

GULL LAKE QUALITY ORGANIZATION

Board of Directors Meeting Minutes

May 21, 2024

Call to order: 7:00 pm

Quorum declared: YES

Approval of the Agenda

Board Attendance: Katherine Gross, Sera Gesmundo, Trudy Luedeking, Margo Rebar, Tom Belco, Andy Widner, Don Paulson, Dustin Perrin, with Jay Wesley attending via Zoom.

Absent: Pete Hawk, Mike Gallagher, Vicki Gesmundo, Ellen Keenan

Guests: Eric Reid, Dennis Horn

Dennis Horn, introduced himself as a guest and indicated he was attending to learn what this board does. Board members introduced themselves and their job as board members. Later in the meeting he shared some concerns about the diversity and abundance of fish in Gull Lake, especially in light of changes in vegetation. An article about this will be included in the upcoming (summer) newsletter

Meeting minutes. The minutes of the March 2024 meeting were approved as presented.

Old Business:

MOU Agreement with Prairieville Township. Jay Wesley provided an update from a meeting that took place this week at Prairieville Township regarding the proposed MOU between the township and GLQO regarding management of the boatwash and other issues regarding the GLQO role at the Prairieville Township park on Gull Lake. . Mr. Stoneburner presented the DRAFT MOU to the Praivieville township board and it was improved with no questions. Among the issues included in the MOU is that the Township will share with GLQO expenses related to maintenance of the boat wash, including repairs and improvements.

Communication Calendar - Eric Reid shared with the board the current schedule of events on the GLQO Communications Calendar. The date for completion of the Summer Newsletter has been moved (earlier) to allow for mailing by the end of June so that events in the summer can be publicized. Specifically registration for the upcoming “Lunch and Learn”, scheduled for 10 July. There was some discussion of who can – and how to – edit this calendar

Newsletter – The outline of articles to be included in the Summer Newsletter was discussed. The date of the newsletter will allow for a summary of the Annual meeting (scheduled for 10 June) to be included as well as information pertinent to ‘summer visitors’ on Gull Lake (e.g. Boating Safety regulations) and to promote that “Score the Shore” is being done again this summer.

Treasurer’s Report.

Don Paulson

Income (from new and renewed memberships) is lower than expected, but assets have been repositioned so income is higher than it has been in the past. Four Certificates of Deposit are maturing

in the coming weeks and Don plans are to roll these over. We will still have sufficient funding to respond to any unexpected expenses. We will continue to ask GLCC to share in the costs of aquatic invasive species control in Gull Lake; Gull Lake Ministries has again made a donation toward this. Expenditures were generally below what was budgeted (e.g. no winter clean up project), so we are only slightly below budget. Tax reporting is due May 15th and we are now expected to complete a different form for filing taxes as our revenues over the past three years have exceeded \$50k or less, averaging last 3 years. The form requires additional documentation of expenditures and the roles of Board members, including weekly time commitments to GLQO activities by board members (each of whom are now listed). Don has contracted with Walker, Fluke and Sheldon, to review his calculations and to submit this form as it has to be submitted electronically. y for us. Don plans to have a CPA firm continue to file our taxes as we expect annual income to be over \$50K. The GLQO liability policy (\$1M) was renewed; this policy covers all Board members

It was moved to approve the Treasurer's Report as presented and it was approved unanimously.

Committee Updates:

Water Quality

Kay Gross for Mike Gallagher

Kay stated that the water quality monitoring of Gull and Little Long lakes as begun and early indications are that the water is clear and clean! has begun and lake is clear, oxygen levels are high. Mike has recruited a team of volunteers to do the "Score the Shore" monitoring and they expect to get started in mid-June. Mike will provide a brief update on this activity at the Annual Meeting.

Boat Wash:

Dustin Perrin

The boat wash is up and running as of last weekend. It is fully staffed as all of the 2023 employees are returning. There was a lot of interest in working at the boat wash this summer and so they will look into hiring a 1-2 extra people for backup. Everything is operating as expected.

Membership

Margo Rebar

As of this week the GLQO has 334 members, two new lifetime membership came in this past month. A reminder mailing went out to ~200 past members, who had not yet renewed and 37 renewals were received this month, one of which was from a new home owner. She is continuing to distribute extra copies of Newsletters to Township offices and local libraries. Eric Reid is charged with keeping the membership roster posted on the website and for this he will need to have monthly updates on new and renewed memberships.

Fisheries

Jay Wesley

MDNR is considering changing the size limit for northern pike to a 'slot limit'. Information about this planned change will be forthcoming; they are currently soliciting input on the proposal.

New Business:

Changes in Board membership. A motion was made by Kay Gross and emailed to all members for Proxy Votes to accept the resignation of Mike Gallagher from the GLQO board and to appoint Gary Mittelbach to fulfill his term for next two years. Mike stated in his email that he would continue with CLMP (MiCorps Cooperative Lakes Monitoring Program) monitoring of Gull Lake and assist with maintaining the boat wash.

Motion was made by Sera Gesmundo and seconded by Andy Widner to confirm the email vote to accept the resignation of Mike Gallagher from the Board and to appoint Gary Mittelbach as his replacement. No discussion. The motion was passed unanimously with absentee votes from Pete Hawk, Ellen Keenan, and Vicki Gesmundo.

Nominations Committee recommendations.

Sara Gesmundo

Sera has reached out to several people to invite them to join the GLQO Board, but to date has not had a positive response from any of them. She asked for help from current Board members to both suggest potential candidates and to help recruit them to the Board. While we do not have any 'retiring' board members in 2024, three current board members will be in their final year in 2025 (Don, Margo and Dustin) as they are in the second year of their second term. Kay reminded board members that our bylaws state that new board members must be approved at the Annual meeting and so we need to have finalized this list before the meeting in June. GLQO Board officers will be formally appointed at the first meeting after the annual meeting.

Annual Meeting - Kay Gross shared plans for and the agenda for the upcoming Annual Meeting. Erica Bays will be speaking on update on PFAS in and around Gull Lake. Erica has asked for input on topics/issues of concern so that she can try to address these in her presentation. Kay asked for input from us as to topics to consider. Among this is how the testing protocol for PFAS in fish may have resulted in higher levels. There is also concern about how the new EPA standards for PFAS in drinking water may affect the discussions for bringing Kalamazoo city water to this area. The Outreach Committee will send out a postcard invitation to all GLQO members with the date, time and topic for the annual meeting. Last year attendance was high and we hope for a similar turnout this year.

Future meetings – There was some discussion of moving the date for GLQO meetings as some current board members have standing conflicts with the current schedule (2nd Tuesday). Kay will pursue finding an alternative. Our next board meeting will be the annual meeting on June 11, 2024, at the Kellogg Manor House. Kay will shorten the proposed agenda.

Andy moved to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Sera, motion passed. The meeting adjourned at 8:27 pm.