

Gull Lake Quality Organization
GLQO Board of Directors Meeting

October 11, 2022

Manor House, Kellogg Biological Station

Call to order: 7:05 pm

Quorum declared: YES

Board Attendance: Katherine Gross, Gary Mittelbach, Don Paulson, Rick Hebert, Sera Gesmundo, Margo Rebar, Brook Wilke, Joe Lukeman, Tom Belco, Randy Curtenius, Jay Wesley, Steve Keith, Andy Widner, Pete Hawk

Absent: Dustin Perrin

Guest: Eric Reed

President Kay Gross opened the meeting by welcoming the new board members and by asking everyone to introduce themselves.

Treasurer's Report:

Don Paulson (GLQO Treasurer) presented the financial report (to 30 September 2022) and a summary of expenses and income expected for October. There were some unexpected expenses in 2022, but income and expenses are inline with 2022 budget estimates. Also, there will be incoming membership dues in December when the annual call for renewals goes out.

Don noted that with increasing interest rates, he plans to move monies from the GLQO money market account into two CD's: \$30,000 into a 14 month CD and \$30,000 into a 6 month CD.

Don requested that the Board approve adding Andy Widner (new GLQO Board member and member of the GLQO finance committee) to the list of Signatories for the GLQO accounts at Advia Credit Union. A motion to approve this addition and reaffirming Don Paulson (Treasurer) and Gary Mittelbach (Secretary) as Signatories was made by Margo Rebar, seconded by Tom Belco. Motion approved unanimously.

Membership Committee:

Margo Rebar (committee chair) noted that we currently have 21 lifetime members (2 more than last year) and 375 regular members (including 6 corporate/business members).

In 2022, 40 members subscribed to *The Michigan Riparian* magazine. In addition, all lifetime members and GLQO board members receive a complimentary subscription to the Riparian.

The membership committee will be sending out calls for membership renewal for 2023 in starting in October (Facebook posting), followed up by a letter to all 2022 member (December 2022). A request for membership renewal also will be included in the Fall 2022 GLQO Newsletter. The renewal requests will highlight GLQO activities and expenditures to control aquatic invasive species in the laker this year.

Fall Fling:

Rick Hebert and Sera Gesmundo reported on 2022 GLQO Fall Fling held at the Gull Lake Country Club on September 25th. Although ticket sales and attendance were slightly down from last year donations and ticket sales combined covered the cost of the event and resulted in a small profit. There were over 100 attendees and was successful by providing a forum for GLQO members to socialize and learn more about the activities of the GLQO. There were also some attendees who were encouraged to join. This years “theme” was natural shorelines. Julia Kirkwood from the Michigan Department of Environment, Great Lakes, and Energy (EGLE) was the keynote speaker. She gave a short but well received presentation on the importance of natural shorelines, which generated a number of questions from the audience and considerable discussion afterwards. Members were also interested to see their ‘scores’ from the Score the Shore survey done in 2016 on a large map provided by Mike Gallagher.

Fisheries Committee:

Brook Wilke (committee chair) noted that there were 60 bass tournaments held on Gull Lake in 2022, one of the highest in the state. There was some discussion about the impact of these bass tournaments on the GL bass fishery. Matt Diana’s presentation at the annual meeting included evidence that the bass are successfully recruiting in Gull Lake despite the pressure from bass tournaments. Brook also gave an update about ongoing discussions of potential slot limits for northern pike in Gull Lake. This effort is moving slowly and Matt Diana is looking for more input. Brook will write an article for the Fall GLQO Newsletter summarizing Matt Diana’s talk to the the GLQO during the 2022 Annual Meeting in August.

Water Quality Committee:

Gary Mittelbach (committee chair) summarized the status of distribution of aquatic invasive plant species in Gull Lake and treatments applied to control them in 2022. Treatments were applied in June and July to treat Starry Stonewort and non-native Milfoil at sites near the Gull Lake Country Club, the bay north of the Country Club and at the Praireville Park boat launch. The cost for invasive plant surveys and treatment in 2022 was about \$7000. Our consultant, Progressive AE, stated that we are doing a good job in keeping these invasive species under control.

Mike Gallagher and John Eztcorn sampled water quality in Gull Lake and Little Long Lake (respectively) throughout the summer as part of the GLQO’s long-running participation in the Michigan Cooperative Lakes Monitoring Program (CLMP). CLMP water quality results for 2022 will be available in winter 2023 and will be reported in the GLQO Winter Newsletter and on the GLQO website. The Board thanks Mike and John for their dedication to this program.

Boating Safety:

Joe Lukeman (committee chair) noted that he has been in contact with the Kalamazoo Country Sheriff’s Marine Patrol and will report on their activities on Gull Lake 2022 I the Fall Newsletter. This will include the number of hours patrolled, as well as the number of citations, warnings, etc. given out and for what offenses. Joe noted that the Marine Patrol was active on the lake during “pirate” and “marti gras” days this year. The GLQO helps support the Marine

Patrol financially each year. He will followup to find out what other organizations are supporting the patrol on Gull Lake.

New Business:

President Kay Gross announced the candidates for GLQO officers for 2023. They are: Kay Gross (president), Sera Gesmundo (vice-president), Don Paulson (treasurer) and Gary Mittelbach (secretary). She asked for a motion to approve these officers for 2023

Motion to approve made by Margo Rebar, seconded by Randy Curtenius. Motion approved unanimously.

Kay noted that there was an initial meeting of the committee working on the renewal of the Gull Lake Consent Agreement between Prairieville Township, the DNR and the GLQO which governs the use of the boat launch at Prairieville Township Park on the north end of the lake. This long-term agreement expires in 2023 and the committee is working to draft language for a renewed agreement. The process seems to be going well.

Kay noted that one of the younger attendees at the Fall Fling event approached her with a concern about the amount of trash left on Gull Lake by ice fishermen. This young women and her dad have taken it on themselves to try to clean up some of the refuse left at the end of the ice fishing season. Kay suggested that we (the GLQO) work to help organize the community to address this concern. The Board felt this was a great idea. Kay will pursue and report to the board about what actions we could take to participate in (and perhaps lead) a winter clean up of Gull Lake.

Upcoming Board Meetings and events: The final 2022 meeting for GLQO will be 8 November at the KBS Carriage House classroom, 7-9pm. The schedule for 2023 meetings will be determined at the November meeting, including dates/months for the Annual Meeting and Fall Fling. Plans for a December Board Holiday Open House will also be determined at this meeting.

Meeting adjourned at 8:40.