

Board Meeting Minutes  
Lake Spokane Association  
July 12, 2017

The July board meeting was called to order by president, Greg Weeks at 6:30 pm Wednesday, July 12, 2017 at the Avista cottage meeting room. Other board members present were Ken Carmichael, Becky Cresswell, Sean Bunnis, Galen Buterbaugh, Speed Fitzhugh, and Jan Jenne. Others present were new LSA member, Kate Sullivan and Lori Chadwick LSA member from Lake Shore Estates.

Agenda item 1: Minutes for the May 10 board meeting written by Jan Jenne were approved without correction.

Agenda item 2: Membership report: Becky reports that the current mailing list is at 192. Greg adds that the Facebook page has recorded 400 likes as reported to him by Gail Dede who was unable to attend for medical reasons.

Agenda item 3: Treasurer report: Ken reports that the current balance of operating funds is \$3691.93. The weed fund balance is \$2398.40 for a total of \$6090.33. Income since last report is from 4 new memberships plus banking earned interest.

Agenda item 4: Aquatic weed control: The board discussed the plan for weed control measures for Lake Spokane this year. David Armes is the Avista manager for weed control and has done the surveys of weed types in the lake along with Lakeland Restoration Services Dave Klutz. They have identified Eurasian Milfoil and Curley Leaf Pond Weed as the primary targets for the weed spraying this summer. Avista has contracted with Lakeland for treating a total of 20 acres. The Lake Spokane treatment is scheduled to occur between July 17-19. There was a brief discussion of potential LSA funding for spraying additional areas. It was noted that no additional weed fund donations have been received this year. Nor, have any specific areas been identified as safety hazards due to weed growth that would prompt LSA to solicit donations for weed abatement.

Winter herbicide treatment was also discussed. If weather and snow conditions permit winter treatment it should be encouraged. The treatment has proven to be effective against most lake weed species. It is less expensive to treat in the winter months and it avoids the nutrient loading from weeds dying that can occur with summer treatment. Benthic barriers were also mentioned as good prevention for weeds, especially for individual waterfront homeowners.

Agenda item 5: Avista update: Speed reports that the multiagency pilot project for carp removal from Lake Spokane has been completed for this year. They were able to remove 1000 carp from the lake. This will be an ongoing project.

In an effort to track the habitat of the stocked triploid trout, Avista tagged up to twenty, 18-20 inch long, resident triploids with radio tags, and 400 newly stocked trout with numbered tags. This will be an ongoing study.

Avista has recently purchased land off the Long Lake Dam Road on the Lincoln/Spokane County boarder which will allow for public access to the lake. They are also looking to buy additional land that will benefit public access points. To identify Avista owned property around the lake a Google search for "Avista property on Lake Spokane" will locate them for you.

There was a discussion about park management in light of the recent threat by the state to close the parks due to the lack of a new state budget. This left park employees, the public with camping reservations, and others wondering if they would have access to state parks over the 4th of July holiday weekend. Speed mentioned that the Avista five year contract with the State Parks Department for management of their properties on Lake Spokane is due for renewal this year. The recent threat of shutdown with short notice could be a consideration at those meetings.

Agenda item 6: Hangman Creek pollution study: This study is being conducted by River Keepers and The Department of Fish and Wildlife. No report was available for this meeting.

Agenda item 7: SRRTTF report: Galen reported that SRRTTF has received \$350,000 this year from the state budget for their work on the PCB project. Inland Paper, the EPA, and Kaiser have also made monetary contributions to the project. He reports that the heritage sites do provide a slow leakage into the lake and that sampling along the river is ongoing. He added that everything involving PCBs is subject to EPA approval. Also, the annual report for TMDLs and toxic algae have been reported and he will email copies to the board.

Agenda item 8: LSA involvement on and around the lake: Ken and Greg presented ideas for potential LSA sponsored activities and LSA projects for Lake Spokane. It was noted that the recent kayak trip down the Little Spokane River was a success. Future activities discussed included dam tours, picnics at the boat in only campsites, tours of the CSO reduction project sites around town, and hikes to areas like Knothead Summit. The dam tours have been well attended in the past. Possible dates for tours were discussed and it was decided that the dam tours were best in the spring when flows are high, possibly May or June. A tour of the CSO project was also planned for Fall, September if possible. Greg will contact Marlene Feist for this.

The idea for creating trails in areas around the lake for walking, hiking, horseback riding, and biking was discussed. Speed noted that Avista would welcome these types of trails on their property to enhance public use. Ken added that organizations like Back Country Horseman and the Low Impact Mountain Bike groups might be interested in helping with construction of these trails. Ken will contact these associations regarding this proposal.

Agenda item 9: Suncrest Chamber of Commerce: Jan reported that she attended the last meeting. She met the chair, Leah Noble. They have about eight businesses plus the Fire Department who are members. Their primary annual project is the 4th of July firework display. They meet monthly on the first Wednesday at 11:00. Jan plans to continue to attend the meetings as an LSA representative.

The question was posed as to when and why the name of Long Lake was changed to Lake Spokane. Galen noted that there are several lakes in the state of Washington that are named "Long Lake" this caused confusion. In the 1980's the State Legislature passed a law to rename the Long Lake near Spokane. It was henceforth to be called "Lake Spokane".

With all business completed the meeting was adjourned at 8:30 pm.