

# LLIA END OF SEASON MEETING

## 10-18-17

### Local Government Awareness of Water Quality Issues

Mayor Val Johnson communicated that we can't count on money from the state legislature. There isn't enough money for all lakes. All mayors from Ramsey County were invited to a luncheon with Rep. Betty McCollum last month. Val asked for three things:

First was regarding ICE targeting New Brighton residents.....(no more information was provided on that)

Second was to keep an eye on the funding opportunities for water quality. No money yet from government.

Third was money for help for lakes such as Long Lake at the state level. National level not helping. The money that Ramsey does get is gone in an instant – not enough to go around for all lakes. We don't want to our land of 10,000 allow lakes to be choked out by invasive species.

Val encouraged citizens to be proactive – any of us can call Betty McCollum (and mentions Vals name if you want). Betty has assured us she is on the lakes issue.

### Fall Cleanup

Rich – Good turnout for fall cleanup in September. See more information on website.

### Budget

Rich – Provided a handout with dollar breakdowns. Good year collecting money. John Broghammer does a great job on the website – it's now easy to collect dues online but we will bill you or take a donation in any way that makes it easy for people.

City sent us numbers for our payment to city for monitors. Was more money this year (may have included benefits for the monitors?) We don't cover the full amount anyway – Rich will work the amount out with Dan Olson as he has in the past.

### Lake Monitoring and Safety

Several people commented on the monitors with several feeling that we don't get our money's worth:

The monitors have been seen picking up passengers and running figure 8's.

One person spotted a loose boat and rang a bell to get assistance from the monitors who were nearby but the monitor wasn't aware of it even though they were close enough to have heard it.

Would prefer to see them stay at landing instead of on lake.

Another person was happy to see the monitors who helped him launch his boat and also reminded him of the weeds and lake rules. July 4th got crazy – it seemed to help to see the monitor.

Rich – What we don't see may tell the benefit of the monitors. Will discuss more in the spring meeting.

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### AIS Treatment and Status

RCWD did mapping. Lake Restoration (the weed control vendor) actually asked them to expand the area to be treated. DNR doesn't allow "spot treatment" – you would need an individual permit for that and need to pay for your own treatment. We used \$3118 from the city grant for treatment this year. City reimbursed it immediately. Rich to send formal thank-you to city and others for their assistance.

Several people had comments about the weed remediation. Some claimed it was worked great. But several others reported that their shorelines were so weed-choked as to be unusable since August. Discussion followed about how the "red dots" were placed on the map and how we can get more areas treated in the future:

"Strange that the south bay had more areas marked for milfoil the first year, then the second year they were not marked...we complained but it didn't help".

"Can we impact the mapping by also providing homeowner input given what we know from this year. With milfoil, if you had it last year it likely won't go away on it's own."

One person stated he harvested his weeds himself. A good point was made that with milfoil, harvesting is a big contributor to spreading it as it easily takes root from plant fragments.

Several agreed we were grateful for the money from the city – it's a benefit from our tax money. However others felt they missed that benefit due to the mapping omitting areas and not enough time to feedback. A suggestion was made to post comments to the LLIA website.

Rich described that the mapping is done by RCWD by dragging a rake and noting where weeds are found. It was a strange year in that weeds not apparent until August. Treatment seemed effective.

A question came up as to why algae seems so heavy now. Rich described that culprit is phosphorus from road salt and lawn fertilizer. (Ed. Note: throwing grass clippings and leaves into the lake is a big contributor as well!)

Val talked about the other projects from RCWD that will help improve water quality in Long Lake and others over time. The big \$7 million filtering project at Hanson Park was delayed due to ground conditions but will help when it comes online (next year?). Rich mentioned that the newly restored "meander" in the creek north of Long Lake will open this winter. As the shore plants fill in over time that will help. Also the carp management project will reduce murky water as it happens. See the links on the website for a great explanation. Val encourages us to keep pressure on Ramsey County – she also talks to Ramsey County Commissioner Mary Jo McGuire often.

Rich wants to keep the great working relationship we've built working with the city and others on this. Want to get to a point that seems fair such as a 3 way split between us, the city and the county. However county will be tough nut to crack. We can't afford to pay their share every year. Cost to treat was \$405/acre and we treated ~ 8 acres.

A question was asked about why we don't charge for parking at the launch. Ramsey seems to be the only county that doesn't charge for this. This is a question to ask your county commissioner.

Most of the grant money was not used this year due to only ~8 acres being mapped for remediation (not elimination) treatment by RCWD. The grant money does not carry into next year. Val reminded us that we have a voice with the city and to ask for grant money again next year.

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Attendance:

LLIA END OF SEASON MEETING SIGN-IN SHEET 10-18-17	
Name	Name
1 Tammi & Dave Kolasa	20
2 Jan Botecheuda	21
3 Mike FRANKS	22
4 Ken Kapanen	23
5 Val Hair	24
6 Gina Bauman	25
7 Susan Erickson	26
8 Vivian Henneman - Walker	27
9 Lloyd PETERSON	28
10 Doug + Sherry Tsimingler	29
11 Judy Stanke	30
12 Paul + Karen Norg	31
13 DEBI & GREG MEYERS	32
14 Vel Johnson	33
15 Anita + Kevin Wohlk	34
16 Roger & Chelleng	35
7	