

Annual Meeting Minutes
June 22, 2024

Present: Board Members – Roger Olson, Ann Olson, John Einhorn, Scott Lovaasen, Marv Leier, Secretary/Treasurer, Burnell Lovaasen and a good representation of 42 Lake residents!

Roger called the meeting to order, and welcomed members. He read the minutes of the 2023 Annual meeting and the current Treasurers report. Minutes and Treasurers report were approved. He briefly spoke about the importance of having enough funds in our general budget to cover normal operational expenses as well as potential unexpected expenses. Scott recalled the expenses years ago for a study that was done to get a much needed culvert and paid for out of Association general funds.

Roger gave an update on COLA. He referred to the benefits of being long time members of the Ottertail County Coalition of Lake Associations, as a larger combined voice and great resource for lake health. The subject of wake boats came up, noting that Vermont is the first state to ban wake boats from its lakes. The upcoming meetings on June 20th and August 15th. The DNR is also a great resource for lake information. The Watershed Health Assessment Framework. (arcgis.dnr.state.mn.us/ewr/whaflakes/).

Lake Sybil Scores:

Lake Health- 70/Watershed means-63

Water Quality- Water quality-82/Watershed means-55

Score the Shore-79/Watershed means-71

Sybil Lake Health- Grade B, close to B+ and top 10% of area lakes

Scott Lovaasen spoke about water clarity and showed the group the Secchi device used for testing. The three areas on the lake tested are at the outlet to Loon Lake, which was 26 ft., the middle of the lake was 23 ft, and the East end of the lake was 24 ft. When the water level was high, due to insufficient water culvert years ago, water clarity was in the teens. At one time clarity was 28+ ft. which may have been due to zebra mussels.

John Einhorn reported water quality. He has been monitoring the lake for an invasive species called Curly-leaf pondweed. He shared pictures of what it looks like and informed the group of the damage this invasive species can do to a lake. It is much more cost effective to be aware of what it is and find it before it spreads. If found too late, it can cost 15 to 20 thousand dollars to have professionally treated. It can be found in “mucky soil”. Everyone needs to be diligently on the lookout for it and contact a board member if it is found on our lake. It can easily be spread on boat motors going from one lake to another.

Scott reported that the DNR stocks Sybil Lake with walleye fingerling every other year. In late October of 2023, Sybil Lake Association “fish fund” stocked 2000 walleye fingerlings, 1000 in Big Sybil and 1000 in Little Sybil.

Roger also spoke about the Sybil Lake Association Picnic. It will be held at Scott and Burnell Lovaasen’s on Saturday, August 17th beginning with games and socializing at 3pm, followed by gobble-up turkey sandwiches at 5pm. Beer and water will be provided as well. All are welcome. Watch for your invitation in the mail.

Roger talked about the Sybil Lake Association Adopt a Highway program that we have been involved in for a number of years. This is a program that is open to everyone on the Lake Association. All are welcome to participate. There are some orange trash bags available today if anyone would like to take one with them to use picking up trash along the highway.

Roger proposed the idea of creating a Sybil Lake Association Website. Roger suggested that a website would be an efficient way to share information about Sybil Lake and associated activities. He asked if anyone present has any knowledge about creating a website or would be willing to help create a website. Jeanne Greenwood spoke up, saying that she would be willing to help and that she will search for website information. Thanks Jeanne!

There was conversation within attending members about ongoing problems with beavers. The board informed the members that earlier this spring Mike Fick was hired to trap beavers. He did trap/remove three beavers. There was also discussion amongst the group about bear sitings and snapping turtles.

A question came up from members asking about survey markers on the property where "Sandy Beach" is located. The property was owned by Lone Tenter, and will be up for sale. Dan Modrow currently owns part of the property, but is unable to purchase addition property. The concern is the possibility of someone purchasing property that goes up for sale and developing it. If this were to happen, public access would no longer be available at "Sandy Beach".

Motion made and accepted to adjourn meeting.