

WLA minutes for meeting of July 11,2015

The meeting was called to order at 10:00 a.m. Following the Pledge were the secretary's and treasurer's reports which were approved as read.

Our special speaker(s) for the meeting were Tom Heisler, WDNR Conservation Warden, and Cody Murphy, WDNR Water Guard. Cody spoke on different aquatic invasive species many of which hitchhike from various parts of the U.S. plus Europe and Asia to invade our fresh bodies of water such as lakes, rivers, streams, etc. He emphasized the importance of education and enforcement of regulations pertaining to this issue. Please report violators to Cody at (715) 416-4519 or the WDNR at (608) 266-9270.

Tom (Heisler) re-emphasized the invasive species subject. He also talked about the litter problem around boat launch areas, the Slow/No Wake issue, and blowing off fireworks in lake areas. Each of these matters and more are taken seriously and citations given out to violators. He also reviewed the new trolling rule: for lakes in which trolling was not allowed before, effective July 1, 2015, trolling is allowed but limited to 2 lines per boat. A relatively new program sponsored by the WDNR is the distribution of DQ coupons to children observing boat/fishing rules such as wearing a life preserver when in a boat. (Please be advised all DQ's do not honor these coupons.) A short Q&A period followed Tom's presentation.

A report on the Kids Fishing Contest was given: 33 entrants participated and 91 fish were caught and released. In spite of the weather, everyone had a good time.

A booth was set up for July Jubilee in Doc Smith Park where raffle tickets were sold and WLA activities were explained.

Deb reminded the membership to turn in raffle tickets and money at the August meeting.

Invitations to our Annual Picnic on August 9 at Doc Smith Park have been sent out. Meat, Cowboy Beans, and beverages will be provided. Please bring a dish to pass and RSVP as soon as possible. Also we request \$5 per person to help defray costs.

The fish Stocking Program is progressing. Our permit requests have been sent to Max Wolter who is waiting for the health checks from Tim Gollan. A request has been sent to Walleyes for NorthWest WI for financial support of this program.

Our speaker for the August meeting will be Jim Braklen from Bayfield who will speak on ecology and conservation of our area lakes.

We recently received an invitation from Jeni Wergeland, WSD Community Outreach Coordinator, to participate in this year's annual Open House night for student and community members. We will discuss this further at our next meeting.

Our next meeting is scheduled for August 1, 2015.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:15 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Judi Schaefer
Secretary pro tem

DRAFT