

# LAKE ANNA ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Richard E. Holbert Building  
Spotsylvania County  
MINUTES – July 28, 2021 MEETING

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## DETERMINATION AND CALL TO ORDER

Mr. McCotter called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

## ROLL CALL

**Present:** Chris McCotter, Chairman; Richard “Dick” Shrum, Treasurer; Kevin Marshall, Spotsylvania County; Ann Melle, Spotsylvania County; Bobby Egan, Spotsylvania County; Sarah Marshall, Dominion Energy; Jeff Palmer, Orange County; Duane Adams, Louisa County

## CITIZEN’S INFORMATION PERIOD

Greg Baker, President for LACA: He provided survey data from their membership. He discussed the items that were supported such as Hydrilla and short term rentals. He briefly discussed red ball buoys used by homeowners.

Josh Ostino, He stated the lives in Aspen Hill on the private side and has for 30 years. He raised concerns about people towing through channels and that it is unsafe. He would like to request no tow buoys on the two private channels. He stated that he reached out to Dominion but they only approve no-wake buoys.

Mr. McCotter stated that this group took up this topic some time ago. He stated that he would like this put back on another agenda for discussion.

Simon Core- stated that people need to take personal responsibility for their actions on the Lake.

## APPROVAL OF MINUTES- May 26 2020

**Motion and vote:** Mr. Marshall made a motion, seconded by Mr. Egan to approve the minutes with suggested changes by Ms. Melle. The motion passed with Mr. Adams abstaining due to his absence.

The change is to add on page 1, Ms. Melle arrived late, *providing a quorum allowing the meeting to begin.*

## BILLS FOR REIMBURSEMENT

Mr. Shrum stated that he received no bills for payment and assumed that there were none outstanding.

## TREASURER’S REPORT

Mr. Shrum provided an update on Committee’s accounts. He explained that the account is below our reserve of \$40,000 laid out by the Committee’s guidelines. He stated he cashed a CD to pay for HAB study. There is one CD left for 14,900 and it has been renewed for a 13-month period.

Mr. Shrum stated that there was good news as all three counties provided funding this fiscal year.

Motion and vote: Mr. Adams made a motion, seconded by Ms. Marshall to accept the treasurer’s report. The motion passed unanimously.

## Subcommittee Reports:

Ms. McCormick was unable to attend and Mr. McCotter read a letter from her

Mr. Cassell discussed recent updates regarding hydrilla. He stated he has been receiving emails about hydrilla in Freshwater Cove. He stated that he cannot recommend whether we treat it or not but it could change in

August when the carp are moving around. He discussed upcoming samplings and that they will provide a final report in October once the data is put into the model to determine the phosphorus input and output. There is a lot of nitrogen and phosphorus.

Ms. Melle inquired whether they are getting a sense they can draw some valid conclusions from the data.

Mr. Casale stated yes, they need to do three more samples. They will give us multiple cost effective solutions to our problem.

Mr. Shrum inquired about Phase 2 & 3 and whether they are looking for a grant.

Mr. Casale stated Phase 2 is to study Pamunkey and the mitigation. He also mentioned that there is a phosphorus buildup.

Mr. Egan stated that a lake in Ohio had the same issue.

Mr. Casale stated hundreds of lakes similar to Lake Anna have used alum or phoslock.

There was also discussion about several small HOAs that have areas of hydrilla and they want us to treat it. There was also discussion that hydrilla is fine if controlled and can help with the harmful algae bloom.

Mr. Shrum stated that it sounds like we shouldn't touch those ½ acre spots then if the lake needs some hydrilla.

Mr. Adams mentioned two requests for funding at the General Assembly that were voted down.

Mr. Marshall agreed and stated that Buddy Fowler has also been trying to get at the HAB issues.

They both agreed that the process is inadequate at the state level and that LAAC cannot do this on their own.

**Motion and vote:** Mr. Adams made a motion, seconded by Mr. Shrum to spend \$1694 on 100 grass carp. The motion passed unanimously.

There was also discussion about the HAB report from Solitude and that they are very pleased at what they've seen so far. All of the sediment sampling is completed.

Ms. Marshall asked that the report be sent to her.

Mr. Steve Harler, owner of Mid-Atlantic Watersports: He stated that his daughter is world champion wake surfer and it is important that the information regarding wake surfing is factual and data driven. He stated that education is key and if we don't do this, people continue the same behaviors.

There was discussion about reporting to the Sheriff's office and that a proposal needs to take place at grass roots level.

Mr. Egan stated that he appreciates Mr. Harler's passion about wanting to educate folks on wake surfing.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

### **Harlow's Creek No Wake Buoy Application**

Mr. McCotter stated that Louisa received a request for this buoy.

Mr. Adams stated that it is in a creek in Louisa within the Mineral District. He stated that he went to look at the creek and found some people standing on a dock that had serious concerns about the trend of making everything a no wake zone. He described it as a wide mouth creek and where the buoys are is where it narrows down a bit. He stated he believes it to be a safety issue.

Mr. McCotter discussed that it is 452 ft. across from proposed area to move the buoys.

Ms. Melle stated that she doesn't like this process of homeowners petitioning for buoys and feels it should be the county, state, and LAAC's responsibility to determine buoys locations. She stated that DWR or the counties should regulate safety on the lake and why not consider a more global approach and not require each citizen to come in and ask for them. She also suggested a tri-county ordinance and we should push DWR to do the same.

Mr. McCotter agreed that the process is flawed and that the goal is to get a map of every buoys on the lake.

**ADJOURNMENT**

*The meeting adjourned at 8:15 p.m.*

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Paulette Mann, Spotsylvania County Secretary

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Date

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