

Winter Lakes Alliance  
Meeting Minutes  
August, 14, 2021

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

2.Pledge of Allegiance

3. Our special speaker Max Wolter (DNR biologist and fish manager). His presentation focused on the area lakes which WLA is currently partnering with the DNR with our stocking program. Max went into detail on the current successes seen on the lakes which the DNR surveyed during this year. Overall, Max feels the numbers show how successful the stocking of walleyes is working in our 10 WLA lakes. Black Dan, Barber Lake have really seen walleye improvement as well as some natural reproduction to enhance walleye numbers. One interesting bit of information was the netting of a "Warmouth" in Black Dan. No one had heard of this fish and it is much like a mix between a sunfish and rock bass. Island Lake was found to be a primary bass lake with crappie in the 9-to-11-inch range, lots of pike and 6 muskie over 40 inches. Walleye is on the improvement and WLA plans to stock more extended growth walleye this fall into the lake to help bolster numbers. Think crappies are native to Wisconsin? think again... Crappies were stocked from the Mississippi River years ago and expanded to our area lakes. Blaisdell and Lake Winter will be coming up next for surveys, Barker too. Max recommended "fish Sticks" and adding wood to our lakes (shoreline tree felling) to increase fish numbers. He will help us with the permit process. Max addressed the crappie situation on Island Lake and he has sent this to his supervisors to look at change. Max also talked about weed growth on our lakes and contributes a lot of this to our early ice out and warm temperatures with little rain. Clear water allows light penetration and in turn creates weed growth. Max ended his presentation with questions and answers. Our partnership with Max and the DNR is unique among area lake associations and we really appreciate the continuing cooperation.

4.Secretary and Treasurer report

5. Walleye update: We are planning on stocking Lake Winter (1250), Hunter(500), and Island (750). these are extended growth walleyes 7 to 9 inches. DNR will stock in our other WLA member lakes. Stocking for WLA will take place in lake September, Early October. Deb will get the date to me and I'll get it out to you. If you'd like to help stock, please let me know.

6.We are looking into placing blinds at the town hall for our meetings. (so, we can see the overhead screen better). Looking at a partnership with the town purchasing the blinds, with our members putting them up. good deal!

7. Looking to get an amp and microphone for the kid's fishing event. Anyone have one???

8. Annual picnic is today at Doc Smith Park. Steve R. is making chicken. see you there!

9. Next meeting is at the town hall at 10:00 on September 11, 2021

Updates: The picnic was really a success with games, food, friends and fun. We had 30 with many special dishes brought by everyone. Thanks again to Steve R. for making the chicken and providing a big container of potato salad.

A big congratulations to Jim Coolon (Grand Prize winner) of an inflatable Kayak and life jackets. Also, congratulations to the rest of the winners and a BIG thank you to all who purchased tickets to support WLA and our stocking and kids' programs.

Another thank-you to area businesses who provided many , many drawing prizes for the picnic.

Deb sent out an e-mail to get this message out from Max: Subject: Shoreline Living booklets to promote natural lake shorelines some free resources for lake groups. Please share with people in your organization and check out some of the other things Midwest Glacial Lakes Partnership is doing on their website: <http://midwestglaciallakes.org/>

Respectfully submitted,

Rick Hasselquist, Secretary