

Draft Meeting Notes Hayden Lake Watershed Association Inc.
November 24, 2020 Meeting Held In Zoom Platform

Board members present: Geoff Harvey, President; Jan Wilkins, Vice President; Barb Neal, Treasurer; Will Neal, Digital Communications Officer; Gil Rossner and Todd Walker. Absent: Gloria Lund. Members attending Mary Ann Stoll. In our response to the COVID-19 health emergency and an abundance of caution, the meeting was conducted as a teleconference using the Zoom Platform arranged by Will Neal, the Association's Communications Officer. A means was provided on the web-site to include public participation.

Meeting called to order at 6:35 PM

- Additions/Deletion to agenda: Barb Neal wanted to discuss the addition of a wildlife in the watershed page to the Association's website. The item was placed with the Technology and Communications Report item.

Public Input: None

Report on the Hayden Lake Watershed Improvement District Meeting

- District Board reviewed products of rentals poster subcommittee of District and Association – this topic will be discussed below with emphasis on the Districts and Associations distribution roles.
- The District Board heard a proposal from Sargent Klinkefus of the marine patrol for the District, Hayden Lake and Hayden support of a summer marine patrol position so a full-time team could be assigned to Hayden Lake.
 - District decided it would fund up to one-quarter of such an efforts \$41K expense in principle, if Hayden Lake, Hayden and the sheriff's office provided the other three-quarters.
 - Sargent Klinkefus was informed of the Board's interest in principle by e-mail from Steve Meyer the next day.

Regular Business:

- Treasurers Report
 - Barb Neal went over current financial situation.
 - Reported that the 17 Thank You Notes to cooperating individuals and agencies were sent out after review and input by the Board.
 - Barb, Gil and Jan met October 2nd for a full audit of the financial books; no issues found.
- No Recorders Report
- Technology and Communications Report
 - E-mails sent out to membership; Bay Watchers Program introduction was one item featured; Barb did the artwork for the communication.
 - The e-mail generated many visits to the website; many viewed the additional Bay Watchers information on the site. We are able to track those who showed interest in the program.

- Proposed by Barb Neal that a “Wildlife in the Watershed” page to be added to the website.
 - Website users could post their wildlife photographs to the website
 - The Board agreed that webmaster should create such a page.

Old Business:

Boat Wake Issues

- Boat wake education:
 - Poster and Information Sheets
 - Finalized poster and one page informational sheet was distributed by Mary Ann Stoll prior to the meeting; only error found in Association’s web address.
 - Posters to be distributed by the District to B&B and rental managers, some 80 identified.
 - A letter with the informational sheet will be sent lake users and homeowners some 1200-1300 by the Association
 - Letter will include a tear off application at the bottom to join the Association and will offer the poster for free with membership or a \$5-6 charge for laminated poster.
 - This mailing should cover second tier homes in watershed that are often rented or loaned to those visiting the lake.
 - The Association Board thanked Mary Ann, a paid contractor of the Hayden Lake Watershed Improvement District, and her volunteer committee on their excellent work on this effort and the dock sign initiative.
 - Dock Sign Effort
 - Made contact with the originator of the sign that inspired this education approach; he is enthusiastic to work with the Association on this effort.
 - Group was invited out to closer view his sign, its construction and stabilization on the dock.
 - Mary Ann is talking with schools about a sign design project; suggested this might also be an art and shop project.
- Wake Monitoring
 - Monitoring platform built, but must be shipped up from Boise.
 - Design explained: Square planter about 2 feet tall with legs; two camera boxes on sides; designed to fit District’s cameras.
 - Todd has identified a couple of sites to place planters; envisions about three in operation at one time.
- Honeysuckle Bay No Wake Zone
 - Barb reached out to Madison Hardy, the reporter for the CDA Press, and clarified that in a meeting the BOCC was talking about Honeysuckle Bay No Wake Zone not the beach; BOCC wants any request to come through Waterways Advisory Board.
 - With materials to develop the petitions and the petition, we have the materials to make our case to the Waterways Advisory Board.

- Take to the advisory board at the meeting in first week of February
- We will seek endorsement from Coeur d'Alene Canoe & Kayak Club; Geoff will approach.

Honey-Badger Update

- As of November 14th nothing new on the Forest Service website.
- Geoff will check again and e-mail ranger for an update.

Association leadership/membership development

- Jan reached out to Deidre Chadderdon who has been active on Fernan but has moved to Hayden Lake. She is busy working with PHD as a volunteer on the COVID issue so is too busy right now but has not ruled it out in the future.
- Geoff informed the Board on a Fish & Game Commission Challenge Grant Program
 - Perhaps one could be sought to restore damaged areas along lower Hayden Creek.
 - Partnering with Trout Unlimited was suggested for both this and lower Yellowbanks Creek
 - Plan to talk with key owner on Yellowbanks Creek, Ohio State Senator.
 - Mentioned stream restoration expertise required; have that in BLM's Mike Stevenson.

Letter to Avista Utilities on power outages.

- Barb reports no response from Avista to date.
- Follow up letter pointing out Kootenai Electric's efforts to put power lines underground; ask why they are not seeking grants.
- Geoff will draft and distribute to Board for review.

Bay Watchers Program Effort

- Good deal of interest triggered by the e-mail based on number clicking on the link.
- In a March send e-mail and ask for those interested in attending training.

East side grazing issue

- Geoff has not yet contacted Chris DeForest of the Inland Northwest Land Conservancy; will get this done.
- Todd has not contacted Bud Vanderbilt; is trying to contact Karen Hayes who with Mr. Vanderbilt put restrictive easements on their land as part of the IDFG's BPA land acquisition next door. Todd want to define the situation with Karen and then both talk with Bud Vanderbilt.

New Business:

Biannual newsletter:

- January to February time frame is when we try to get out this update to the membership.
- Potential topics: Honey Badger update, boat wake progress, Mokins Bay improvements by Lakes Hwy. District, and continuing education and monitoring initiatives and one other.
- Those additional suggested: erosion in Hayden Creek, Bay Watchers initiative, snippet on vacation rental effort, Avista and power outages.
- All would show the variety of issues the Association is addressing
- Geoff will daft and distribute for input/comment from Board

Need for a December meeting of the Board

- Traditionally forego December meeting; can always communicate by e-mail.
- Jan moved that we do not have a December meeting, Barb seconded the motion. Motion approved by voice vote.

Current /Emerging Issues:

- Gil suggested the logging on Wildcat Creek property be examined; Barb and Will suggested the same for logging on the stream entering the Upper Hayden Lake Rd above Cooper's Bay
 - Craig Davidson of Code Enforcement is checking to see if they have Idaho FPA permits.
- Geoff reviewed the 2020 of Hayden Lake monitoring results conducted by the District
 - Mid lake station as well as stations in Mokins Slough and O'Rourke Bay were sampled between April 15 and October 6.
 - General result, mid lake exceptionally good water quality this year for example total phosphorous average 4 micrograms per liter well below thirty year average of 7.5 micrograms per liter; water clarity and chlorophyll data support these results.
 - Both Mokins and O'Rourke stations do not have as high a water quality, but their water quality is much more similar to the mid-lake than it is to the North Arm stations.

Special Business

Note: The special business pertained to the Association's public records request of the Hayden Lake Sewer District's records concerning its name change in 2017. Barb Neal and Gil Rossner as members of the Hayden Lake Sewer District's Board recused themselves and left the Association's Board meeting before further discussion to fully address their inherent conflict of interest.

Hayden Lake Sewer District Discussion

- Brief update on the results of the most recent publicly requested materials was given. Those materials were received from the Sewer District and distributed to the Association's Board members just after its October 27th meeting.
- All who reviewed the materials agreed the 62.5% resident owners used to substantiate the change was based on the LID for the sewered portion of the Sewer District not on the entire district that encompasses the entire lake. Hence the "Verification of the Motion" (to change the name) was flawed.
- It also appears from the e-mail correspondence and meeting minutes that the name change was much more the idea of support staff and legal counsel than the Sewer District's Board.
- Jan Wilkins found and consulted with Mark Ellingson, who lives in Coeur d'Alene but has a place on Hayden Lake.
 - He is a litigator: He and a junior associate would do any legal work in a range of \$300/hr for him and \$200 for the associate.
 - His firm would first establish that it had no conflicts of interest; it would then take our research and any additional and develop a legal opinion as to whether the Association

has a case against the Sewer District; this might result in a legal case against the Sewer District. The cost up to the letter of opinion would be \$4,000.

- Jan did state that she believes roughly half of that amount could be found in donations from concerned parties.
- The advantage of this approach is that we will know if the Association has a viable legal case.
- Following discussion rounded out three alternatives: 1) Go back to the Sewer District's Board and make our case to them based on the materials we have collected; 2) take the legal route until we have a letter of opinion and then if supportive take that to the Sewer Board; 3) follow the legal course without any further consultation with the Sewer District Board.
- The group as a whole preferred the first alternative and plans to go back to the Sewer Board on its first regular January meeting.
 - Geoff will request of Lynn Hagman that the Association be included in the agenda.
 - Jan will go back to Mark Ellingson to have them assess whether their firm has any conflicts of interest.

All business concluded Jan Wilkins moved the Board adjourn, Will Neal seconded. Motion passed by voice vote.

Meeting adjourned 8:50 PM