

Minutes of the Mitchell Lake Association Annual Meeting September 19, 2013
Chanhassen American Legion

After a social hour, the meeting commenced at 7 p.m. Handouts included the Agenda; John Tyler's email to Leslie Stovring/City of Eden Prairie, regarding Mitchell Lake Reclassification Request and City Director of Public Works, Robert B. Ellis', reply to John Tyler's email; the MLA Balance Sheet, Profit & Loss, and Transaction Detail by Account, all prepared by Treasurer Frank Spahn. Jim Nehl introduced Board members present with each Board member giving a brief overview of what their contribution to the Board has been.

Dennis Seeger gave a comprehensive overview of State of State. i.e., our interaction with the Watershed and City and progress of what we have achieved as an Association to date, including: Since inception, the MLA projects over past years have included cleanup day & picnic, lakeshore restorations projects through grants, participation in the CAC. Given a choice last year of a trial project of winter snow shading, the Board opted to continue weed harvesting. Dennis also outlined criteria used in the 1970's to determine level of development, surface area, depth area of shoreline ratio to classify Mitchell as environmental or recreational. Environmental classification is most restrictive in terms of treatment options for controlling water navigation, AIS, etc. It is difficult to get reclassification because there has been no precedent to date, Since the 1970's no lakes in Minnesota have been reclassified. An overview of Xcel's recently proposed overhead power lines to be routed along South side of Highway 5 and the subsequent favorable legal ruling that the power lines would be installed underground on the North side. Ongoing issues with the perceived Watershed District's reduced drive to make improvements to our lake i.e., increased reluctance of the Watershed to do harvesting for navigational purposes. We need to get the Watershed to value recreation and usability of lakes as important as their concerns regarding phosphorus and invasive species.

After Dennis' presentation Jim Nehl opened the meeting to a discussion between the Board and members of our future strategies and direction. Questions put to the attendees for future direction options were: 1) Continue our current level of interaction with the Watershed District; 2) Be more assertive with City in providing additional resources; 3) Fundraising through increased dues and "going it on our own"; 4) Take more of a political action route (work within the legislative process to pass laws to change "the system" as it currently is. The questionnaire was passed out to all in attendance. The results of this survey are attached as a separate document.

The Board thanked Dallas Burns for serving two terms on the Board and welcomed Pete Iverson as our new Board member. Existing Board members Bob Shurson and Jim Nehl were also elected to serve another three-year terms, expiring in 2016.

The meeting adjourned at 9 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Carole "Coco" Duckstad
Secretary, MLA