

Meeting Notes Hayden Lake Watershed Association Inc.

May 28, 2019 Hayden Lake City Hall 9393 Strahorn Road, Hayden Lake ID

Board members present: Geoff Harvey, Acting Chairman, Gloria Lund Treasurer, Barbara Neal, Will, Neal, Jan Wilkins. Absent: Bob West, Merlin Thykeson, & Chris Meyer. Forrest Walker, sitting in for Todd Walker and Mary Ann Stoll.

Meeting called to order at 6:30 PM

Additions to the Agenda: Discussion of changing Association's Name
 Board Candidate recruitment

The Board was updated on the Navigational Buoy MOU between Kootenai County and the Hayden Lake Watershed Improvement District. The changes from the original draft were reviewed and the decision to accept this portion of the entire program planned. The District has signed the MOU and the county commission had it on its Tuesday, May 28th agenda for approval. Merlin's son, The sheriff's deputy and Cory Koerner have developed GPS positions for the fourteen buoy locations the sheriff's office believes most critical. If or once the MOU is signed the next step is for Kootenai County to make application to IDL for encroachment permits to place the buoys. The District will then hire a contractor to place them, while Kootenai County Parks & Waterways will oversee there proper construction and placement.

Part of the navigational buoy program is a companion educational program. Jan Wilkins and Mary Ann Stoll presented the draft plan. Key to the education is the fact that the buoys are placed to assist the public and law enforcement in the application of already existing 200 feet no wake limits. The strategy was discussed broadly calling for a post card to be sent to the 1000 lake owners, a brochure to be handed out at the boat docks and possibly billboards at the boat ramps, Honeysuckle and Sportmans. Wording, a possible slogan and potential photographs were discussed. Jan will revise and the revision attached to these notes. Once the revisions made a short paragraph or so long synopsis will be provide to Commissioner Duncan to show we are making progress on the educational plan. It was moved by Barb Neal to allocate \$500 for post card printing and mailing, second Gloia Lund. The motion was approved. For any billboard approach the City of Hayden and IDFG will need to approve. Mary Ann will contact a Hayden City Councilman, and Geoff will talk with Chip Corsi of IDFG.

The Board then turned to the part of the overall strategy not attained with the MOU: the weed free navigational channel in the North Arm north of Henrys Point and a no wake limit (five mph minus) outside the weed free channel. This was left out of the MOU because such a change will require regulations change by the county commission and there is a greater likelihood of push back by lake users. The Board discussed a petition approach to making the political statement to the county commission that these regulations are desired by lake owners and are necessary to protect the quality of the lake. The merits of a written versus on-line petitions were discussed. The petition should be ready for the annual meeting in August. The petition should be taken to all the road association meetings on the lake's north end. Jan and Mary Ann would do most of this liaison work. Geoff will draft a petition. Part of an envisioned "State of the Lake" talk at the annual meeting should include justification for the North Arm weed free channel and no wake regulations. Any argument for the channel and no wake regulations should include the deleterious effect of motorboats stirring the North

Arm bottom sediments and the invasive weed growth spread necessitating the use of herbicides more broadly in the lake. Another Weed Summit may also be required to bring the agencies and Commissioners on board with the approach.

Weed harvest or skim this year was discussed. The skim/harvest would occur after ISDA completes all their herbicide treatments. The Watershed Improvement District has budgeted \$7,000 for a weed skim/harvest this year.

The Board took up the idea of changing the public name of the Association. The problems that exists is the general public and even some who should know better have a tough time differentiating the Watershed Improvement District from the Watershed Association. The Watershed Improvement District is a governmental entity named in Idaho Code and existed well prior to the creation of the Watershed Association. Hence if a name is changed it must be the Association's. Any change in name will not affect the Association's nonprofit corporate status. The Hayden Lake Watershed Association Inc. would remain the parent organization and documents would be filed with the IRS that the Association is doing business under the new name. Names like the Hayden Lake Basin Protection Partnership and Hayden Lake Basin Alliance were discussed. The Basin Alliance appeared to have more support but the Board agreed that this matter should be passed by the general membership at the annual membership meeting.

Development of new brochures was discussed. The replacement of certain photographs with others was discussed. Barb Neal will be supplied photos by Forrest Walker and others to replace some of the pictures of Hayden Days and the Beach Presentation. Completion of this task will be delayed by a potential name change of the Association.

Gloria Lund will supply Barb Neal the tax number information necessary to complete the Allegra Footprint Grant.

Participation in Hayden Days on July 26th & 27th was discussed. Board members volunteered to help man the booth. Barb was given a check to cover the registration fee.

There was no update from the by-laws sub-committee.

A quick review of the status of the Forest Service's Honey-Badger Project was given. The project is moving towards the public scoping process. Geoff Harvey is serving on the collaborative sub-committee representing the Association. The Collaborative sub-committee is working with the Forest Service on the project. The sub-committee is assisting the Forest Service in development of its electronic story board that will appear on line to introduce the project, its objectives for the many resources and prime the publics scoping input. This story board should be up electronically in the next month or so. Honey-Badger is certainly a topic that should be covered in ant "State of the Lake" talk. Geoff would like to have an understudy on the Honey-Badger planning effort.

The Board discussed Association leadership positions. Geoff Harvey has officially left the Watershed Improvement District's Board and will assume the Association's presidency if confirmed. Jan Wilkins has

agreed to take up the vice-presidential position. The Association needs a new secretary and eventually a new treasurer. The Association needs new blood on the Board as well. Some names were discussed. The point was made that a representative of Mivoden the basin's single largest private owner would be very useful. Geoff will follow up with Mivoden's leadership.

The annual meeting was discussed. The date will be in the first two weeks of August based on what the Hayden Lake Country Club has available. Barb Neal will follow up with the country club. The point was made that the Association will need the large room. Tentative list of talks: State of the Lake; ISDA on Weeds, District and/or sheriff's marine patrol on buoys.

The Association needs to find qualified candidates sensitive to the Hayden Lake's and its watershed's need to serve on the Lakes Highway District, Hayden Lake Sewer District and eventually the Hayden Lake Watershed Improvement District Boards. Candidates the Association can back in upcoming elections. Some names were mentioned. Geoff Harvey will approach Sheila Gerry about heading up a sub-committee to seek out and assist candidates the Association can endorse and urge its members to support.

Having no additional business the Board adjourned by mutual consent at 8:35 PM.

Outline for education and outreach in Phase I of Navigational Buoys in Hayden Lake

Summary: The Hayden Lake Aquatic Weed Workshop, held in March of 2019, has led to the successful negotiation of an MOU between the HLWID and Kootenai County. Although several layers of County oversight have been added, (i.e. the Sheriff's department and Division of Parks and Waterways,) the District is going forward with underwriting the permitting, purchasing, installation and maintenance of the buoys.

The first MOU does not authorize the channel buoys for the north arm, though the District and the Association will continue to work for a separate agreement regarding these buoys. It is our impression that the county will be slow to approve the second round of buoys until they can measure the success and drawbacks of the first round of buoys.

Our association has recognized the need to educate the public in concert with the introduction of the buoys. While many residents will applaud the efforts to control weed proliferation and shoreline erosion, others will resent their interrupted views, and our efforts to curtail speeds and limit access in shallower and narrower points of the lake.

It is our hope that by understanding the purpose and necessity for limiting shoreline erosion and weed proliferation, that residents and users may be less likely to "pushback," and may in fact attempt compliance with existing County regulations regarding NO Wake Zones and required distances from docks and shorelines. (The buoys do not represent additional or new regulations, they are simply markers for existing wake zone distance requirements.)

The Association has considered the following as methods of public education:

1. Send a color postcard mailer to the 1,000+/- households on the lake; Printing and mailing costs will be about \$500. This could feature photos of weed proliferation and blue green algae infestations at our lake or others. (Before/after?) One thing to emphasize on the mailer is eventual loss of property values, and inability of sheriff and fire boats to get to weed infested areas.)
2. Use the postcard as the basis of a "brochure" that can be handed out at the public docks, homeowners and road association meetings, boat shops, schools, rotary clubs, realtors, and others. We are visualizing a paper folded piece, (also in color,) that would be cheaper to produce.
3. Using the same "talking points," information would be released to social, and radio media.
4. Produce Informational Billboards which can be posted at the public docks.
5. "Present" at public events i.e. Hayden Days, neighborhood picnics, HOA meetings, etc.

Content Development:

1. Talking Points: It is important that we identify the most salient "talking points" for all our literature, media and public discussion and that those talking points are used repeatedly. Our message must be clear and concise: Examples, but these are open for discussion:

Eye catching "Slogan": Be Wake Aware-Protect Hayden Lake

OR: Size Does Matter - How big is your wake?

New buoys on the lake are a cooperative effort of the Hayden Lake Improvement District and Kootenai County to indicate speed and no-wake zones around Hayden Lake.

- a. "Its the Law" (Summary of existing regs)
- b. These regs are in place to protect human, lake and property well being
- c. Results of non-compliance: shoreline erosion adds to and stirs up damaging sediments, which fuel the potential for dangerous blue green algae bloom, (a neurotoxin for humans and animals.) This infestation has caused the complete closure of other lakes.
- d. Illegal wakes within the 200 foot zone spread weeds that wash up and root in shallow areas.
- e. Chemical weed control adds unwanted chemicals to the lake water and negatively affects the 500+ households that rely on the lake water for household use.
- e. Weed proliferation and decay contribute nutrients which fuel blue green algae growth.
- f. Invasive weed species contribute to the decline of fish habitats.
- g. You can/may be legally liable for damage to docks and other personal property.
- h. Tampering with the buoys is illegal and will be prosecuted.

2. Photos: These will be essential for production of print materials:

- a. algae bloom
- b. weed bloom
- c. "dead lakes"
- d. kayakers or other boaters coming out of the water covered with weeds.
- e. damaged property (before/after damage?)
- f. others?

3. Anecdotes: Human interest quotes that people relate to!

- a. local lore; example- "used to be able to see bottom of lake, now only muck and weeds"
- b. health concerns: "granddaughter can't visit because swimming is prohibited due to weed control chemicals."
- c. "My friend had a dog that died after being exposed to blue green algae."

4. Partnerships: Identifying businesses and individuals who can help underwrite or spread the word about our activities.

- a. Printer/Graphic designer?
- b. Boat Shops
- c. realtors
- d. Hayden Lake Yacht Club and other clubs, (HLCC?)
- e. others?

What can you do to help:

- 1. If you fill your ballasts, do it in the deeper parts of the lake away from shorelines.
- 2. Be aware of your wake and stay 200 feet away from shorelines and docks- THESE ARE THE NO WAKE ZONES
- 3. Observe the speed limits; (5 miles per hour in the NO WAKE ZONES)

4. Remove all weeds from your boat and trailer when you exit the lake and dispose of them. Do not put them back in the lake.

For more information, visit our website at: haydenlakewatershedassociation.com or email us at HLWA@maxmail.net