

Board Meeting Minutes
Lake Spokane Association
July 13, 2016

The July board meeting was called to order by board president Greg Weeks at 6:30 pm, Wednesday July 13 at the Avista cottage meeting room. Other board members present were Ken Carmichael, Jason Cardon, Galen Buterbaugh, Sean Bunnis, Speed Fitzhugh, Gail Dede, Jan Jenne, Becky Cresswell, and Bunny Cardon.

Agenda Item 1: Bunny: May meeting minutes were approved as per email sent earlier for review. After email approval the minutes were posted to the LSA web site for the general membership.

Agenda item 2: Membership and Spokane Encampment participation review: Becky reports no new members since the May meeting. Becky and Greg set up a table at the Encampment to promote LSA. They attended the Saturday portion of the weekend long activity. It was their assessment that this was an interesting production rich in local history. It was a venue that attracted many people from a broad area. But, most were not Lake Spokane area residents nor lake users and therefore, were not a good target group for LSA membership recruitment.

Agenda item 3: Treasurer's report: Ken: Suncrest HOA contributed \$1000 to the weed abatement fund bringing the weed fund to a total of \$2398.40.

Agenda item 4: Facebook report: Gail: LSA FB page now has 400 followers. New pictures added include a New Bald Eagle picture and an evening picture of the lake. A brief discussion followed about the process of posting pictures on the LSA page. Anyone can post a picture and all were encouraged to post interesting pictures of the lake, birds and animal life or anything of interest to our members or prospective members. It was suggested that we might want to first send information and pictures of importance to members before posting for the public on FB as an incentive to become a member. Gail expresses a willingness to use the distribution list to first send to members and then post to FB. Becky will provide the list to Gail. There was a reminder that all email addresses must be kept private using BCC for these mass mailings. It was also decided to provide a link on the FB page to the LSA web site.

Agenda Item 5: Aquatic weed abatement:

Sean: Weed observations: Reports that the weed areas are similar to those in 2015. The Suncrest area treatment application done during the winter appears to have been successful in the areas where it was applied. On the west side of the lake the homeowners there report a less than favorable result from the winter application.

West Shore Road areas of application: Jason: Reports that he and Rob Haff were able to get 15 homeowners with contiguous lots to agree to treat their properties at a reduced rate which he had negotiated with Lakeland Restoration. Lakeland agreed that they would treat 4-5 adjoining lots of 100 frontage feet for \$330/lot rather than the \$600 price for single lot treatment. Jason also reported that his negotiations with Lakeland were not easy and his general impression was that they showed very little interest in the treatment of individual lots. Possible alternative companies were discussed. Speed mentioned that Dave Armes will be meeting with Dave Klutz from Lakeland to evaluate this season's treatment which was completed on July 11 and 12. It was agreed that the winter time application should be considered and tried when available beyond the study areas. And, that LSA should stay involved in promoting weed abatement year around through open communication with Dave Armes of Avista and LSA membership. As well as, exploring other avenues to increase home owner cooperation with weed abatement.

Status of existing weed funds: As per email discussion after the weed survey and, prior to weed treatment it was decided that LSA would not pay for additional treatment this year. The success of the winter treatment for the Suncrest area and the lack of a clearly identified safety need as has been the case in previous years were the cited reasons. Additionally, there were fewer contributors to the LSA weed fund this year and with increased cost of treatments it was deemed prudent to save the funds for future weed treatment needs.

Speed provided the board with a written 2016 weed treatment summary for Lake Spokane. Avista contracted with Lakeland Restoration to treat 10 areas which included public access points and boating lanes. The summary also

included the names of area companies that provide lake weed treatment services. He added that weed control is complex. Challenges include weeds that are resistant to some chemicals or concentrations of chemicals, application timing and weather. Also, removal by cutting releases phosphorus into the lake which provides nutrients for algae growth.

Agenda item 6: Spokane River Regional Toxic Task Force status and Lake Algae sampling: Galen: Galen noted that the upper end of Lake Spokane has more weed growth this year than previous years. He collected the first algae samples today with algae growth now visible in the water column. He will continue sampling once a week at Suncrest Park and Willow Bay which are both Stevens County locations. Spokane County doesn't have a process in place for monitoring lake algae even though they have the capability.

Agenda item 7: Stevens County Park status: Jan: Park development members have met with the Stevens County Commissioner requesting \$45,000 to \$47,000 for funding proposals for the Tall Pines Park development. Requests include: Power and water installation, play ground equipment and removal of a large slash pile on the property. They expect to have a response in about a month.

Agenda item 8: Spokane River License Manager Update: Speed:

Carp Removal: Carp removal is delayed until this Fall or Spring of 2017. They were unable to access the carp due to the height of the weed growth during the 2016 Spring spawning season. Carp removal is done during the spawning season when the fish are closer to the surface of the water.

Long Lake Dam Spillway Construction: Work continues on the spillway modification. They do blasting each day between 6 and 7 AM to remove rock. The plan is to lower the lake level 2-3 feet on October 1st for chiseling into the dam to set 7000 anchors and form deflectors. Speed noted that there is a good view of the construction work from the dam overlook. Little Falls and Nine Mile Dam have had construction projects this summer. Little Falls had a 6 foot draw down to repair the spill gate and Nine Mile Dam renovation should be complete by the end of July.

Avista has purchased land along the upper Hangman Creek and will be doing wetland restoration to that area. The challenge for many of our streams is to balance the agricultural needs with preserving the ecology of those streams.

The combined sewer outflow project in Spokane is progressing well. This will better manage the 2 million gallons of water runoff produced during a major rain event by storing this water in large tanks and then processing it through the sewage treatment plant systematically. Previously, the plant couldn't handle the immediate volume of runoff (storm water) which was combined with the sewage and could overflow into the streams during large rain events. Additionally, Coeur d Alene has upgraded its treatment plant and Post Falls is upgrading its plant. These upgrades will have a positive effect on the rivers and lakes downstream.

Agenda item 9: Annual membership meeting planning: There was a brief discussion of potential main speakers for the meeting. Galen suggested several: Rick Eichstadt from the Centers for Justice, Mike Peterson from the Lands Council, Jerry White, from River Keepers, or Chris Donley from Fish and Wild Life.

Agenda item 10: Plans for upcoming events: Greg:

Dam Days Booth: Event is August 13th. Vender booths are open from 9 AM to 6 PM. Bunny, Becky and Greg will work the booth. Bunny and Becky will start the day and Greg will take the late afternoon. Pizza Factory has provided \$5 off coupons for LSA. Both renewals and new members will be given a coupon at Dam Days.

LSA newsletter: Greg will do a newsletter after Dam Days. Sean will do an article on fishing. He says the fishing has been good for Trout and Walleye.

Meeting was adjourned at 8:40 PM.