

Mille Lacs Lake Watershed Management Group
Meeting Minutes – September 16th, 2019
Kathio State Park Interpretive Center

Present: Perry Bunting, MLB DNR/E; Diane Jacobson, Crow Wing SWCD; Jake Janski, Supervisor Mille Lacs SWCD; Bob Janzen, Supervisor Aitkin SWCD; Barbara Macioch, NE Mille Lacs Lake; Mike Macioch, NE Mille Lacs Lake; Harmony Maslowski, Mille Lacs SWCD Coordinator; David Oslin, Mille Lacs Co. Commissioner; John Pearson, South Harbor; Sam Seybold, Aitkin SWCD; Chad Weiss, MLB DNR/E; Laurie Westerlund, Aitkin Co. Commissioner.

1. Chair Laurie Westerlund called the meeting to order at 10:05 a.m. followed by introductions.
2. Agenda Approval: The agenda was approved as presented. M/S/C Barbara Macioch/John Pearson.
3. Public Comment: Barbara Macioch commented that the Bethesda Lutheran Church group from Malmo set out near Reddy Creek to pick up trash, roughly about 5 bags were filled, they fortunately did not find too much garbage. Macioch's are willing to share their article as the September Topic of the Month. Perry Bunting commented on being part of the clean-up crew at Spirit Island (the National Wildlife Refuge, that is a nesting site for terns) also at Hennepin Island and the effort collected 21 bags of trash.
4. Consent Agenda: A consent agenda included: a. Approve of July 15th, 2019 Meeting Minutes, b. Approve of Financial Report, c. Information only: The August Topic of the Month: *Twenty-nine sites hold "Starry Trek."* The consent agenda was approved as presented. M/S/C Mike Macioch/Dave Oslin.
5. Discussion and Action

5.1. Coordinator's Report - Harmony Maslowski gave One Watershed One Plan updates. Maslowski provided a We Are Water update including the kickoff date of Sept 21st and the closing date of November 2nd with both dates having an opportunity to promote Compass at the events. Maslowski also shared painting event dates surrounding the event, dates are listed on MLLWGM Facebook post. Maslowski gave an update on the Compass program including stewardship plans, site visit requests, and interest in possible projects next Spring. Maslowski discussed that her grant funded admin role will be ending December of 2019. Discussion followed on the transition and possible roles to fill the MLLWGM needs going forward. Maslowski reminded the group that next month will be election of officer, chair position. Outcomes were that Maslowski would send out By-Laws to the group for review and via request, a "By-Laws Discussion" would be an agenda item at the October meeting. Maslowski will provide a template example for note taking at the next meeting.

5.2 Healthy Land, Healthy Lake Event- Maslowski discussed a summary of the Healthy Land Healthy Lake Event, 20 people were in attendance and a landowner shared her Compass experience of installing a project from start to finish. There has been some generated interest after the event for site visits in both Mille Lacs and Aitkin counties.

5.3 Donations – there was a request to donate 100 AIS game cubes to distribute at the Mille Lacs County 14th Annual Operation Community Connect that will be held at Milaca Public School on October 17th. M/S/C Jake Janski/Barbara Macioch. Request to donate to the 24th Annual Environmental Education Days event for 6th graders. Motion to donate \$100.00 out of MLLWGM general funds. M/S/C Bob Janzen/Mike Macioch.

6. Updates and Comments

6.1. Media Committee – The committee has not had a recent meeting. John Pearson is comfortable with having a role in updating the website in the future. Comment -Good advertisement for Healthy Land, Healthy Lake event. Macioch's worked on finalizing the coloring sheet item while they were away, and plan to stay active with the media committee.

6.2. Fundraising / Grant Writing / Membership – Maslowski has heard from two individuals that have expressed interest in attending an upcoming meeting.

6.3. Updates and Comments: Suggestion of separate emails for Topic of the Month vs meeting material. Suggestion of have a rotating host for the MLLWGM meetings and have a notes template that the host could fill out.

7. Meeting Evaluation and Next Steps: Location is already set for October, Barbara Macioch (with John Pearson assist) will take notes at October meeting. Maslowski will put By-Laws on the upcoming agenda and send templates with Susan Shaw at the upcoming meeting. Reminder that October meeting will have the election of officer- Chair.

8. The next meeting - The next meeting will be at the MLBO Govt Center, October 21st. There will be the election of officer: chair. The meeting was adjourned at 12:00 p.m. M/S/C David Oslin/John Pearson.