

# RLAA Board Meeting Minutes for January 18 2021

Location: via socially responsible Zoom cloud meeting (due to Covid-19 pandemic)

Time: 7:30 p.m.

## Regular RLAA Board Meeting

### • Call to Order at 7:35 pm via Zoom

#### ○ Present

George Schneider	Hente Braam	Jeremy Coenen	Scott Roeglin
Mike Thiede	Curt Putland	Luke Johnson	Rick Stulac

#### ○ Absent

- Mark Ellingson

### • Approve the Agenda

- No changes made to the agenda

### • Treasurer Report (Mike)

- About \$31,000 in RLAA accounts
- \$15,915 check outstanding for dredging project

### • Old Business

#### ○ Boat Ramp update (Scott)

##### ▪ Project update from Scott

- Electrical is done and working on getting software installed on laptop. Access codes can be between 3-6 characters. Codes will be changed each year.
  - Rick suggested using 6 characters: 1<sup>st</sup> 2 digits for street number; last 4 random.
- Meeting with City went well and no changes need to be made to lease contracts.
- Intend on being ready to bring up this new system in Spring 2021.
- **Action Items:**
  - *Scott will generate spreadsheets to show how codes can be set up and shared that with the rest of the board.*

##### ▪ Member roll-out suggestions

- Rick suggested a “soft” introduction for residents where they will be assigned codes based on their paying dues in 2020. Keypad system will be activated by June 1<sup>st</sup> and anyone who has not paid their previous 2020 dues would be required to pay dues in 2021 in order to receive an access code.
- RLAA member notification for this new gate control system will be done in 2 phases:
  - Phase 1 by early February 2021 via e-mail and US Mail.
    - A Zoom meeting will be announced in that communication for later February.
  - Phase 2 along with 2021 RLAA Annual Meeting by March via e-mail & US Mail.
    - A Zoom meeting will be announced in a communication for 1<sup>st</sup> Tuesday in May.
- It was also suggested that 3” stickers be given to those who paid dues so their boats can be easily identified (this was a request from the Drangeid’s).
  - Luke volunteered to research purchasing up to 100 stickers. He will share design options with the rest of the board before procuring.
- **Suggestion:** Dues payment year would run from Fall until following Fall. This would mean if you paid your dues in the Fall, you would receive an access code and be able to use the boat ramp the following Spring.
  - This change can be announced in the 2021 Annual Meeting/Dues communication.
- Scott suggested reducing 2021 dues from \$125 to \$100 (leave Lakeview dues at \$60).
  - Motion by Rick; 2<sup>nd</sup> by Jeremy to reduce 2021 dues to \$100. Approved 8-0.
- **Action Items:**
  - *Scott will update Rick’s introduction letter to the members and share with the board.*
  - *George will draft up Boat Ramp Rules and share with the board.*

- **Channel Dredging (George/Scott)**
  - Concerns if TDT will deliver in Spring
    - A draft e-mail to TDT was developed by the Dredging Sub-committee and discussed by the group. It was suggested that since the down payment check for \$15,910 has not yet been cashed, that our Treasurer (Mike) contact TDT directly to inquire.
    - **Action Item:**
      - *Mike Thiede will contact TDT to ask about the outstanding check.*
  - TDT is holding the down payment check (\$15k)
- **Carp Removal Project update (George)**
  - Not anticipating any RLAA funding for 2021; just volunteer hours
- **Winter Aeration update (George)**
  - Most of the Thin Ice signs were tied together by Rick/George recently.
- **New Business**
  - **2021 Annual Meeting**
    - How to conduct?
      - 100% Virtual
      - In Person with Virtual option for those who don't feel safe
      - In Person only
      - Other?
      - Board agreed to conduct meeting virtually via Zoom at normal time (1<sup>st</sup> Tuesday in May (5/4)). Subject matter will be reduced in this meeting:
        - No guest speakers
        - Basically, cover what RLAA has completed and plans to complete
        - Review the Boat Ramp Enhancements and how the system will work
        - Provide a method for attendees to submit questions/concerns to the board prior to the meeting.
      - **Action Item:**
        - *George will draft up invite for members and share with the board.*
    - It was suggested to move future annual meetings earlier in the year (maybe March or April). More discussion needs to be done later on this.
    - 2021 Dues
      - Should we continue with same amount or reduce?
      - Rice Lake does have the highest member dues in Maple Grove
        - Closest to us is probably about \$80/year
      - **Action Items:**
        - *See above for declaration to reduce 2021 dues from \$125 to \$100*
  - **2021 Anticipated Projects**
    - **Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS) Plant Survey (George)**
      - Total cost about \$1,000 (cost share with City would reduce to \$500)
      - Required project if we are to request a drawdown
        - Would also need to do an AIS Plant Survey for each of the 3 years after a drawdown is conducted.
      - Fish Surveys will also need to be conducted for 3 years annually after a drawdown is conducted. City would typically cost share 50%.
        - The last Fish Survey on Rice Lake was done in 2014 for \$3,900.

- **Intent to Request Drawdown (George)**
  - Based on early season (May) visual sightings, if Curlyleaf Pondweed is thought to be a concern for the boating season, a request for an AIS Plant survey would be done.
  - We need to emphasize this at the 2021 RLAA Annual Meeting.
- **RLAA Membership Packet (George)**
  - This is something other lakes are doing for members, especially new ones. Should we consider for Rice?
    - If so, we need volunteers to work on this.
- **Other Topics**
  - **RLAA Facebook Group:** Rick reminded the board that not many members belong to this group, which he set up last year. We need to use this as another platform to help advertise what RLAA is doing to improve the lake.
    - Current Board Members in this group: Rick, George, Luke & Scott (via Joy).
    - Search for '*Rice Lake Area Association (Maple Grove, MN)*' in Facebook groups. This is a Private Group so you will need to seek access from one of the Administrators (George or Rick).
- **Adjournment at 9:30 pm**