



## LAKE QUALITY COMMISSION MINUTES JANUARY 20, 2016

**CALL TO ORDER** A meeting of the Lake Quality Commission was held on January 20, 2016, at the Maple Grove Government Center, 12800 Arbor Lakes Parkway, Maple Grove, Minnesota. Chairperson Fahrenbruch called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

Commissioners Present: Becky Fahrenbruch, Mike Newman, George Schneider, Sharon Martin-Kotula, Kurt Paulsen, Steve Lane, Nancy Bergstrand, Dan Vogtman, Zach Saulter and Joe Randall

Commissioners Absent: Catherine Thompson.

Other's present included: Councilmember Karen Jaeger, Heidi Nelson – City Administrator, Rick Lestina, Mark Lahtinen and Sue Rice.

### **INTRODUCTION OF NEW CITY ADMINISTRATOR**

Heidi Nelson was introduced to the Commission and discussed her background working with other municipalities in the past. She also commented on water quality issues that she had been involved with while serving most recently as the City Manager for the City of Wayzata.

### **INTRODUCTIONS AND AREA REPORTS**

Joe Randall has served on the Commission for 3 years representing Fish Lake and has lived in Maple Grove for 19 years. Joe stated that there is not much happening currently on Fish Lake and because of the thin ice there is only 1 ice house so far.

Mike Newman has served on the Commission for 3 years as an At-Large Commissioner. Mike heads up the medallion project to mark the storm drains within the City recruiting volunteers and overseeing the needed materials.

Mark Lahtinen – City Staff - Mark stated that he has been with the City 14 years. He also made mention that the lakes were high going into winter and then we received another 4” of rain in November.

George Schneider has served on the Commission for 10 plus years representing Rice Lake. George works with the PCA volunteering. He also explained the Rice Lake Drawdowns we have completed in the past as well as the fish stocking completed this past summer. The aeration system is up and running and the oxygen levels are high so far.

Sharon Martin-Kotula has served on the Commission 3 years representing Lake Edward and has lived in Maple Grove 11 years. Sharon discussed the Bullhead issue and the funding needed to help eliminate the problem. She also stated that they are



having aeration problems right now and hope to have it working soon.

Kurt Paulsen has served on the Commission in 1988 with his wife serving on the Commission in the 1990s. Kurt represents Pike Lake.

Steve Lane has served on the Commission for 12 – 14 years representing Cedar Island Lake and has lived in Maple Grove 28 years. Their aerator is currently not working but the parts are on order and they hope to have it working soon. They did a fish survey and restocking with immediate results in water quality. Steve mentioned that the Eagles are catching the Bass unfortunately.

Nancy Bergstrand has served on the Commission for over 8 years representing Weaver Lake and has lived in Maple Grove 40 years. Nancy stated that she is appreciative that the City and the DNR are very supportive working with them on Curly Leaf Pondweed. They have hired James Johnson to treat reoccurring areas of Curly Leaf Pondweed which should increase the water quality immensely. She has observed only 2 fish houses out so far which is very late.

Dan Vogtman grew up in Maple Grove and moved back in 2011. Dan has been on the LQC for 1 year now as an At-Large Commissioner and would like to work with Roger on the Arbor Lakes area.

Zach Saulter has been on the LQC for 1 year as an At-Large Commissioner.

Councilmember Karen Jaeger has observed fox and coyote in the area.

Rick Lestina has served as Staff Liaison on the Commission for 15 years and also serves on the watershed management groups.

Becky Fahrenbruch has served on the Commission for 3 years and for the past year as the Chair. Becky represents Eagle Lake. She is also president of their Eagle Lake homeowners association. Becky's big focus is on the watershed and educating the residents on water quality. The ice fishermen mostly come for the Northern and Muskie in Eagle Lake. They will be holding their winter festival on February 27<sup>th</sup> with lots of fun activities.

## **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Minutes of the April 15, 2015 meeting of the Lake Quality Commission were reviewed for accuracy.

A MOTION WAS MADE BY STEVE LANE, SECONDED BY GEORGE SCHNEIDER TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE APRIL 15, 2015 MEETING OF THE LAKE QUALITY COMMISSION. MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

Minutes of the September 16, 2015 meeting of the Lake Quality Commission were reviewed for accuracy. Zach Saulter requested that the minutes be changed to reflect



that he was also in attendance.

A MOTION WAS MADE BY KURT PAULSEN, SECONDED BY JOE RANDALL TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE SEPTEMBER 16, 2015 MEETING WITH THE CORRECTION REFLECTING ZACH SAULTER IN ATTENDANCE.

**SWEARING IN OF COMMISSIONERS**

Becky Fahrenbruch – Commissioner representing Eagle Lake, Steve Lane – Commissioner representing Cedar Island Lake, Sharon Martin-Kotula – Commissioner representing Lake Edward, Joe Randall – Commissioner representing Fish Lake, and Mike Newman – Commissioner At-Large were sworn in by Councilmember Jaeger for additional three year terms to expire December 31, 2018.

Congratulations were extended to each from the Commission.

**ADDED ITEM:  
RESIGNATION OF  
ROGER  
GRANBERG**

The Commission received word from Roger Granberg on January 18, 2016 that he would be resigning his position as Commissioner At-Large on the Lake Quality Commission effective immediately. Roger has been a dedicated member of the Lake Quality Commission for over 12 years and will be missed.

A MOTION WAS MADE BY ZACH SAULTER, SECONDED BY MIKE NEWMAN TO ACCEPT THE RESIGNATION OF ROGER GRANBERG FROM THE LAKE QUALITY COMMISSION EFFECTIVE IMMEDIATELY. MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

**ELECTION OF OFFICERS FOR 2016**

**Nominations for Chair**

Nominations were taken to re-elect Becky Fahrenbruch as Chair of the Lake Quality Commission for 2016. Becky accepted the nomination.

A MOTION WAS MADE BY ZACH SAULTER, SECONDED BY STEVE LANE TO ELECT BECKY FAHRENBRUCH AS CHAIR OF THE LAKE QUALITY COMMISSION FOR THE YEAR 2016. MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

**Nominations for Vice-Chair**

Nominations were taken to re-elect Joe Randall as Vice-Chair of the Lake Quality Commission for 2016. Joe accepted the nomination.

A MOTION WAS MADE BY SHARON MARTIN-KOTULA, SECONDED BY DAN VOGTMAN TO ELECT JOE RANDALL AS VICE-CHAIR OF THE LAKE QUALITY COMMISSION FOR 2016. MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

**ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW SUB-**

Rick Lestina asked for volunteers to be on the Environmental Review Sub-Committee. Nancy Bergstrand, Zach Saulter, Mike Newman, Kurt Paulsen and Dan Vogtman each



## **COMMITTEE**

volunteered to be on the Committee.

A MOTION WAS MADE BY JOE RANDALL, SECONDED BY GEORGE SCHNEIDER TO APPOINT NANCY BERGSTRAND, ZACH SAULTER, MIKE NEWMAN, KURT PAULSEN AND DAN VOGTMAN TO THE ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW SUB-COMMITTEE FOR 2016. MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

## **ADDED ITEM OPEN MEETING LAW**

Rick discussed the City Attorneys comments that the LQC follow state statute requirements relating to the Open Meeting Law when hosting a lake tour. He stated that even if they are not considered a formal meeting they still need to be posted for the public if (1) they include a quorum of members and (2) involve any discussion of the business of the Commission.

Discussion occurred as to liability, number of life jackets required, boat space and public access on to the lake. It was suggested that any public attending be required to RSVP and also sign a waiver of liability. This will be discussed further and the Commission will draft up a waiver.

## **2016 WORK PROGRAM**

The Commission discussed the goals and priorities to be set for 2016. After reviewing the various suggestions and the 2015 Work Program, the following work program was developed for 2016.

- **February** – Discussion of projects Commissioners would like to propose for 2016. Steve McComas to give “State of the Lakes Report”.
- **March** - LIP application, review & approvals
- **April** - NPDES/TMDL Annual Meeting.
- **May** – Tour of Pike Lake.
- **June** – Open.
- **July** – Tour of Fish Lake. If not available, tour of Eagle Lake.
- **August** - Tour of Weaver Lake.
- **September** – Arbor Lakes walking tour.
- **October** – Educational speaker to address LQC. Becky and Rick will work together with input from the other Commissioners to decide on which speaker.
- **November** - Intentionally left open to complete any unfinished business
- **December** – No formal meeting. Informal holiday gathering to be held at a public venue.

A MOTION WAS MADE BY ZACH SAULTER, SECONDED BY MIKE NEWMAN, TO MAKE RECOMMENDATION TO CITY COUNCIL THE APPROVAL OF THE 2016 LAKE QUALITY COMMISSION WORK PROGRAM. MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.



**LAKE  
IMPROVEMENT  
PROGRAM  
PROCESS**

Rick Lestina began the discussion stating what the goals of the program were from water quality and education to participation opportunities for the residents. Rick would like input on projects such as the slope erosion projects and opportunities for the Environmental Review Sub-Committee to review as well. It would be the desire to have 50/50 participation with residents on the projects.

Rick also reiterated the need for actual receipts to be submitted for reimbursement to occur. The City cannot pay on a cancelled check or email request. An actual invoice or something that shows the actual amount paid and for what.

The Commission discussed the possibility of doing city wide projects as a group and doing projects together may be more cost effective as well. There are some activities that are unique to a lake as to the best solution for the issue but perhaps the different boards could work cooperatively on joint projects. This could be brought back at the February meeting.

**AIS EARLY  
DETECTION  
MONITORING  
TRAINING**

Becky Fahrenbruch discussed the Aquatic Evasive Species Grant and submitting a grant for training with Fortin to inspect lakes for Zebra Mussels, Crayfish and invasive plants. She stated that Eagle Lake had applied due to the Zebra Mussel threat and to get homeowners more involved. Fortin would do a survey and a plan for each lake. This is 100% funded and would not involve any money from the respective association.

**ADJOURNMENT**

A MOTION WAS MADE BY GEORGE SCHNEIDER, SECONDED BY DAN VOGTMAN TO ADJOURN THE JANUARY 20, 2016 MEETING OF THE LAKE QUALITY COMMISSION. MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY AND THE MEETING WAS ADJOURNED AT 8:16 P.M.