-1-6 |
| Total Phosphorus | < 0.08 mg/L – Tributaries < 0.30 – Mainstem/Lakes | Ohio State Standard 327 IAC 2-1.5-8 |
| Dissolved Reactive Phosphorus | < 0.05 mg/L – streams / < 0.005 mg/L for Lake Systems | North Carolina State University Recommendation / Wawasee Area Conservancy Foundation Rec. |
| Total Ammonia | < 0.21 mg/L depending on temperature | 327 IAC 2-1-6 |
| Nitrate | < 1.5 mg/L | US EPA reference level (2000) |
| Nitrate + Nitrite | < 1.5 mg/L | US EPA reference level (2000) |
| Total Kjeldahl Nitrogen (TKN) | 0.076 mg/L | US EPA recommendation (2000) |
| Pollution Tolerance Index for Macroinvertebrates | >23 points | Hoosier Riverwatch (2011) |
| Citizen's Qualitative Habitat Evaluation index | > 61 pts | Hoosier Riverwatch (2011) |

| Lake | Date | pH | Temp | D.O. | TDS | Turb | TSS | E.Coli | Nitrate | TP | Microcystins |
|------------|-----------|------|------|------|-----|------|-----|--------|---------|------|--------------|
| Fish/Royer | 8/1/2015 | 8.48 | 22.0 | 8.37 | 267 | 2 | 3 | 150 | 1.2 | 0.10 | 2.5 |
| | 9/9/2015 | 8.31 | 21.7 | 8.45 | 259 | 1 | 2 | 100 | 1.1 | 0.09 | 1 |
| | 7/21/2016 | 8.31 | 22.9 | 8.34 | 257 | 1 | 2 | 50 | 0.9 | 0.07 | 1.5 |
| | 8/22/2016 | 8.35 | 22.7 | 8.37 | 261 | 2 | 3 | 50 | 1.0 | 0.09 | 1 |
| | 9/16/2016 | 8.31 | 18.5 | 8.44 | 260 | 1 | 2 | 50 | 0.8 | 0.08 | 1 |
| | 7/30/2017 | 8.33 | 23.1 | 8.34 | 258 | 1 | 2 | 50 | 0.9 | 0.09 | 1.5 |
| | 8/30/2017 | 8.29 | 22.7 | 8.31 | 257 | 1 | 1 | 50 | 0.8 | 0.08 | 1 |
| | 9/27/2017 | 8.31 | 18.8 | 8.32 | 256 | 1 | 1 | 50 | 0.7 | 0.07 | 1 |
| | 5/1/2018 | 8.33 | 14.3 | 8.35 | 255 | 6 | 19 | 150 | 1.4 | 0.19 | 0 |
| | 7/19/2018 | 8.29 | 23.5 | 8.31 | 258 | 1 | 2 | 50 | 0.7 | 0.08 | 1 |

My name is Ethaina Tofiga. I am a sophomore at Keuka College. I am a double major in Business and Social Work. I enjoy doing hair. I am a licensed cosmetologist. I am nineteen years old. I choose Keuka because of my majors and the beautiful lake. I am related to Theresa Kirk she lives on Royer lake.

Currently, I am a student at Keuka College, which is located on the shore of Keuka Lake, one of Finger Lakes in central New York. Living and working around the natural beauty provided by freshwater lakes inspires me to share what I've learned about environmental practices put in place to protect that beauty. I hope some of what I learned will inspire the protectors of Royer Lake.

Overfishing, by definition, is the "taking of wildlife from the sea at rates too high for fished species to replace themselves" (National Geographic). In researching the problem of overfishing most scholarly attention has been on ocean species. From the studies I've read on freshwater species research, some of the common interventions include more stringent licensing requirements for anglers, increase regulations on catch quotas, and limiting angler fishing site choices, and by limiting fishing during fish spawn season. In thinking about this I have come to realize the challenge of even establishing if weather or not overfishing truly exist! How in the world do you even measure the number of fish?

While the restrictions imposed on anglers must be carefully weighed--lake organizations have to balance multiple stakeholder interest--overfishing can have a long lasting impact on the ecosystem as whole. This includes all aquatic plants as well as the water quality and the bed of the lake itself. Often, other environmental factors come into play and may be disguise as overfishing. For example, many of the finger lakes suffer from agricultural runoff, resulting in algal overgrowth. Keuka Lake has benefited from the efforts of a local lake association with ties to the college. Through scientific analyses, the lake association was able to identify the timing of the fertilizer application as a source of fish die offs. With this evidence, association members

went from farm to farm to coordinate the timing of fertilizer applications. With this coordinated effort, Keuka Lake has remained largely toxic algal-free.

The health and sustainability of Royer Lake can also be promoted by a community awareness program. Local school groups and civic organizations can assist in education the community about the health of their local natural resource. It is highly likely these efforts are underway, but I mention them here because its an important reach out effort to engage all aspects of the community.

I have cover the topic of overfishing. I have included the impact of overfishing a lake. I have presented some ways in which we can decrease overfishing as a whole. I have shared some of Finger Lakes ways to solve and help this issue. I would love to say thank you so much for allowing me with the great opportunity to apply for this scholarship.