

# LAKE ANNA ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Spotsylvania County Holbert Building  
9104 Courthouse Road  
Spotsylvania, VA. 22553  
MINUTES – June 29, 2016 MEETING

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## **DETERMINATION AND CALL TO ORDER**

Ms. Heidig called the meeting to order at 7:00p.m.

## **ROLL CALL**

**Present:** Ann Heidig, Chris McCotter, Willie Gentry, Jim White, Gary Bullis, Dick Schrum, Greg Cebula

Others Present: Paulette Mann, Spotsylvania County Committee Secretary; Doug Smith; Jean McCormick

## **CITIZEN'S INFORMATION PERIOD**

Ms. Heidig took a moment to welcome Mr. Schrum to the Committee.

## **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Motion and vote: Mr. McCotter made a motion, seconded by Jim White to approve the minutes for the March 23, 2016 meeting. The motion passed unanimously.

## **BILLS FOR REIMBURSEMENT**

Mr. Martin stated that there were no bills for reimbursement at this time.

## **TREASURER'S REPORT**

Ms. Heidig advised that Mr. Martin has moved on and has resigned from the Committee. She asked that the financials be looked over by the Director of Finance in Louisa, Mr. Phillip Trayer. He advised that he found no glaring discrepancies to report in so far as disbursements and or deposits.

## **ELECTION OF TREASURER**

**Motion and vote:** Mr. McCotter made a motion, seconded by Ms. Heidig to appoint Mr. Dick Schrum as Treasurer. The motion passed unanimously.

Ms. Heidig stated that they would in the near future need to meet at the Essex Bank in Louisa to have the account amended to include him as the Treasurer.

Mr. Schrum thanked the committee for their confidence in him and stated that he would work closely with Bill to make a smooth transition.

Ms. Heidig thanked him for his willingness to serve as Treasurer.

Mr. Cebula advised that he would like for the financials to be reviewed annually.

## **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

Report on Hydrilla Treatment

Mr. Smith advised that the hydrilla is back and that it is still unclear what the long term impact of the treatment will be.

There was discussion regarding the replenishment of carp based on attrition rate and that doing an aerial survey is quite expensive. Mr. Smith stated that Dominion is not willing to pay for it. He also discussed that 526 fish were put in the lake in April. Mr. Smith advised that another assessment would occur in August to determine

how much and where the hydrilla is located. He stated that they would need funding but that would be in August for additional herbicide.

Mr. Cebula inquired if there is any indication or report that the herbicide had any effect.

Mr. Smith stated that it absolutely had an effect but it is unclear as to whether it made an impact on the tubers. The visible strands were impacted for sure.

Mr. McCotter inquired if the areas that were treated last year have seen more hydrilla.

Mr. Smith stated yes, that it has reappeared in those areas and Mr. Lassiter would have to comment on that.

Mr. McCotter stated that he would like to know more in August. He stated that he is opposed to using additional grass carp and his record will show that.

Mr. Smith stated that he would like to continue with the current plan of using the herbicide.

There was discussion regarding additional funding that they would need to continue the treatment.

**Motion and vote:** Mr. Bullis made a motion, seconded by Mr. Schrum to move forward with funding of \$3,000 towards herbicide for hydrilla based on the assumption that this disbursement has not already occurred. The motion passed unanimously.

### **RESOLUTION ON WAKE LIMITS**

Much discussion occurred about the adoption of a resolution in regard to Wake Limits. The Committee discussed getting the ball rolling to get this to the Boards.

Ms. Heidig encouraged Mr. Martin and Mr. Cebula to take this to their Boards.

Mr. Gentry advised that Ms. Koren is working this through Louisa. He stated that the earliest they could take it to Louisa would likely be in September, but maybe August.

Ms. McCormick stated that she met with Stephanie and she is fine with the resolution as long as the word motorboat was removed and vessel used in replacement.

Mr. White stated that he doesn't see anything overtly wrong with the draft proposed resolution. He reminded the Commission that Orange deputies do not patrol the lake at all.

There was discussion about getting feedback from DGIF.

Ms. McCormick advised that the language was taken straight from the Watercraft Owners Guide. She advised that they have worked for months on this and that they mimicked Maryland and Pennsylvania.

There was discussion about whether the Boards would get behind the resolution or whether it was discrimination against wake boarders. There was also discussion about not being in conflict with the Va. State code.

There was discussion about focusing on shoreline protection and then safety being an easier sell.

Mr. McCotter stated that he would be abstaining from the vote because of a conflict of interest associated with taking money from wake boats and kayaks.

**Motion and vote:** Mr. Cebula made a motion, seconded by Mr. Schrum to adopt the following resolution and pass it onto the Boards for Louisa, Spotsylvania, and Orange. The resolution reads:

A RESOLUTION SUPPORTING A CONSISTENT DISTANCE FROM THE SHORELINE OF LAKE ANNA AND THIS APPLICATION TO DGIF FOR A CONSISTENT 200FT SETBACK RULE FOR LAKE ANNA.

**Whereas**, currently both Louisa and Spotsylvania have ordinances that define distance from shore for vessels specific to "Towing skis or surfboard near shoreline of Lake Anna" (Spotsylvania-Sec.14-12). And "Operating boat or manipulating water skis, etc., in a reckless manner." (Louisa Sec.82-26) (Code 1971).

**Whereas**, these ordinances are inconsistent in content, distance from shore and degree of penalties for violations, making law enforcement very difficult on Lake Anna.

**Whereas**, innovative designs, greater horsepower, and unique engineering to increase boat performance and operation in the creation of ever increasing size of wakes have increased safety concerns that have arisen as a result of these developments.

**Whereas**, reports of small boats and paddlesports enthusiasts being swamped and overturning, waves crashing over occupied docks, rip rap being washed back into the water at an accelerated rate, and sea walls being damaged have become increasingly common complaints among Lake Anna residents.

**Whereas**, Virginia state law states that it is unlawful to operate any motorboat greater than no wake speed when 50 feet or less from docks, piers, boathouses, boat ramps, and people in the water but 50 feet has not proven adequate to provide a safe boating environment for all of Lake Anna's users, and

**Whereas**, research shows that it takes 200 feet for a 2-3 foot wave to dissipate before damaging the shoreline.

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, on this the X day of 2016 that the Louisa Board of Supervisors agrees that, in order to support law enforcement on Lake Anna and to promote safety on the water, it supports a consistent requirement that no person shall operate any vessel towing an individual(s) on skis, tubes, or any similar device; on surfboard or any similar device, including wakeboarding, wake skating and wake surfing, within 200 feet or less of the shoreline and agrees to support any application to Virginia Department of Game and inland Fisheries that may be required for implementation on Lake Anna.

The motion passed 6-0 with Mr. McCotter abstaining.

### **WEBSITE UPDATE**

There was discussion regarding the creation of a website for the citizens to access information such as agendas, minutes, and other associated documentation.

Mr. Schrum stated that he supports the creation of a website because he had a terrible time located the bylaws for this committee when he was appointed.

Ms. Heidig stated that she has concerns about the cost. She advised that the money that the Committee has was given to them for specific purpose. She stated that she would like to know what the cost would be.

Mr. McCotter stated that there is free software out there to create such a website.

Ms. Mann spoke up and stated that there may be no cost involved. If one of the counties would take the lead and create the page, the other localities could link to that page. She advised that since the committee has three secretaries, it can be confusing as to who is responsible for what. Ms. Mann stated that she would be happy to create the page on Spotsylvania's website for the other counties to link to.

### **OLD BUSINESS**

NONE

### **NEW BUSINESS**

There was discussion that V. Rae Jones has asked to be replaced on the Committee. The Committee expressed their gratitude for his years of service.

**NEXT MEETING**

The next LAAC Meeting will be held in Louisa County on July 27, 2016.

**ADJOURNMENT**

*The meeting adjourned at 8:45 p.m.*

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Paulette Mann, Spotsylvania County Secretary

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Date

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