

LAKE MURRAY ASSOCIATION MINUTES
November 10, 2008

Dave Landis, President, pounded the newly recovered gavel and called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. in Lexington, SC. He explained the absences of several board members who are traveling, ill or entertaining out of town guests and welcomed all present. He also advised the receipt of a letter of resignation from Rich Kidder. For the time being, the letter will be held in anticipation of Rich finding more time after the first of the year to rejoin the board.

All had been asked to print and bring the minutes with them. (This will be an ongoing practice.) The minutes had been approved and posted on the Web site following the last meeting. A final time was given to make any changes or additions to the minutes as written. The minutes were unanimously accepted.

Tom Ruple presented the Treasury Report. The income for the month was \$2,532.00. We spent \$1,135.60 on the BBQ expenses, Lake Link and normal expenses. Insurance is coming due and we have liabilities of \$750.00. The treasurer's report was seconded and approved unanimously.

OLD BUSINESS:

BBQ APPRECIATION SOCIAL: Aleda Anderson, Louise Love, Del Jenkins, Don Pertl, and Stan Jones (Committee)

High praise was given to the first event intended to "pay back" supporters of LMA and the preservation and protection of Lake Murray. About 220 meals were served between 1:00 -3:30 on October 26th @ Lighthouse Marina/ Rusty Anchor. 232 Raffle tickets were sold for a host of wonderful prizes. All who attended were enthusiastic enjoying a beautiful, fun day demonstrating camaraderie and a love of the lake. There was eating, dancing, laughing, mingling and lots of helping to ensure a success for the first attempt to sponsor an appreciation social.

- 7 memberships were secured at the event.
- The Political Community was invited but there was a conflict with dedication of a National Cemetery at Fort Jackson. Joe Wilson and Ronnie Crommer made a late appearance and made an effort to talk to everyone who did not get locked out of their car!
- Stan's crew did an outstanding job and there was a motion to tip them \$20 each (8 people) to show appreciation for their efforts. This was unanimously approved.
- Kay Gordon's publicity was outstanding and helped bring people out. There will be follow-up publicity in the Lake Link with pictures. We would like to include these pictures in the Boat Show Booth.
- There is strong willingness to do this again next year.

LIP MEETING: Dave Landis

There is interest in hiring a lawyer to advise us on the next step in the License process that has been in progress for the last three years. It comes down to the fact that American Rivers and Coastal Conservation have lawyers who have sent proposals to F.E.R.C. asking for minimum water to be released every day from the lake. This release is for the fish in the rivers and for the swamps. Their demand is not within the understanding of what LMA has noted in the meetings and the language is legal speak and not verifiable to us. The board has given authorization for us to use up to \$5000 in seeking help we feel is needed. The decision to proceed with finding a lawyer will depend on Wednesday's meeting.

- Kemble Oliver will run a report on Martindale Hubble to find recommended list of appropriate lawyers.
- The SC Bar Association will be called for recommendations on lawyers that fit our needs.
- Jimmy Chandler will be contacted for recommendations as well.
- Joy will send Pat and Don Tyler some of the language in the written proposal to present to some lawyers.

** **RECAP:** As SCE&G prepares to turn in the proposed license (which will be in place for 50 years), there have been numerous meetings to establish in writing the terms of this license. Many agencies and lake interest groups have been meeting to determine the outcome of the license. One major area of concern has always been Lake Level for LMA in their quest to represent the Lake Murray users and lovers. It has come down to the wire and we have grave concerns.*

The Low Inflow Protocol (LIP) that has been proposed at this time is not acceptable to LMA and communications via a Focus Group have minutes that do not reflect what LMA felt was the working consensus of these meetings. Many who had stopped attending have since turned in a written document with legal cases cited to FERC. The basic issue concerns the amount of water released to the Saluda River and below. What is now written as protocol is a guaranteed minimum of 400 cfs released every day regardless of inflow and 700 plus cfs most years. This years releases were much less: (Released 200 cfs Jan., 200 cfs Feb., 220 cfs March, 500 cfs April, 330 cfs May, 530 cfs Jun and 500 cfs July now). This may be increased as a result of the letters sent to FERC thru lawyers for Coastal Conservation and American Rivers. In our opinion, this would not be an issue if we were in a normal rain cycle, but we have been in a drought situation for 7 of the last 10 years and the license will be set for the next 50 years. There is no written caveat or leeway to allow for drought situations. Point in fact is that if this protocol had been followed this summer, we would already be below the 354' agreed minimum lake level. The model relies on water input and output circumventing lake level as their basis. The down river's prime concern is to provide a cool down place for the fish after they spawn. LMA's prime concern is to consider all facets of the lake's value driven by the lake level.

LMA feels that respect must be given to the economic impact and % of usage on the lake vs. the river economic impact and % of usage on the river or swamp. LMA feels this discrepancy is huge and needs to be part of the formula used to determine what happens on this lake for the next 50 years. Considering all of these things (evaporation, commercial and municipality use, % of use and economic impact) weigh heavily in favor

of LMA's point of view. Few studies are available to support this premise because the lake studies done were, in our opinion, incomplete in recreation count. More studies were done on river habitat and recreation... We have written for copies of studies that have been done and will request more studies..

**To demand a consistent minimum number of cfs to be released each day irregardless of the impact on the economy, the ability to generate needed power and negatively affecting the majority of the 'users' is more than irresponsible, arrogant and selfish, it is unreasonable, negligent and intolerant. The license demands that all comments must be considered, proportionately in this decision. Since these rules are being established to safeguard Lake Murray in the future then the regulations need to be consistent with that goal. The will of a few should not dictate to the majority. Consensus requires compromise on BOTH sides. We say AMEN to this again!*

LAKE MURRAY HISTORY: Ed Collie

Ed shared that the last remaining side dump car is in the SC Railroad Museum in Winnsboro. Ed is interested in putting the LMA Logo on this car so we can be part of sharing some of this SC History. He will gather information and write up a report to share with everyone. Good job!

NEW BUSINESS

NEWBERRY PUBLIC MEETING: Dave Landis

This will be held at Macedonia Church @ 7:00 P.M. on November 18, Tuesday. Ken Fox will present an overview and update on our Water Testing Program. We hope to have a map of the lake with testing sites marked and highlighted. Bill Argentieri, SCE&G Project Manager, will present "What is new in the New License and how it affects you". A discussion on Lake Levels and the New Guide Curve Proposed will be presented as well. Questions are encouraged as we work to keep our members up to date on all concerning Lake Murray.

- Lee Barber will do his usual fine job on the radio promoting the meeting.
- Membership will be there ½ hour early to be ready to sign up new members.
- (3) Cash prizes will be given that evening.
- All Board Members are to be there with their name badges and smiles.

BOAT SHOW: Ken Fox

Mike M. will send out a form to everyone to give an idea of the format this year for sign up. Please advise Mike if you note any changes to be made to the form. The Boat Show is January 22-25th and we will sign up in January. The give-away this year will more than likely be a radio.

TOUR OF HOMES: (Ginny Landis) Don Pertl

Don and Del Jenkins are seriously working to secure homes for the tour. They have one fabulous home to date and request that as homes are secured, they be notified

immediately. By the end of this week, they will know if they have secured a 2nd home. They are in the process of approaching 5-6 homeowners and do not want to overlap or secure more homes than are needed. The Tour of Homes is scheduled for the Saturday following Mother's Day (May), if possible. If anyone has a name of a homeowner whose home would be a special addition to the tour, please contact Ginny Landis with the information.

NOVEMBER 20-LEXINGTON CHAMBER PARTY: Ralph Crafton
This will be from 5:30-9:30 @ 1216 West Main in Lexington. RSVP is needed. Please let Ralph know if you will be attending. There is music, food and dress is cocktail casual.

DECEMBER 20 is the US Naval Sea Cadets Award Ceremony at the SC State Museum. Tickets are \$10 if you would like to attend and support the Sea Cadets. Let Dave Landis know if you are interested in attending.

KAY GORDON has suggested having a Christmas Covered Dish party on Sunday, Dec. 7th. IF this is of interest to you, please let Kay know.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Environmental: Roy Parker/ Ken Fox
No further report other than presenting information at the meeting in Newberry.

Government: Joy Downs
LIP strategy meeting this week.

Publicity: Kay Gordon
Kay has turned in a BBQ story with pictures to the Lake Link. She is working on giving notice of the Public Meeting in Newberry. She is also writing about Stan and Lighthouse Marina as they will be receiving the first Clean Marina Award in SC. (We are very proud of this accomplishment, though it is of no surprise to any of us!)

Accolades were given regarding the comprehensive and excellent job getting the word out about the BBQ Appreciation Social.

Membership: Kemble Oliver/ Ed Colie/ Aleda Anderson

- 7 new memberships were registered at the BBQ.
- Kemble has suggested that we list the new members and new Corporate members in each Lake Link to encourage others to join and to show appreciation to those who have joined. All felt this was a great idea!

Newsletter: Sharon Miles/ Bob Keener in absentia

- Sharon Miles, our new Newsletter Chair, has turned in her first Lake Link and encountered the distress of hunting down articles that were late or not done at all. Bob has reiterated that it is important to give her support by getting the information she needs in a timely fashion with enough time to put it all together. *(Should this have to be one of the issues with this task?)* Bob and Kay helped her organize the newsletter. It is posted in color on the website. Final words are that “ALL are encouraged to meet the deadlines and help her to be successful in her new position.”

Nominating: Aleda Anderson/ Bill East/ Dave Landis in absentia

Wallace Hubbard has not been successfully contacted to let him know he has been chosen to fill the remaining days in the spot left by Ed Thomas. Joe Agnew has expressed interest in rejoining the Board. Amy Jo Jacobson is also interested in joining the board (a 40 year old dynamo); Irby Shultz is also interested and was a big help at the BBQ. We may extend the invitation for them to come to the January meeting.

All are encouraged to nominate people who are willing to work and serve on the Board.

Safety: Ed Colie/ Jay Schabacker

Jay is looking for ideas for Safety. He has written a piece on PFD's and life saving equipment.

- Lee Barber will be presenting “Drive in a Ditch” to the Power Squadron @ Flotilla on Dec. 16th from 0900- 1500 (9-3:00). This will be a discussion on navigating the Intercoastal Waterway. Please let Lee know if you are interested. It is a day long- bring your own lunch- event that will be filled with anecdotes and good information.

Special Events: Mike Murrell/ Ken Fox
Discussed.

Projects: Ken Fox

- Two new Windsocks have been replaced on Rawls and Shealy. *Ken suggests we cut down on the number of Windsocks out there. Others feel it is good advertising for LMA. No decision was reached on making any major changes.
- Osprey Nests are being fixed or replaced. One was at Hancock Point (end of Plantation)- it was not put in deep enough and fell down a 2nd time. It is now down 5 feet and there to stay, thanks to Joe Agnew.
- Beards Creek will put up the “Love Child” plaque in memory of the children lost.
- The Osprey nest at Lake Murray Marina is up but the Bob Andrew's Plaque has not been found. The board approved unanimously \$250 to get another one made in honor of Bob Andrews.
- New nest at Hollow Creek (Bob Keener nest) in front of Harbor Watch. With lots of places to fall, a tree fell onto the nest! Who can figure? It will be fixed by January.

- New nest called the Connelly Nest- it was put on private land but the man said that it may as well have a home for birds as all it is good for is paying taxes at the moment. We love encouragement and support!
- Ken has affectionate names for many of the Osprey sites and will work on compiling a list of these sites and their names and why they are so named.

Web Site: Tom Ruple/ Wayne Kirby/ Mike Kletter

No Report. Just mentioned to see the Lake Link in color on the web- it is spectacular.

OTHER:

- **Don Tyler** reported on the freak windstorm we had at the end of October. It was wind from the East- SE @ 60-70 mph. Docks were flipped, 12-15 docks damaged in the Timberlake area in 45 minutes. Joe Agnew said there were 68 destroyed on the Lake that day. It was a jet stream that just came down low and caused Hurricane like wind. There will be a storm article with pictures.
- **Saluda Shoals Christmas Lights Display** had asked if LMA wanted to sponsor an area. One area is a lake scene and we can join in with someone else to sponsor it. Much discussion on the logistics of this decision. Many felt it was great to support the community and to get our name out there to the 1,000s of visitors- others wanted to save the money for a lawyer. The decision to pay \$500 for this event was passed 11-7. Merry Christmas.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:55 with thoughts of the upcoming LIP decisions and how to protect the lake levels. We continue to look for new members; new ideas to build our membership and to promote awareness of all issues that protect and preserve Lake Murray. Thanks and good-bye.