

LAKE MURRAY ASSOCIATION MINUTES
August 10, 2009

Louise Love, for Dave Landis, banged the gavel and called the meeting to order at 7:03 p.m. in Lexington, SC. Louise noted she would be running the meeting for Dave Landis and asked for patience and cooperation. It was further noted that the Diaz was all female... "Whatever women do they must do twice as well as men to be thought half as good. Luckily, this is not difficult." ☺

Sharon Miles began with a prayer asking for wisdom in all decisions made.

The first point of order was to clarify that Joe Agnew, 1st VP has asked to return to Board Member Status. This opened the move of Louise Love, 2nd VP to become the 1st VP. This suggestion was presented, approved and voted unanimously to be implemented.

The 2nd VP position is now open and this replacement will be referred to Bill East for implementation.

Minutes: Louise had taken the minutes at the July meeting and passed them out to everyone. Ken Fox commented that he saw no reason to read and print minutes and bring them to each meeting unless there was a discrepancy in them. He suggested we go "green" and save paper. His suggestion has been duly noted. The minutes were approved and accepted unanimously. They will be posted on the Website.

Treasurer's Report: Tom Ruple presented the Treasury Report. There were many renewals, a couple of shirts and 3 dock signs sold in July. The expenses were \$1,553.62. \$706.45 was spent on the purchase of 18 windsocks to have for replacement. The rest were normal expenses. Our overall income was \$1,061.38. The treasure's report was approved unanimously.

OLD BUSINESS:

SETTLEMENT SIGNING OF LICENSE: Joy Downs

This took place on July 24th with Joy, Don, Tom, Bob and Roy present. It was a happy culmination of 4 years of hard work. There are still letters to be written on the protocol. DNR signed under the 2 foot trigger. There were about 8 signatures for the 2 foot. *Wildlife did not sign as they are a National Park Service and felt signing to be inappropriate. LMA, Capital City, CALM, Homeowners Coalition and about (8) signed under the 1 foot trigger. DHEC did not choose at this point.

- Scoping Document was an opportunity for SCE&G to reply to many comments and charges. Many remarks were caustic, but they were equally insulting to all sides. *One such comment was directed at complaints to those who live in shallow coves, noting they should have been aware when they bought the property and it is basically their problem, not that of SCE&G.
- Stuart Mungo wrote to DNR regarding their selfish stand and Mr. Frampton replied in kind.
- Though there were signatures that implied finality- Tom reminded all that this is not over, yet
- LMA has applied for Intervener Status.

- 2nd Limnologist did not come to any definitive conclusion in his report. There will be a drawdown every 3 years if the Austin gauge is 1500 cfs. If not, they will wait for the 4th year or possibly opt for a lesser flow rate. There is a team established and LMA is on the team.
- Lee felt that the Limnologist was vague and used “should, could, maybe” with no evidence to support that a drawdown was “good” for the lake. Those making a rebuttal against the lake users are using his comments as an SCE& G employee to support their arguments for lower lake levels.
- The New License is not locked in stone for 50 years; it is a moving document to be reviewed every 4-10 years. This gives us more control. Public announcements will be made with any changes in the lake so all will be kept informed.
- Thanks were given to all the Board members who gave so much of their time for the past 4 years with special accolades to Joy Downs for going above and beyond in working hard for LMA and lake users and lovers. All are truly appreciated!

NEW BUSINESS

REPORT ON SEWER PROBLEMS: Roy Parker

Roy had received a call came from Lindler Lane on the Chapin side of the lake in regards to a sewer problem. The sewer runs adjacent to the lake on the roadway and it has broken and was dumping raw sewage (490,000 gallons) into a cove. It is considered a small spill, but because it is concentrated in a cove with no washing action, it smells and is a mess. This is the 5th time this has happened to this cove. The sewer falls under the jurisdiction of the City of Chapin. LMA tested the water in that cove and found the phosphorous levels were only slightly elevated, the fecal chloroform was very high (200 colonies per 100 ml) the normal range is 10-15 colonies per 100 ml. This is dangerous. The regulations say you have to take 5 samples in 30 days to determine a standard.

- Roy says the feeling is the lake has recovered from the eruption. The homeowner most affected is fine. He had concerns for his well water, but it was not contaminated. It was found that the area meets engineering criteria, but no explanation on why this continues to happen.
- Roy feels this is a pressure issue and will talk with a couple of people before he makes a recommendation for further action by the board. He will email his findings to everyone.

PUBLIC MEETING SEPT. 22: Joy Downs

September 22, meeting at St. Andrews Presbyterian Church at 7:00 pm. Suggestions included: Rebecca Spratlin or Bill Blackstone for ideas on Rain Garden or managing lawns with plants demonstrating or showing what and how to do landscaping around the lake., West Marine on going green, a Safety Discussion by Jay (running lights vs. dock/headlights on the lake) and Bill Argentari of SCE&G has asked to recap the license.

November 17, @ Macedonia Lutheran Church at 7:00. This will be a repeat of the September meeting.

- Noted that #3 Launch Site on Holly Ferry Road has (4) types of landscaping ideas set up to see.

MEMBERSHIP: Louise Love

*Joy noted that Kemble Oliver has resigned the board for personal reasons. Louise will step into membership for now to help launch our Membership Drive.

It will begin with the BBQ Membership Appreciation on October 11th @ Lighthouse Marina from 1:00-5:00. Food will be served from 1:00-3:00. DJ Keith Brown will play. An incentive has been established: a free BBQ plate to anyone who brings a friend or neighbor who joins LMA.

Volunteers are needed to work the event and to meet and greet the membership. This will be the kick-off for the membership drive that will continue until the end of the year.

- Use the 6 foot banner that is already made to advertise.
- Want to have speakers go to Homeowner's meetings to increase awareness. All agree that many do not know of or understand LMA.
- Make phone calls to those who are late in renewing (sheets taken to make calls.)
- Requested a list of accomplishments or talking points for everyone to have correct and updated information. We have achieved a lot with just the 354' water level.
- Russ feels that having numbers gives us clout and that approaching other groups we use the strengths of each to compliment each other: zoning, taxes, environment, safety on the lake, water quality and lake level all allow each group to work towards their primary goals.
- Determine goals and strategy with membership & BBQ committee: Amy Jo, Sharon, Aleda, Russ, Don, Del, Irby and Pat- a meeting time will be set next week. (Consider cutting fees...)
- Each Board member will be asked to write a testimonial stating why they joined LMA and what they hoped to improve for all users. This will be in the Lake-Link.
- Approach is a soft-sell to build our awareness and to change the perception some may have of LMA.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Environmental: Roy Parker/ Ken Fox

Roy noted that landscaping around the lake contains run-off with the soil taking phosphorous into the lake with rain. Roy will add a paragraph in each Lake-Link on ideas on how to protect water quality. All need to establish vegetation in low areas to slow down movement of water.

*Don noted that higher lake levels was a benefit to lake users as the bottom did not get stirred up (which causes the phosphorous levels to rise) and keeps the lake cleaner for users.

Government: Joy Downs

*Settlement signing already discussed.

Publicity: Kay Gordon

Kay was absent, but has begun sending out news on the upcoming meetings.

Membership: Louise Love/ Ed Colie/ Aleda Anderson/ Russ Jernigan

- Already discussed the Membership Drive and BBQ Appreciation Social on Oct. 11th.

Newsletter: Sharon Miles

The newsletter will be mailed on the 24th. There are two inserts this time: one is a ballot and the other is a flyer on the BBQ.

- Bill East will be adding information on how LMA began and noting how we work to educate the public. This will follow the idea of Membership.

Nominating: Aleda Anderson/ Bill East

There will be a ballot in the newsletter to elect and renew board members. The slate was presented to the board: Ryan Westmoreland, Aleda Anderson, Lee Barber, Russ Jernigan, Ralph Crafton, Kay Gordon, Wallace Hubbard, and Don Pertl. The board unanimously voted for this slate to be presented to the membership for voting.

Safety: Ed Colie/ Jay Schabacker

Jay mentioned that when he moved to SC from MD he bought a tritoon and went to watch the fireworks on July 4th on the lake. He was stopped by the police for using his docking lights as headlights on the lake...he will be writing an article about this error in the newsletter so all will know the difference between parking lights and cruising lights.

Special Events: Mike Murrell/ Ken Fox

Discussed.

Projects: Ken Fox/ Louise Love

Ken will put up (3) windsocks on Macedonia, Lighthouse Marina and Lake Murray Rawl's Point. 18 have been ordered.

Web Site: Tom Ruple

Tom encourages all to visit the website...suggested there is "good stuff" on the web. He continues to get 800-1100 hits per week. Memberships are gotten from the website as well.

*Remember to send him any pictures you want on the Web.

OTHER:

- Sharon wants a way to post LMA on Face Book. Amy Jo will investigate how to accomplish this request.
- Louise Love won the fishing tournament on the lake this past weekend. (!)
- Wallace noted that he got a hole-in-one on a par 4. (!)
- Congrats to all who succeeded in areas of which they are proud...we are proud of you as well.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:40 with thoughts of increasing membership, working on the BBQ Appreciation Day. We continue to look for new ideas to build our membership and to promote awareness of all issues that protect and preserve Lake Murray. Thanks and good-bye.