

BALDWIN LAKE ASSOCIATION

Maintain and preserve our lake community for future generations through education, communication, and commitment to Baldwin Lake

ANNUAL MEETING MINUTES

July 11, 2020

- **Attendees:** People did not sign in, but approximately 60 people were in attendance. Meeting was held in the pavilion at the Cass County Conservation Club.
- **Call to Order:** 9:00am
- **Review of the Minutes:** The minutes of the 2019 Annual Meeting were made available at the meeting and on our website. There were no questions or corrections; minutes approved.
- **Treasurer's Report:** Nothing much has changed from the previous year; we brought in \$1200 more than we spent. Our biggest expense was paying for the lake analysis.
- **Correspondence:** Nothing to report
- **Committee Reports:**
 - A. **Water & Boating Safety:** Nothing to report
 - B. **Water/Environment:**
 - **Water Quality:** Secchi tests results have been considerably better than last year.
 - **Mosquito Spraying:** We have had 2 sprays so far this year; first one was not effective, so they came back right away.
 - **Boat Count:** Total count was 462. Last year was 433. 2018 the highest year ever with 473. Willow Shores is in compliance. There is a problem with pontoons flying in and out of Little Baldwin. It is a designated no wake zone. Motion made and passed to purchase no wake signs and put in the channel.
 - **Geese Control:** No permits being issued this year by the DNR unless it is for health and safety purposes. We are supposed to have 3 goose rounds up in 5 years, so we are still within the timeframe of getting it done and seeing results.
 - **Restorative Lake Sciences, LLC Analysis of Baldwin Lake:**
 - i. Clarity significantly improved since last year.
 - ii. Dissolved oxygen level moderately low at deeper depths
 - iii. Elevated nitrate level in the lake promotes blue-green algae growth.
 - iv. Water inflow from 3 locations on Hilltop are higher than standard.
 - v. Recommended solution is to have additional tests, apply for permit from the State, and have filters installed to reduce the nitrate inflow.
 - vi. Eurasian milfoil covers over 10 acres of the lake and normally a lake of our size should have about 2 acres. Several pesticide options available and recommend chemical costs about \$700 per acre.

The testing by Restorative Lake Sciences was done in 2019, starting in August. Water quality was poor, Secchi test readings down for the 3rd straight year, and we decided to be proactive and compete the study rather than waiting for things to get worse. However, now our Secchi test readings are back up to where they have been, with some of the best numbers ever. A lot of the issues mentioned in the report are no longer concerns, but we will continue to monitor.

One concern is the high level of nitrates in some of the inlets. The inlets by Millers and Johnsons have the highest readings. Millers are going to address their problem personally. Johnsons are not willing to have filters installed in their inlet. Nothing the lake association can do to address this issue.

Another area of concern is the spread of Eurasian Watermilfoil. There is no natural cure to get rid of milfoil and it can continue to spread. There are several ways to eliminate it, all involve using some type of chemical herbicide. We can treat the weeds or treat the muck that the

weeds grow in. A motion was made and passed that the Board obtain quotes, success rates and references on both methods, make a recommendation, and hold a special meeting to decide which direction to take.

C. Community Affairs:

- **Website:** Our website is baldwinlakeassociation.com. Nothing to report.

D. Membership: Nothing to report.

E. Social:

- **Poker Run:** Cancelled for 2020
- **Music on the Lake:** July 18th from 5-8:00. Show up on your boat and stay on the lake. Do not tie up to the dock or come on shore. Will put yellow tape on dock and on shore.
- **Christmas Party:** Possibly December 5th
- **Spring Fling:** Cancelled for 2020. It was cancelled even before COVID due to lack of volunteers. Do not know if there are any plans for it in future years.

- **Officer Election:** Tim Osborn stated that he will not be running for President next year. The following officers were elected to serve two-year terms, expiring in July 2022:

- **Vice President** – Mike Schirott
- **Treasurer** – Jenna Labash

- **Old Business:** None

- **New Business:** None

- **Open Discussion:** Per Nancy Smith, a lot of debris was left along the road on the south side of Hilltop after the road commission trimmed the trees; who do we contact to remove? Cory Marlow.

A question was raised as to how much of an increase in millage is the township asking for? Per Cory Marlow, it is not an increase, just a renewal of the same millage as now.

- **Adjourn:** As there was no further discussion, the meeting adjourned at 10:15am