

HLWA meeting notes for the 4/27/23 BOD meeting, by Jan Wilkins, President

Meeting called to order at 6:05 pm. Present: Barb Neal, Will Neal, Geoff Harvey, Gil Rossner, Shawn Hathaway, and Todd Walker. Attending Public: Tom Yount, (HLWID,) Karen Kimball, (Back Country Horsemen,) and Mike Curry, (Candidate for Lakes Highway District BOD.)

Agenda Additions: Fire Hydrant Inspections around the Lake

REGULAR BUSINESS:

Treasurer's report: HLWA received another Innovia donor advised \$1000 grant. Dues and contributions continue to come in.

Technology report: The HLWA website has been fully recovered. They are adding additional protections to prevent a recurrence. System is up and running.

OLD BUSINESS:

Mailing and education publications and activities:

Kiosk at HLM: There will be three sections; Gil will take the lead on construction. There are 230-250 slips at HLM, and Joe says there is always a wait list. A Fish and Fins derby is being considered for a marina sponsored fundraiser for HLWA. Tom Yount reported on Idaho Fish and Game's Catch and Keep strategy. August may not be the best time for Pike fishing fundraiser. Jan will reach out to Fish and Game.

Handouts at Marinas: Jan and Barb need to get handouts ready. Shawn volunteered to handout at Honeysuckle.

Barb will write first of series of articles to appear in HLM newsletter

"Wake to the Middle of the Lake" Signage needs volunteer docks. Gil will put them out.

Community Awareness and Education Activities for 2023:

Cleanup on 437: Geoff is putting together a grant request from the DEQ for help with log placement in the mud bog area at junction of FSR206 and 437. The plan is to narrow the road and fill in mud bogging area using cedar logs pulled from the lake. A community service project to plant around the logs would be the next step.

Trail Improvements at English Point: Karen Kimball of Back Country Horsemen reported that since the forest service cleared timber, there is standing water in many places on the trails on the west side. Informal trails have resulted, and the bridges are all in poor shape. Bridge repairs and improvement estimates are \$67,000.00. The Horseman's Group is applying for grants from the National Wilderness Stewardship Alliance- decision in Fall of 2024. Tom Yount suggested that the group apply for a \$5,000.00 mini grant from the WID. Friends of North Idaho Trails have made this their priority. They provide volunteer labor. On June 10 at 8:30 and 11:00 experts will be talking about trees at the trail head at English Point. Would be a good opportunity to get volunteers and donations. Karen's group can get visuals and graphics for our use in PR. Also need to get estimates for trail repairs.

Forest Service and Future of FSR 437: The Forest Service expressed concern for fire control if 437 is decommissioned. They will consider alternatives which include significant road improvements to prevent runoff from reaching Hayden Creek. We will reconvene our meetings in June. Geoff expressed doubt about their fire danger analysis. Leda offered to look at their models.

Code Violation Enforcement: We will have about twenty-five attendees at the Code Enforcement workshop scheduled for May 9. Jan will work on the agenda. Will is putting

together a slide show to illustrate the variety and severity of the violations. Barb has prepared meeting materials.

There is a Planning Commission meeting on May 25, to consider recommendations from David Callahan for improvements in enforcement methods. It is important for the public to appear in support.

Current Lake Levels: High country snows are melting now, and quickly. Lake levels appear normal, but not high.

NEW BUSINESS: River Conference: Will said the conference was interesting and worthwhile. There are changes coming up with PCB limits from the EPA. There are problems with current technology getting accurate readings. Tom Yount observed that Hayden does not really have any industrial sources of contamination, unlike the Spokane River which gets pollution from Washington State. U of Idaho is doing good research on using biochemicals to handle these types of discharge. Geoff asked if HARSB sludge could be used?

Will was encouraged by the audience participation. He observed that the Clean Water Act of 1987 did not account for global warming. He also said that Liberty Lake started requiring that detergents used around their lake be phosphate free in 2008. There are efforts to get farming operations to move away from creek sides.

WID North Arm Committee: Gil reported that the committee is collecting information from a wide variety of sources that affects north arm ecology.

Other WID business: The Debris Removal program will run from 5/1-5/31. Cameras have been installed to make sure the program runs according to their rules. The WID may reimburse volunteers for their gas money if they help with towing. They would like to have photos of the debris hauling that is being done.

The new budget will not start until July 1, so expenditures are being watched closely.

Fire Hydrant inspections: Barb contacted Chris Larson from N. Lake Fire District. He said that N. Kootenai Water has the responsibility for checking them. When contacted, the water district was not aware of the responsibility and had not done inspections for some time. This is a requirement mandated by Idaho Code. Barb will circle back to see who and when the inspections will be done.

Next meeting: Wednesday May 24 at 6 pm. The meeting adjourned at 8:45 pm.