

Board Meeting Minutes
Lake Spokane Association
July 11, 2018

The July board meeting was called to order by president, Greg Weeks, at 6:30 pm Wednesday July 11, 2018 at the Avista cottage meeting room. Other board members present were: Ken Carmichael, Sean Bunnis, Galen Buterbaugh, Becky Cresswell, Jan Jenne, Gail Dede, Bunny Cardon and Speed Fitzhugh from Avista.

Agenda item 1: Jan presented the May 9 meeting minutes for approval. The minutes were approved. Jan will provide a Word Document to be placed on the LSA web site.

Agenda item 2: Ken-Treasurer's report: There was a total of \$55 in membership dues received to date since the May meeting report. There have been no expenditures.

Riverside State Park report: Tomorrow is the state meeting in Vancouver regarding the long term boundaries and long range planning for Riverside State Park. Over the last few months there were local meetings for public input regarding these issues which will be considered at the state meeting. Several LSA board members attended a local meeting. The public is welcome at the state meeting as well.

There was a brief discussion about State Park areas such as Sontag Park, the DNR campsite, boat in only campsites, and the Fiske property that are on or near Lake Spokane and are of interest to our members. The state meeting will take into consideration the information gathered at the local meetings in their long range planning for Riverside State Park boundaries.

Agenda item 3: Becky- Membership update. Currently we have 52 paid members and 210 on our email list who have been paid members in the past.

Agenda item 4: Greg-Reported that the Nine Mile Dam Tour sponsored by LSA in April was well attended with 45-50 people who made the tour. The tour, guided by Avista employees, took participants to all levels of the dam and out on the lower deck where they could view the waterfall over the dam from below.

Agenda item 5: Gail reports on the LSA Facebook page. She says we have 544 followers to date. She continues to post relevant information for those who use Lake Spokane. Her most recent post was information about the road work to begin on the Long Lake Dam road and its impact on the use of the picnic area there.

Gail received a complaint on June 30th through the Facebook page regarding the boat in only campsites. It seems that there are those who leave trash and generally take the area over showing no regard for others who would also like to use the sites. Also, there have been those who access the sites on motorcycles which is not supposed to be done. Gail forwarded the comments to Greg and Avista personnel. Speed acknowledged that State Parks is aware that there have been some problems. There is a shortage of personnel to monitor the activity in these areas. The sites are small so a resident camp monitor is not feasible. There is an ongoing effort to address the issues and provide for an enjoyable experience for all users and neighboring landowners.

Agenda item 6: Jan reports that Lake Spokane Parks is in the process of submitting grants for park improvements. Their current focus is to fund a playground at the Eagle Bluff Park.

The Lake Spokane Chamber of Commerce hosted the Fourth of July celebration in Suncrest. It was an all day event starting with breakfast. There was an all day car show at the middle school along with booths and vendors. The day culminated with a spectacular fireworks display after dark. The entire event was very well attended.

Agenda item 7: Galen reports that the SRRTF has contracted with a new company named White Bluff Consulting to organize and facilitate their meetings. They will arrange and direct all meetings including recording the minutes. They will also manage the web site.

The SRRTTF will continue to investigate the source of the increase in PCB's in the stocked rainbow trout in Lake Spokane. The trout are tested for PCB levels each year after being put into the lake. A possible PCB source could be the lake sediment. They will continue investigating this.

Galen has officially begun monitoring for algae in Lake Spokane. He reports that Fred Mashtare from Suncrest Park Association and Victoria, the new manager at Willow Bay, will watch their areas and notify him of any sign of algae growth. He notes that this will be an interesting year due to the low flows and rapidly rising air temperatures. He requests the board members to watch their areas and notify him of any algae growth.

Another item of interest was that one of the local TV station's news broadcast showed a video of a hypodermic needle found on the sandy beach at Suncrest Park. There hasn't been any further mention of the incident.

Agenda item 8: Weed management- Sean reports that weed spraying by Lakeland Restoration occurred on July 10th. Results are pending. Lakeland added chemicals to their treatments this year and the increased water temperature coupled with low flows favor effectiveness.

Fishing and Grebe report- Fishing has been good, especially Walleye. Avista released trout in June and will release more later in the season. The Grebe nesting is up about 150 percent over last year.

Agenda item 9: Avista- Speed reports that there have been some personnel assignment changes at Avista that will affect LSA. Chris Moan will now be overseeing the weed program, and Mac Mikkelson will be attending our meetings as the Avista representative. Speed will be assuming a new role with Avista.

Speed also noted that a public newscast reported that the newly elected Premier of Ontario Canada has fired the chairman of the board of directors for Hydro One and that the entire board has resigned. This development could affect the pending sale of Avista to Hydro One.

Greg announced that the National WALPA meeting will be in Portland September 26-28. The focus will be on harmful algae blooms and weed management. He requests that board members might consider attending. Scholarships may be available.

With all business completed the meeting was adjourned at 8:15 pm.

Bunny Cardon, Secretary