

## HLWA Meeting Notes from February 28, 2023

Present: Jan Wilkins, Will Neal, Barb Neal, Geoff Harvey, Gil Rossner, Shawn Hathaway and Todd Walker. Attending public: Mary Ann Stoll

**Treasurer's Report:** Barb Neal reported that Idaho and IRS paperwork has been filed and accepted. Membership update: In addition to a very positive response to the dues letter, some renewing members are also making generous contributions. Barb feels that sending the dues reminders through the US mail was particularly successful. The Board thanked Barb for her efforts with mailings and acknowledgements.

**Technology report:** Will Neal explained that his out-of-pocket expenses of \$200/yr. for HLWA use of his personal zoom account should be considered as a donation to the Association. The board voted unanimously to approve expenditures of \$500 for HLWA internet expenses.

### Old Business:

**FSR 437 update:** The shooting site berm reconstruction is complete. HLWA's contribution check of \$5000 has been cashed. There is a dispute with the contractor about additional charges. The HLWID will be meeting with the contractor to attempt a resolution.

FS437 closure: Date for next meeting with Forest Service to be determined. WID Board member Kris Regele said that Forest Service has mentioned concerns over firefighting access as a future discussion point.

WID Board member Tom Yount has proposed chairing a subcommittee to characterize the state of the North Arm of the lake. They will not be making recommendations to their board, but they will be summarizing current conditions and looking at new and existing options to improve the water quality and the fishery. Gil Rossner will represent the HLWA in this group.

**Current lake levels:** Appear to be normal, though may end up being slightly lower than normal due to snowpack conditions.

**Code violation enforcement:** HLWA will host a workshop at the Hayden Lake Country Club on May 9. Jan sent out twenty-seven invitations and we have 20 attendees so far. Geoff will fill out the paperwork to see if this meeting would qualify for a WID mini grant.

**Wake Monitoring:** The Parks and Waterways Advisory Committee has recommended that the no-excessive wake zone ordinance 20-38 be rescinded. Apparently, the Sheriff's department also supports removing this designation. The BOCC will consider new proposals at a special meeting on March 29. They have asked for written input but have not decided if they will hold public hearings. The Board will get out a call to action to bring the membership up to speed on these developments.

Letters should indicate evidence of health and safety dangers, property damage. Also, could emphasize Commissioners responsibilities to protect private property. Different rules could apply to different waterways. Our public education campaign has worked. Ask for a public hearing. A public hearing would have to be published in the paper twice, two weeks apart.

The Sheriff's marine division will only have 3 two-man teams on all the waterways this summer. The City of Hayden spent a lot of money to build a dock for a boat to be permanent on Hayden Lake, and no one knows if it will be used.

**Mailings and Education, Publications and Activities:** Instead of T-shirts, the Association will purchase vests from Home Depot 12 in size S-M, 12 in L-XL. These will be used during community service events.

Jan is working on the semi-annual newsletter. Geoff and Barb are both contributing articles. She plans that it will go out in March.

**Publications:** On hold until we know what happens with the no-excessive wake zone.

**Community Awareness Projects:** Geoff was able to get to the first proposed site above Windy Bay. Barb will check to see what species of trees are available from the Forest Service. Geoff will check with the Forest Service to get permission to replant in this area. Barb and Will will be gone for 2 weeks starting on May 15th.

**Avista:** Geoff and Will met with representatives from Avista to go over the proposed construction project planned for the summer. Avista will be burying over 1/2 mile of electric transmission line that is most vulnerable to damage. They received a matching federal grant to secure the funds for the \$500,000.00 project. Jan will write a letter of thanks.

**HLSD update:** There is a meeting scheduled for March 17 from 8-noon to discuss the possible dissolution of HARSB. The owners of the treatment facility are the City of Hayden, the Hayden Lake Sewer District and Kootenai County, (for their sewer lines at the airport.).

As Hayden grows, they are contributing a larger percentage of the effluent treated by the plant, and HARSB is coming back to the owners for additional funding for expansion and for meeting new regulatory requirements. HLSD's percentage of use is shrinking. Becoming customers rather than owners will be considered. The long-term protection of Hayden Lake is a primary concern of HLSD, so any considerations would need to have built in safeguards.

#### **New Business:**

Mary Ann Stoll Asked if anyone from our organization would be interested in attending the Spokane River Forum, which will discuss topics like community engagement, water quality concerns, conservation, etc. The meeting is 4/26-27. Will Neal would like to attend, and the board voted to send Him and anyone from our board that wants to go.

**Next Meeting:** Jan and Shawn are not available for the regular meeting time of March 28. The Board decided to meet on **Thursday, March 30 instead, at 6:00 pm.**

**Meeting adjourned at 8:37pm.**