

Winter Lakes Alliance
Meeting Minutes
July 9, 2016

1. The meeting was called to order by Deb at 10:00

2. our special speaker for the day was Max Wolter (DNR biologist)... Max's presentation focused on the efforts of the DNR and the lakes alliance in our "extended growth walleye project" in our area lakes. He brought us his results of DNR survey results on Barber, Barker and Lake Winter. Surveying was done by 2 methods: Fyke netting (muskie, pike and walleye) and electrofishing (bass, panfish, and some walleye)

BARKER LAKE: not lots of big walleye but lots of small ones..... Many crappies ,really good, many 8 to11 inches.... also the smallmouth bass population was really good

BARBER LAKE: an intense survey was done here looking at muskie and walleye.... good walleye population and survival of extended growth walleyes 1.8 adult fish per acre from 1 to 29 inches..... also tagged 60 muskies in the lake lots of fish 30 to 40 inches.... the panfish size as below average also informed us that a new ramp and landing improvements will be happening in 2017, not 2016.

LAKE WINTER: VAST improvement... OUR stocking effort is really working here!! There is also natural reproduction going on.... this fishery is getting better and better with continued support. 40% of the bluegill population is over 7 inches (really awesome) the high walleye population is keeping the panfish population in check

Overall Max felt that our area lakes are great for our "extended growth stocking" and it seems to really be paying off according to the survey results. Max feels that a continued effort in our area lakes is well worth the time, money, and effort and we as WLA can feel confident that our \$\$\$ is being well spent on improving fishing and fish populations in our area lakes.

Some other ideas Max shared to improve lakes and fisheries:

Have your septic systems checked to make sure they are working properly
Keep vegetation growing along your shorelines(don't mow right to the lake)
Leave wood in the water
Practice selective harvest

2. OUR float went well.... thanks to all who helped on the project for the parade special thanks to Jerry for our use of his ATV and to BETTY for her big smiles on the float... (to dispel a rumor.... you could not win Betty) only the Kayak We also sold raffle tickets at the July Jubilee.... thanks to Deb and Pat for making up the home-made caramel corn for the sale (sold a lot)also to Deb for being such a mobile and effective sales person (caramel corn for SALE!!!)

3. Kids fishing contest was awesome.... 67 kids and 284 fish caught... special thanks to Sue and the Gazette for the wonderful pictures and write-up!! Thanks for all of our WLA volunteers, local businesses , Frank Pratt, Fire dept. and all who made the day go so smoothly!! Can't wait for next year!!

Thanks also to Deb B. for her idea to finally help us set up our big tent in less than 2 hours for next year

4. 4th of July clean-up.... Thanks to Mary, Pat, Steve, John, Jeremy for helping to clean up on July 5th from 6 to 8 am.... also thanks to the Chamber (Gail Johnson) for our breakfast..

5. PICNIC--- yes August 7th at Doc Smith Park at noon....meat and drinks will be provided along with cowboy beans and potato salad. Please bring a dish to pass or a dessert... cost is \$5 per person... kids eat free!! Hope to see you there.... yes a RSVP would be helpful!! Raffle ticket winners will be drawn... also many prizes to be given away.... make plans to attend!! Need raffle tickets?? Let me know and I'll keep some for you ...they are going fast! Remember... Joe and Jerry the barbecue masters will be doing the cooking (OOOOH it's so good.....)

6. OUR fish are growing well... they will be ready and willing to hit the lake in early October.... Every \$\$ helps to help promote our extended growth project.... get involved We will be stocking 2500 this year.....

7. Next meeting will be August 6th at 10:00 at the town hall.... Take in a meeting on Saturday and then the PICNIC on Sunday!! See you both places.

Respectfully submitted,
Rick Hasselquist, Secretary