

Bass Lakes Area Environmental Partnership

27 September 2022 - Board of Directors Meeting Minutes

- Commence: 1458
- Adjourn: 1624
- Location: Lisa Adams' home and Zoom
- Attendees:
 - President: Lisa Adams
 - Vice-President: Tom Shear
 - Secretary: Heidi Haskins
 - Treasurer: Ruthanne Gilbert
 - Director: Linda Irmscher (Zoom)
 - Director: Jeanne Kavanagh
- Agenda:
 - Insurance Policy Confirmation
 - Little Bass Lake continuous Dissolved Oxygen (DO) approval for upcoming meeting with DNR (Lisa Adams 29 Aug 22 email)
 - MI Inland Lake Conference Lessons Learned
 - DNR Wakeboat recommendations issued (Lisa Adams 16 Sep 22 email)
 - Michigan Invasive Species Grant Program (MISGP): should we apply (Lisa Adams 16 Sep 22 email)
 - Email service upgrade
 - Any Other Business
- Insurance Policy Confirmation

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- insurance policy document received; emailed to Ruthanne and Heidi; retained on file with Ruthanne and Heidi
- Little Bass Lake continuous Dissolved Oxygen (DO) approval for upcoming meeting with DNR (Lisa Adams 29 Aug 22 email)
 - Lisa exchanged emails with Dan O’Keefe of MSU extension regarding probability of Cisco presence in Little Bass Lake due to one being caught in Little Bass Lake during winter of 2021-2022
 - Lisa to update draft of riparian options to reflect addition of benthic mat implementation
 - Ruthanne to reach out to contacts regarding burlap sourcing options
 - Jeanne to send previously collected burlap specification and cost info to Ruthanne
- MI Inland Lake Conference Lessons Learned
 - Lisa to forward presentation slides once received
 - Lake Leelanau benthic mat project presented project info
 - overall project feedback was positive
 - project summary:
 - 2020: covered 2.4 acres; 1.8 of 2.4 acres were covered using burlap, remaining area was covered with synthetic mats which were ultimately removed from project due to challenges removing
 - 2021: covered additional 1.1 acres with burlap; DASH was removed from scope of project because it was not performed prior to laying burlap; increased scientific rigor by partnering with Grand Valley State University representative; added use of drones, burlap maintenance, additional staff and divers; modified plant life re-vegetation process
 - 2023 and beyond: intend to continue to hand pull and maintain burlap barrier maintenance, implement educational events, have a boat wash and educate regarding nutrient loading
 - Lisa asked if burlap was applied to effectively to areas of drop-off; response was yes, but required additional weighting on shallow side mat

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- burlap cost was ~\$6000 per acre (purchased from Dayton Burlap); burlap degradation begins within first year with weave loosening; by second year weave begins to fail
- during second year indications of native plant regrowth found in burlap covered areas
- entire Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS) management budget at Lake Leelanau was \$200K
- question regarding boat anchor usage was addressed; they marked the area with buoys and boaters avoided the area
- Lisa was given the contact info for Lake Leelanau project coordinator
- clean, drain, dry survey discussed
- water words that work: How to get scientists to communicate with the public
 - words/phrasing to avoid
 - email communication techniques
 - 6-7 words that get the best response
 - videos - keep less than 3 minutes
 - avoid too much information and details
 - use before and after images....a picture says 1000 words
- Joe Nohner “Wood is Good” presentation
- review of fishing response
- Erick Elgin & Jo Latimore of MSU Extension gave three part presentation for understanding DO and aquatic plant restoration post AIS control
- Eric Collabro of EGLE presented regarding waterside construction activities
- series of five minute presentations
 - grant fund options
 - funding lake ecosystem management
 - fish habitat grants

- MISGP
- Michigan Glacial Lakes grant programs
- Introduction to Lakes course offered by MSU
 - course starts in January, runs through March
 - registration is \$95 if completed by 19 Dec 22; registration is \$115 after 19 Dec 22
 - Proposal made, and seconded, for BLAEP to offer to reimburse 50% of registration fee for any Big Bass and Little Bass Lake riparians who register before 19 Dec 22 deadline to participate in course. Unanimous board approval of proposition.
- DNR Wakeboat recommendations issued (Lisa Adams 16 Sep 22 email)
 - wakeboat information from DNR, University of Minnesota, MLSA attorney letter all posted to BLAEP website
 - DNR recommendation is to operate wakeboats in Michigan waters greater than 500 feet from the shoreline and in water depths greater than 15 feet
 - Lisa will forward information with Big Bass Little Bass Lakes Property Owners Association Leadership to continue to facilitate information sharing opportunities between the organizations. Wakeboat operation actions or restrictions are outside the scope of BLAEP.
- Michigan Invasive Species Grant Program (MISGP): should we apply (Lisa Adams 16 Sep 22 email)
 - MISGP is reimbursement based program. Reimbursement typically takes 45 days to process. Ten percent project cost match is required by grant recipient. Project duration is one to three years and should be wider in scope than a single geographic location.
 - Discussion held regarding potential to restore car wash located in Irons for boat wash usage for patrons of Irons-area lakes. Deemed out of scope due to real property of car wash would not belong to BLAEP and could be used for profit for real estate owner.
- Email service upgrade
 - current email distribution list is 297 addresses and functionality is starting to degrade
 - Ruthanne recommended exploring Google for businesses; Lisa will explore options

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- Proton Me has packages for non-profits
- researched options to be discussed at future meeting
- Any Other Business
 - Proposal made, and seconded, to purchase one quarterly subscription to Grant Watch (a grant clearinghouse service) for \$90. Board unanimously approved. Jeanne is point of contact.
 - Proposal made, and seconded, for development of sub-committee focused on searching and applying for grants that BLAEP is eligible for. Board unanimously approved.
 - Proposal made, and seconded, to identify grant writer (volunteer or paid service provider) with stipulation that funds are not currently allocated. Board unanimously approved
 - EarthGives.org had 33 participating organizations as of 27 Sep 22; Jeanne will continue to watch participation and donation rates through the season for future determination if it is donation solicitation service for future years
 - Treasurer Report submitted; retained on file

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- In-progress tasks:
 - Assign POC within group for each grant we may be eligible for.
 - Assigned POC conduct provide summary of grant, review to validate criteria met for grant, and generate initial draft of grant application paperwork required.
 - (Lisa Adams) State Representative Constituent meeting schedule
 - Internship development discussion
 - Michigan Anglers and Boaters pamphlet acquisition and placement locations.
 - (Lisa Adams) Bass Pro Shops - Cabela's Outdoor Fund report due upon conclusion of grant period