

Agenda/ Meeting Minutes

Meeting Date: 22Jun2023

Topic: Lake Wisconsin Alliance Monthly Meeting

Meeting Attendees:

Forrest, Deanna	X	Kidd, Sarah	X	Kauhane Ray	X
Gleason, Mike	X	Murray, Andrea	X		
Herbert, Brandon	NP	Neander, Steve	X		
Hunt, Bob	NP	Zumm, Jenny	X		
Kell, David	X	Zumm, Rob	X		

Agenda/Meeting Discussion:

1&2. Meeting Administration

- David called the meeting to order.
- We welcomed Kauhane Ray of Burhop's Lakeside Lodge to the meeting.
- The meeting minutes of 25May2023 were approved.

3. Treasurer's Financial Report

- Brandon provided the Treasurer's Report prior to the meeting and David reviewed it at the meeting (see attached).
- CD: \$40,000 – moved to 7-Month CD
- Savings account: \$10,000 – moved to a savings account
- A Debit Card has been acquired. It is in Brandon's name. (Note: He can give this out as needed to purchase things so we don't have to circulate checks.)

4. Communications

- We are experiencing very slow response times on the LWA website. Mike is working with the website administrator (Clayton Hedgepath) to address the issue.

5. Membership

- Current status: 450 members; 24 are businesses
 - Note: There are likely more businesses that have paid via PayPal that have not yet been counted.
- A contract with Constant Contact for email service is in place and Andrea reports it is working great! She was able to quickly send the email about landscaping webinar to all LWA members with minimal effort.

6. Education

- Crane Foundation is lined up for the annual meeting.
- Need to order more keychains.
- Suggest that we raffle some LWA shirts at the annual meeting.

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New Business

7. Chamber of Commerce Membership
 - LWA members (Mike, Jenny, & Rob) investigated the local Chamber of Commerce groups (Sauk Prairie, Lodi/Lake Wisconsin Chamber of Commerce and the Poynette Area Chamber of Commerce). The board recommends joining 1 the Lodi/Lake Wisconsin Chamber of Commerce. David will notify Brandon to proceed ahead.
8. Merrimac Community Festival Days-August 5th
 - Festival organizers reached out to the Board to be a vendor for this event. The Board agreed to be a vendor.
9. Potential Meet & Greet for Lake Wisconsin Watershed organizations
 - David contacted Arthur Watkinson. He is supportive, but unavailable to support any planning activities until the year end.
 - David will continue to follow.

Old Business

10. Annual meeting details. Business invitations and Payment for Crane Foundation
 - Will assume honorarium due day of event.
11. Annual Membership
 - Memberships expiring in 2023: David Kell, Mike Gleason, Bob Hunt, Andrea, Rob & Jenny Zumm
 - The LWA by-laws allow 3 consecutive 3-year terms.
12. Sponsorship of Conservation Observation Day on Schoepp Farm June 23rd
 - LWA plans are confirmed for this event.
13. Fish sticks update – No update.
14. Stump removal - Waiting on response from the DNR
15. Conserve Sauk County Film Festival update (Mike)
 - LWA will be a sponsor for this event.
 - Date: Saturday, Nov 4
16. Book discussions (“Ripple Effects: How We’re Loving our Lakes to Death”. By Ted J. Rulseh)
 - Dede contacted a representative from the Golden Sands Resource Conservation & Development Council regarding information on invasive species. A representative from Golden Sands could do an educational presentation on invasive species and also take groups out on the lake to teach visual identification. This is something that could be offered to the Lake Wisconsin community.
 - It was recognized that Arthur Watkinson (DNR) has been working with the Okee Bay Association on the invasive species in the bay. The board agreed to

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- follow up with Arthur to better understand the work he has done and when results will be available.
- The board agreed there is interest in a presentation from Golden Sands and should look at dates later in the year.
- Note: For more information on Golden Sands Resource Conservation & Development Council go to [Golden Sands Resource Conservation & Development \(goldensandsrccd.org\)](http://goldensandsrccd.org)
- Sarah presented a summary of Chapter 5 (refer to attached slides).
 - As a follow-up to the chapter presentation, Sarah will follow up on area landscaping companies to carry and promote alternative planting options (e.g., native Wisconsin grasses)
- Upcoming chapter assignments:
 - 6 – Jenny
 - 9 – Rob
 - 10 – Dede
 - 15 – David
- We agreed that we would do 2 chapters per meeting. Chapters 6 & 9 will be discussed at the July meeting.

18. Miscellaneous

- Next meeting: July 27
- Annual meeting will be August 26, 2023.

Action Items

No	Item	Responsible	Status
1	Work with Clayton Hedgepath on LWA website issues	Mike	
2	Order LWA “floater” keychains	Jenny	
3	Issue payment to the Lodi/Lake Wisconsin Chamber of Commerce for LWA membership. (David will follow up with Brandon).	David Brandon	
4	Confirm participation with the organizers of the Merrimac Community Festival Days	David	
5	Explore future dates for educational presentation on invasive species	Dede	

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6	Contact Arthur Watkinson to understand his work to date on invasive species	Arthur	
7	Follow up on area landscaping companies to carry and promote alternative planting options (e.g., native Wisconsin grasses)	Sarah	
8	Explore LWA hosting a Meet & Greet for the Lake Wisconsin watershed	David	Continue to follow
9	Contact Arthur Watkinson to discuss stump removal issue	Mike	Continue to follow
10	Investigate requirements for placement & cost of fish sticks.	Mike	Continue to follow
11	Resolve Paypal account that continues to have Kirk Boehm as a primary contact		Continue to follow
12	Revise April 27 meeting minutes as described in the minutes	Sarah	COMPLETED
13	Set up CD for LWA funds and follow-up on additional banking items as described in #3 above	Brandon	COMPLETED
14	Subscribe to new email service, Constant Contact	Andrea	COMPLETED
15	Follow-up with the Crane Foundation to find out when the donation is expected in relation to the annual meeting	Jenny	COMPLETED
16	Post announcement on Facebook for the Schoepp Conservation Observation Day	Jenny	COMPLETED
17	Contact local chamber of commerce groups for Lodi and Sauk County	Mike, Jenny & Rob	COMPLETED

**Lake Wisconsin Alliance
Treasurer's Report**

**Board of Directors Meeting
June 22, 2023**

Hometown Bank Checking Account

Balances as of 6/22/23 - \$56,085.97

- Checking - \$6,085.97
- Savings - \$10,000.00
- CD - \$40,000.00

Checking Account Activity - May 25, 2023 - June 22, 2023

Deposits

\$320 - 5/25 - \$320 - PO Box
\$1,465.19 - 5/25 - DNR Grant Reimbursement #2 - Final
\$112.86 - 5/30 - PayPal
\$56.43 - 6/2 - PayPal
\$355 - 6/5 - PO Box
\$18.81 - 6/9 - PayPal
\$18.81 - 6/20 - PayPal
\$75.24 - 6/20 - Pay Pal
\$480.00 - 6/22 - PO Box

Withdrawals

\$40,000- 6/5 - Move to 7 Month Special CD
\$10,000 - 6/6 - Move to Savings Account
\$252.00 - 6/16 - Reimburse Brandon for Constant Contact Payment (Brandon Venmo \$252 to Andrea)

Net Change 5/25/23 - 6/22/23 = \$2,650.34

Notes:

- Debit Card Acquired. It is in my (Brandon Herbert) name. I can give this out as needed to purchase things so we don't have to circulate checks.
- David now on the account. Mike has been removed. David and I are the only 2 people on the account.
- New PayPal account is open. Clayton has linked the Donate and Membership links from our website to the new PayPal account.
- Still working on closing the old account. The website won't let me but I think that might be because of pending cash out still.
- BOD members - PLEASE RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIPS/SUBSCRIPTIONS ON THE WEBSITE. This way they will be active and deposit \$20/year into our new PayPal account.
- Need to work with Andrea to send an email to current subscribers on PayPal about our new account. I have gathered info on all the subscribers including email addresses.

- Andrea sent a Barefoot Bay gear reminder email. TODAY, 6/22, is last day before it's likely any gear ordered will arrive before 4th of July. Hopefully the reminder email will pull in some more revenue (25% of sales) for LWA.
- Revenue from second mailer still coming in. Assuming most/all in the PO box after 5/12 is from the second mailer. \$1,650 from PO box SO FAR vs. cost of \$3,335.76. Some collected through PayPal since 5/12 could be from mailer. Collected \$450 since 5/12 in PayPal.
- Lucky's is doing a 2nd round of Busch Light raffle. Ticket sales are slower now though, not pushing as actively because they are busy with summer season. I may be over there on Saturday and may ask if I can circulate the crowd asking people to buy raffle tickets.



Ripple Effects: How we're loving our lakes to death

Chapter 5




Chapter 5-The Trouble with Phosphorus

- Many experts believe an overabundance of nutrients is the most universal and pervasive threat to our lakes (advances “eutrophication” or the lake aging process)
 - Nitrogen and Phosphorus
 - Sends plants into a frenzy of feeding and growth
 - **Contributor to algae blooms**
 - Phosphorus is the “limiting nutrient” in lakes

Algae Blooms & Cyanobacteria



People or animals can be exposed to cyanotoxins by:

- Skin contact with water containing toxins while swimming or doing other activities in the water
- Drinking water containing toxins
- Breathing in tiny droplets in the air that contain toxins
- Eating fish or shellfish that contain toxins
- Eating contaminated [blue-green algae nutritional supplements](#) 

People exposed to cyanotoxins by **eating** contaminated food or dietary supplements, or by **swallowing** contaminated water, may experience the following symptoms, depending on the cyanotoxin involved:

- Stomach pain
- Headache
- Neurological symptoms (for example, muscle weakness, dizziness)
- Vomiting
- Diarrhea
- Liver damage

Notice at Devil's Lake



May 16, 2023 Derrick Mayoletch Environment, The Lake

Blue-green algae, also known as cyanobacteria, has been reported in Devil's Lake and can pose risks to people and pets. Of course, it's not always easy to spot and just this morning I spoke with a park visitor with their (Off-leash) dog just about to toss a ball into a questionable area. Thankfully the pup didn't go in!

Wisconsin DNR: The Phosphorus Rule (2010)

- Phosphorus is recognized as the controlling factor in plant and algae growth in Wisconsin lakes and streams
- Small increases in phosphorus can fuel substantial increases in aquatic plant and algae growth, which in turn ***can reduce recreational use, property values, and public health***
- Phosphorus enters surface waters from ***point*** and ***nonpoint*** sources of phosphorus pollution

Point Sources

Piped wastes such as municipal and industrial waste water treatment plants.

Nonpoint Sources

Occurs after heavy rains or melting snow wash over farm fields, feedlots, or urban areas and carry fertilizer, manure soil, and other phosphorus-containing contaminants.

Natural Sources

Natural soil erosion and build up in lake bottom sediments.

Wisconsin DNR: The Phosphorus Rule (2010)

- Set the maximum allowable phosphorus concentration in Wisconsin's waters (also known as phosphorus criteria)
- Point sources may receive more restrictive phosphorus requirements in their WPDES permit to ensure that the new phosphorus criteria are not exceeded
- Agricultural performance standards were also tightened to help curb NPS source phosphorus pollution

Phosphorus Criteria (s. NR 102.06, Wis. Adm Code)
Rivers: 100 ug/L
Streams: 75 ug/L
Reservoirs: 30 - 40 ug/L
Lakes: 15 - 40 ug/L

Several Lakes In The Wisconsin River Basin Inch Closer To New Phosphorus Standards (2019)

The DNR determined the three lakes needed revised criteria to meet water quality goals for recreation. Phosphorus runoff from farms and urban areas has contributed to excessive algal blooms, which can sometimes produce toxins that make animals and people sick.

"All three lakes are too high right now. We need to make reductions, but it's a matter of what concentration in a lake is going to allow us to recover essentially — to not have the algae problems," said Marcia Willhite, the agency's water evaluation section chief.

The DNR is suggesting less restrictive standards on Petenwell and Castle Rock lakes in Adams, Juneau and Wood counties. At the same time, it would require more restrictive phosphorus standards on Lake Wisconsin in Columbia County.

Phosphorus Sources & Ideas for LWA Actions

- **Source:** Polluted runoff from upstream farmlands

LWA Actions:

- Continue to support the efforts of Schoepp Farms and the Conservation Observation Day
- Advance the Lake Wisconsin Watershed “Meet & Greet”
 - Form alliances with other local associations
 - Promote education of Lake Wisconsin’s health to a wider population
 - Through a watershed alliance, promote improved land use practices

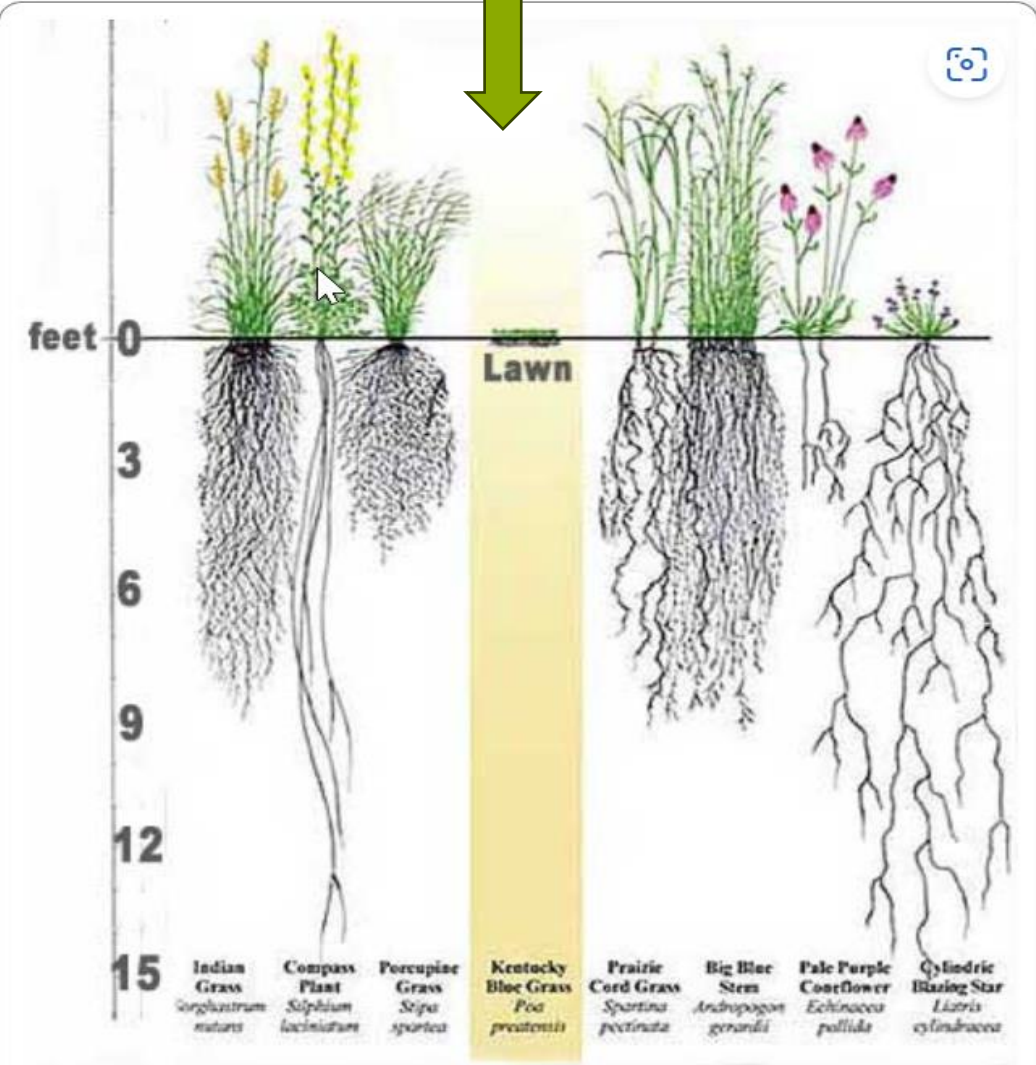
Phosphorus Sources & Ideas for LWA Actions

- **Source:** Erosion from surrounding land and from feeder streams
 - Urban stormwater runoff
 - Overapplication of lawn fertilizers
 - Rainfall runoff from lakefront lots

LWA Potential Impact:

- Education of Lake Wisconsin residents on the impact of erosion, landscaping choices, and lawn fertilizers (e.g., Webinar Lake-friendly Lawn Care [Citizen Lake Monitoring Network])
- Work with area landscaping companies to carry and promote alternative planting options (e.g., native Wisconsin grasses, microclover)

[Wisconsin Native Grasses and Sedges | Wisconsin Pollinators](#)



Native Grasses Have Deep Roots

native grasses.

Prairies with their native grasses are sometimes called upside-down forests because much of the plant is below the ground. Many native grasses have roots 5 to 15 feet deep. Typical lawn grasses reach a depth of only a few inches.

Phosphorus Sources & Ideas for LWA Actions

- **Source:** Septic systems – improperly designed, poorly maintained, or failing
- Wisconsin Statute 145.20 & SPS 383.54
 - Outlines the requirements for the installation & maintenance of *private on-site wastewater treatment systems* (POWTS)
 - Columbia County
 - [POWTS Maintenance Brochure.pdf \(columbia.wi.us\)](#)
- Evaluate impact of VRBO's and definition of septic system load
- ***More to come? Chapter 8: Defective Septic Systems***

Phosphorus Sources & Ideas for LWA Actions

- *LWA Potential Impact:*

- Explore the possibility of a home or business owner's tax rebate to surrounding county administrations for "lake-friendly" improvements
 - Replacing a grass and/or rock bank with erosion-reducing plants
 - Installation of a new septic system
- Note: Considerable work to define "lake-friendly" improvement and homeowner proof of improvement

