

AIS Committee meeting
Monday, July 16, 2012, 6:30 p.m.
Barnes Town Hall

Ingemar Ekstrom called the meeting to order.

Members present: Ingemar Ekstrom, Barb Romstad, Dave Pease, Sally Pease, Lee Wiesner, Mitch McGee, Glenda Mattila, Leslie Hall, Jeremy Bates

Absent: Gerald Gustafson (Gus), Pamela Toshner

1. Minutes from the June 18, 2012 Meeting

Ingemar reviewed the minutes from the last meeting. A motion to accept the minutes for the June 22nd meeting was made by Lee Wiesner; seconded by Mitch McGee, passed.

Ingemar talked with Gus recently and Gus is pretty busy with a personal matter lately. He again asked that we find someone to assist him. It will be hard to find someone as detail oriented as Gus. Gus would be willing to train a person to help.

Glenda, Barb and Steve will coordinate having a meeting with Gus to evaluate the scope of the job. Jeremy Bates indicated he would like to attend the meeting if possible.

2. Clean Boats/Clean Water

Sally reviewed the boat landing monitor volunteer list. She is looking for new volunteers and is trying to clean up the list she currently has.

Sally talked to the paid monitors about the idea of having a bleach sprayer at each landing. Some discussion took place about giving each monitor a sprayer and bleach to have at the landings. Lee Wiesner made a motion to purchase a sprayer and bleach for each paid monitor to use at the landings to spray boats that have come from infected waters; Mitch McGee seconded the motion. Discussion followed. We would need a total of 6 sprayers and six quarts of bleach. Motion passed. Steve will pick up the sprayers and the bleach.

4th of July week seemed to work pretty well, though some of our monitors could have been on duty later into the evening.

3. Shoreline Monitoring Workshop: June 23

25 – 30 people attended the workshop on June 23. Because of the weather on June 23rd, the pontoon portion of the workshop had to be postponed. Jeremy will poll the attendees on line to try to coordinate a date that most people can attend in an effort to reschedule.

Ingemar indicated that the boat landing monitors should also have the training at some time.

4. Rapid Response Activities

More small patches of curly leaf pondweed have been discovered on Upper Eau Claire, all of them in Pease Bay. On Middle the large patch has been pulled. Two smaller patches have also been pulled. And Jack Gribel found another small patch.

Lee got bids from Matt Berg to do a point intercept study and mapping of both Upper and Middle Eau Claire Lakes. He presented different options and pricing for the options. Jeremy suggested that Lee get the bids to Pamela to see what the DNR would cover. Lee will also ask about scuba diving in addition to the point intercept studies.

At this time we will go ahead and prepare the paperwork for the grants, one for each lake to have the studies done, and possible treatment to be done next summer.

5. George Lake

Ingemar read a report from John Kudlas about his observations following the treatment. John stated that the EWM is gone as well as lily pads and some other native plants – basically the dicots. Monocots appear to be untouched by the chemical.

6. Sandbar/Tomahawk

John Skogerboe observed Tomahawk Lake and indicated he did not see evidence of EWM.

Jeremy Bates observed Tomahawk Lake and saw EWM near the boat landing. His group did a whole littoral survey and found a very small amount of EWM in a couple places. Jeremy recommends pulling the EWM at this point.

Michelle Nault did a point intercept of both Tomahawk and Sand Bar Lakes. Her group did find EWM in several spots on Sand Bar Lake. Ingemar indicated his son walked the shoreline and found a number of “floaters” of EWM.

The group discussed treatment for Sand Bar Lake. Ingemar felt that we need to do another whole lake treatment on Sand Bar. It is important to locate the EWM infestations on the lake.

7. Communication with Property Owners on Tomahawk/Sandbar Lake – Ingemar

Now that the studies have been done, it is time to communicate the results and the maps of the lakes with the owners.

8. Purple Loosestrife Preparations

Buzz Pickering is getting a plan together to look for and spray any loosestrife that they find. He is watching the areas that were treated last year and wants to be ready if the invasive is found.

9. AIS Activities – Jeremy Bates

Pickeral Lake, and possibly Middle Eau Claire, will have an early detection survey done on the lake. Lakes chosen for these surveys are done so randomly not because they are not known to have any invasive.

The DNR did a landing blitz over the 4th of July and were present at 10 different boat landings in the area, handing out towels and educating boaters about AIS. There was a lot of media coverage and overall Jeremy felt the program was very worthwhile and had a lot of impact.

10. Other Business

- Ingemar distributed some information on zebra mussels, specifically a map showing the places known to have the invasive. Lee would still like to have a listing of all the lakes in Wisconsin and Minnesota with any/all invasives.
- We discussed the parade handout which Leslie created. Next year perhaps the AIS committee can work with the POA on a parade handout.
- A private property owner submitted a picture of an aquatic weed to be identified. The group thought it might be pickerel weed or arrowhead weed.
- Leslie wondered about the blue/green algae alert mentioned in the Northwoods Shopper.

11. Next meeting Monday, August 20, 2012, 6:30 P.M. Barnes Town Hall

Motion to adjourn: Dave; seconded by Glenda; passed

Meeting adjourned at 8:30 PM