

WASHINGTON STATE LAKE PROTECTION ASSOCIATION
Board of Directors Meeting
March 12, 2007
Bellevue, Washington

ATTENDEES:

Present: Bijay Adams, Sally Abella, Tricia Shoblom, Isabel Ragland, Kelly McLain, Gene Williams, Ben Scofield, Beth Cocciarella and via telephone – Glen Rothrock, Peter Burgoon, and Jean Jacoby.

Absent: Steven Fradkin, Karl Mueller, Arline Fullerton, Beth Cullen, and Ray Latham.

Call to order

President Bijay Adams called the meeting to order at 6:05 p.m. at the Bellevue DOE office.

Minutes

There was one correction to the minutes of January 8, 2007. In the last sentence of the minutes, “green clean” was changed to “algae control”. It was moved, seconded and passed to accept the minutes with the changes.

Treasurer’s Report

The January treasurer’s report was approved by email. The current treasurer’s report reflects the payment received from NALMS for the regional conference. The newsletter expense from Swifty has not come through yet. Cygnet and Clean Lakes Inc. will be sending payment for their advertisement. Bijay reported that a debit card for WALPA has been ordered to be used for conference hosting/registration and the website. It was pointed out that the insurance, NALMS dues, and POB rental are all annual payments. It was moved, seconded and passed to accept the Treasurer’s report.

Old Business

Committee Assignments

By-Laws

Nothing new to report.

Public Policy & Legislative

Bijay reported that both SB6017 (use of credible data to establish aquatic herbicide application permit conditions) and SB6002 (lake management districts) are still alive and in committee. Kelly reported that the barley straw bill had made it out of committee. She will send the bill number to the board.

Nominations/Elections

Karl Mueller was absent. We need to be thinking about possible candidates to fill board vacancies. Two prospective candidates suggested are Jo Ravet (postdoctoral fellow) and Jacob McCann (Spokane Co.).

Publications

Sally reported that she had received 13 (out of approximately 130 mailed) lake association returns from the newsletter mailing. Sally, Ben, and Bijay will work on finding the correct addresses for the returned newsletters.

Sally has received two responses about the directory listing insert for the newsletter. She spoke with Rob Zisette who mentioned that WALPA has done a directory in the past; it was a stand-alone publication of similar size to the Lake Book. He suggested charging \$25/listing, publishing the directory once a year in the newsletter, and posting the list on the website for the rest of the year. Sally will solicit more input from others on this idea. Suggested potential businesses for the directory include contacts from the herbicide applicators list (DOE), diving services list, and the conference exhibitors list.

Sally handed out a copy of the story grid for the June Waterline. Stories will include Chinese mystery snails (Sally), DOE's new algae program (Tricia or Kathy H.), ban on phosphorus in fertilizers near lakes (Rob Zisette, Harry Gibbons, and Jon Frodge). We will also have either a lake profile (from Taylor Assoc.) or another lake association feature. Ben and Gene will work on recruiting an association member to write an article. Sally will also ask Steve Fradkin to recruit someone. Kelly suggested contacting Kathy Hamel for some lake association member recommendations. Due date for articles is May 1, 2007.

Tricia announced that Ecology's new algae website is up and running.

Membership

Bijay announced that the info@WALPA.org inquiries are being directed to the President –elect. There was some discussion about the conference fee schedule for lake associations. It was decided that more information on cost per person is needed to make any decision. Beth Cullen will be contacted and asked to determine the cost per person and email the information to the board so that a decision can be made at the next board meeting.

Jean reported that the committee is charged with the task of reviewing the membership brochure and developing recommendations for updating it. Glen mentioned that he has been unable to look at the brochure at the WALPA website because of the size of the file; Bijay will look into reducing the file size so that this isn't a problem. There was some discussion about the format of the brochure and if it's even necessary to have one. Sally suggested making it postcard size and/or designing it such that it can be mailed back in to WALPA. Jean said the committee would review and come back to the next meeting with some recommendations.

Jean announced that Arline will focus on recruiting lake associations to join WALPA, and Jean is focusing on recruiting professionals. Isabel will send Jean a list of the current members.

Scholarships

Beth Cocciarella reported that the contact list has been updated. A copy will go out with the minutes and if anyone knows of others that should be on the list, contact the committee to add them. The board was asked if they think enough money is being offered for scholarships. Would more money in the form of bigger scholarships attract more applicants? There was a discussion about possibly contacting exhibitors and others to donate money for scholarships. One suggestion was that there could be different giving levels (gold, silver, bronze). Beth announced that the scholarship announcement would be sent out soon to the distribution list. The deadline for applicants is mid-July.

Washington Lake Atlas

Bijay reported that he has reviewed the Oregon Lake atlas and has sent the information to the committee for review and discussion. Because there are far more lakes in Washington than Oregon, Gene suggested that the committee may want to focus on determining the goal, and audience for the atlas. Tricia announced that Ecology is also pursuing compiling a lake atlas. The DOE atlas would be posted online and provide information such as basin, county and past management activities. Sally suggested including information on the jurisdiction of the featured lakes. The board felt that the scope of the atlas could potentially be an overwhelming task for a board committee. After some discussion, Bijay asked Tricia to let the board know how WALPA could assist DOE with this project.

Annual Conference

Bijay reviewed the draft conference sessions schedule. A chair is needed for sessions 1A, 5A, 5B, and Stump the Experts Panel. Ben volunteered to chair session 5A, Kelly will chair session 5B, and Jen Parsons (or Kathy Hamel) will be asked to chair session 1B. There was a discussion about the TMDL session and it was suggested that we consider replacing it with a different topic such as lakeside buffers. This topic could cover armoring, the science behind shoreline riparian areas, community resources and how to implement buffers. One suggestion was to invite Brian Bodenboch (Biosphere) to present information describing specific steps to landscaping lake side buffers. Another thought was to talk with Steven Fradkin about the work on Crescent Lake. Sally suggested the “Stump the Experts” panel could address climate change and the impact on lakes. Bijay reported that he has left a message with Bill Jarocki (Director of the Environmental Finance Center at Boise State) to contact him about speaking at the Thursday lunch session. Bill could do a presentation on the database of all funding sources for multiple states that he has developed. It is an online, interactive database containing information on funding sources for environmental projects. He has also developed a database program to help manage grants once received. Bill spoke at the conference Bijay held in February and was well received. Bijay reported that Ken Jacobsen (state senator on Natural Resources Committee) is a possibility as a speaker for the plenary session. Kelly reported that there is a new select committee on environmental health and a member of that committee might also be a good candidate for the plenary session. She will send Beth Cullen the list of members of that committee. Letters to the vendors will go out by June, soliciting sponsorship for a session or the conference. Kelly suggested that the exhibitors could also sponsor meals and breaks. She will check with a vendor to see if there is an interest. There was a discussion about whether to offer box lunches or a sit-down lunch on Friday. Box lunches are cheaper, but more people would stay for the sit-down lunch. The board decided to have Beth run the numbers to see the difference in cost before a final decision is made. Another suggestion was to offer a sit-down sandwich lunch.

2006 Regional Conference Update

Bijay sent out an itemized final budget with the income from the conference. The check (\$4705.99) from NALMS has been received and given to Gene Williams.

WALPA Website

Information for job postings on the WALPA website should be sent to Bijay. The info@walpa.org email account has been set-up and it will forward email to the president-elect (Beth Cullen).

Closing/Discussion

- The advisory panel for the DOE Lakes Program will hold its first meeting on April 16th in the morning in Olympia.
- DOE has published the updated Lake Book. Kelly will find out the cost and then the board can decide how to use/distribute them. Once the lake association database updates are completed the list will be sent to the board.
- NALMS Chicago meeting is coming up in April (24th-27th). NALMS offers \$300 for travel and waiving of conference fees for one representative from each statewide affiliate of NALMS. Jean is going as a speaker, and a NALMS board member so doesn't need the travel funds. After some discussion it was decided that Sally will talk with Beth to see if she is interested otherwise Jean can serve as our representative.

Meeting Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 8:10pm. Next meeting will be May 14, 2007 at 6:00pm.