



VanEtten Lake Association (VELA)
ANNUAL MEETING
July 6, 2019 – 10:00 AM, Robert J. Parks Library
Minutes

- I. Call to Order: 10:02am All board members were present except Doug Jager who was excused. There were 30 other stakeholders who attended the meeting.
 - Pledge
 - Introductions: All Board Members were introduced.

- II. Approval of Minutes (June 2019 General Meeting) – Minutes were approved with one comment on the amount of time it takes the lake to totally turn over. This addition was added to the minutes for clarity.

- III. Reports:
 - President – Celest thanked everyone for attending the meeting and the Board Committee members for their efforts.
 - Review of Past Year Activities
In August about 75 people enjoyed the VELA Picnic. In October our Board President, Dave Swenson, passed away after a long battle with cancer and our copywrite infringement lawsuit was settled. During the long Winter months, Carole Plunkey and Tim Schafer worked on bringing our website back online. This was accomplished and the site was back up by the Spring. Also, during the Winter and Spring months, committee and board members attend various lake meetings and conferences. This Spring the Weed Committee and Lake Pro agreed to use PLM for weed control on the lake. Finally, Leonard Brockhahn took over the chairmanship of the Weed Committee as our long time “leader”, Doug Jager, moved to be closer to family.
 - Proposed Association Programs
This year the board is looking to review the VELA Bylaws, publish a Fall Newsletter, continue to have board and committee members attend meetings/conferences of concern to our lake and look at ways to increase VELA membership.

 - Treasurer - Leonard Brockhahn
 - Current Financials
 - Checking \$15,578.95
 - Savings \$10,796.95
 - Total: \$26,375.90
 - Proposed 2019-20 Budget - see handout The total Budget of \$10,890.00 for the 2019-20 physical year was unanimously approved.
 - Endowment Fund – Celeste Creger: Total: \$17,735 Spendable: \$5470.17

 - Membership – Shirley Brockhahn
 - Total Members as of today: 272
 - Betsy Dillingham will be taking over the Membership Director duties from Shirley. Thank you, Shirley, for you years of dedicated service.

 - Board Committees
 - Weed Committee – Leonard Brockhahn
Pete was out a few weeks ago surveying the lake. He is coming back this Tuesday as water temp was still not warm. There was no evidence of invasive Milfoil. Carole Plunkey noted that there was small patch of phragmites by Camp Nissokone. Pete will be at our September General Meeting.

 - Lake Monitor – Dan Stock
Dan continues to take samples and check clarity. July readings were between 7 and 8 feet.

Water temp has gone up to 78 degrees.

- Dam – Greg Cole (not present) – If any concerns contact drain commissioner.
 - Watershed – Carole Plunkey (Pine River Van Etten Lake Watershed Coalition – PRVEL Representative)
 - Carol showed the area of 187,000 acres a of land that drain into the lake. She also explained what is PRVEL is and does. PRVEL is working on stream mapping areas. There are 2 Projects this year: Small damn removal, and evasive species removal (plants). The next PRVEL meeting is July 11 at the Harrisville Library.
- IV. Annual Picnic (August 10, 2019) – Carole Plunkey explained the planned picnic activates. She invited all to bring their families and friends. This is a great opportunity to meet neighbors and have a nice afternoon.
- V. Restoration Advisory Board (RAB) Update (Joe Plunkey/ Dan Stock– RAB Representatives) - **Arnie Larent** Co-chair RAB: Arnie explained that there is not much more information than what was in the newspaper. EGLE, the former DEQ, has come to some agreement with the Air Force. How quickly the Air Force is going to bring remediation and control of PFOS/PFOA has been in dispute since 2017. Arnie explained history of situation and terms. The big thing is the amount of chemicals going into the lake. The Air Force recently made press release, but there is no written agreement, only verbal, and no schedule except they shortened original time schedule by 3months. Right now, there will not be a decision for another 3-4 years, but there can be some things done in the interim if funds become available. The Air Force does not believe that the chemicals are the cause for the foam on the lake. EGLE did not gave a presentation at the last RAB meeting because the Air Force would not let them. There will be an EGLE Town Hall Meeting July 16 @ Sacred Heart Church. There will be an Open House from 4-5:30pm and a panel presentation form 6:30-8pm which will be broadcast live on Oscoda MicTV. The presentations will cover 7 topics with 6 different agency people to talk. All are invited and encouraged to attend the meeting to get the most up to date information.

Celest presented contact information for elected officials and a sample form letter that members can use if they wish to contact their elected officials concerning the PFOS issue.

- VI. VELA Board Member Elections
- Three new members were nominated and elected to the board: Betsy Dillingham, Victoria Targosz and Janice Wilber. The six current members will continue to serve on the board.
 - The Board of Directors will meet in July to elect from its members a President, Vice-President, Treasurer and Secretary for the 2019-20 physical year.

VII. Comment/Question Period – None

The meeting was Adjourned at 11:02am.

Upcoming Meetings:

General Meeting: Saturday, September 7, 2019 – 10:00am, Robert J. Parks Library

Annual Picnic (Mark your Calendars):

Saturday, August 10, 2019 – 5:00pm

Ken Ratliff Memorial Park – Pavilion

Please bring a dish to pass

Respectively Submitted: Richard Copland, Secretary
Minutes Accepted 9/7/19