



District of Powers Lake NEWSLETTER

Published for all those who use and love Powers Lake

OCTOBER

2010

DPL ANNUAL MEETING

The annual meeting was convened as dictated by our by-laws on the first Friday of August, 2010. Some of the items covered are as follows:

Presentation

Mark Kordus, from Bonestroo, gave a presentation on our treatment plan for Eurasian Water Milfoil (EWM) and Curly Leaf Pondweed (CLP). The results from the treatment as determined by the pre- and post-treatment surveys were excellent. As some background, in 2007 we had 84 acres of EWM on a surface area of 459 acres at normal water levels. In 2009, we treated 71 acres using Bonestroo as our new applicator and used a liquid rather than granular treatment. Due to our success, note the small remaining areas which needed to be treated.

2010 treatment results:

3.75 total acres of EWM pre-treatment
0.36 acres post
0.64 total acres of CLP pre-treatment
0.18 acres post

As per our grant, we will be doing these treatments and surveys for the next 2 years. Treatment of CLP is a 3 year process using a different chemical but combined with the EWM treatment. The local and state DNR staffs are very impressed with our program and results. We should now see increased diversity in the 15 native plants. Those seen this year were healthy and diversity/density was good.

Resolution and Certificates

Included are a copy of the resolution and lists of organizers and past and present commissioners.

Golf Gifts & Gallery Rezone

The District of Powers Lake recently learned that Mr. Dean Chudy has applied to rezone a parcel adjacent to his Golf Gifts & Gallery from R 1 to M 1. He plans to erect a 60,000 sq. ft., 3 story high distribution facility. We experienced a groundswell of negative feedback from our District members on this issue. At our annual meeting, members asked to be heard relative to Mr. Chudy's application to rezone. While it was not on the agenda, our Chairman opened the floor to discussion on an advisory basis. Many

seriously concerned members expressed distress over the following:

1. Resident safety is jeopardized by the current use of the Golf Gifts & Gallery distribution facility. Currently, eighteen wheel tractor trailers frequently traverse our narrow Class B county roads. These winding residential roads have no shoulders or curbs. There is simply no room for the long trailers to take the sharp turns without crossing both lanes and/or endangering those using the roads for recreation. Neither the roads nor the culvert for the lake's outlet is built for these heavy trucks.
2. The District of Powers Lake was not consulted about the possible short term and long term impact to the water quality of Powers lake.
3. We believe that this rezone is inconsistent with the County's 2035 Comprehensive Plan and SEWRPC's Management Plan for Powers Lake.
4. Therefore, it appears that this rezoning is a violation of the State's Smart Growth law.
5. An amendment to the Comprehensive Plan appears to be required.

The annual meeting of the District of Powers Lake unanimously approved an advisory resolution in opposition to the application to rezone. Further, in a letter, we urged Walworth County Board of Supervisors to consider the legality of their actions in granting a rezone and asked them to conduct a hearing on the issues raised above.

Subsequent to the scheduled August 11th meeting, we were pleased to be able to update our members who have signed up for email updates that the item was removed from blanket approval and opened for discussion. The Walworth County Board voted 7 to 4 to send the item back to the zoning board. We had a good attendance at the meeting but no public comment was allowed on zoning issues that have already had a vote.

The next zoning meeting was August 19th. Once again, no public comment was allowed but we had good attendance in spite of this. At this point, the zoning board could have approved, denied, or

decided a public hearing is necessary before final action. A number of supervisors commented on the many phone calls and emails they had received from Powers Lake residents. They reversed their position and scheduled a public hearing when we will be allowed to speak. This reversal demonstrates the strength of citizen input with elected/appointed officials. Without our participation, we believe this certainly would have been given blanket approval with all other zoning requests.

The public hearing is October 21st @ 5:30 p.m. in the Board Room at the Walworth County Government Center located at 100 W. Walworth St., Elkhorn, WI.

We have a petition already signed by 146 residents. We will surely need your phone calls/emails/letters closer to this hearing. Please go to the website and sign up for updates. It is www.districtofpowerslake.org.

We will send contact information for the supervisors for you to contact. Why not plan a long, fall weekend at the lake and come and join your neighbors in this effort? Once again, your participation is essential. We need a strong turnout at this meeting. Thank you for your support in our continued effort to protect and preserve Powers Lake and our quality of life.

Election results

Jim Michels was nominated for election and was unanimously voted into office for another 3 years. He will continue as our chairman.

Tax Levy

Our proposed tax levy was changed from \$30,000 to \$26,000.

2011 Annual Meeting date was set for Friday, August 5th at 7 p.m. at Randall School.

In addition to the boat inspections currently being conducted at our DNR ramp, we thought you might be interested in what is going on statewide. The following is a portion of an article by Bob Wakeman of the DNR.

Wardens will shift from education to enforcement

Madison - Surveys at boat landings across Wisconsin in summer 2010 show that 96 percent of people say they are following a new law to prevent the spread of Eurasian water-milfoil and other aquatic invasive species. But a few are leaving boat landings with aquatic plants attached, potentially putting scores of lakes and rivers at risk. From May through late July, 182 people were observed arriving at boat launches with aquatic plants hanging off their boat trailers or boats, or

driving away from boat launches at the end of the day with invasive plants attached, according to statewide reports entered through July 25th by boat inspectors and DNR Water Guards. Boat inspectors advise the boaters of the law and how to comply, but they do not have authority to issue warnings or citations. Survey results are available on the Department of Natural Resources website.

Chief Conservation Warden Randy Stark says that such numbers will spur conservation wardens and Water Guards to shift from educating boaters about the new law, to enforcing it. "Given the extensive media coverage and boater surveys at the landings showing high public awareness of the new law, we'll begin transitioning to enforcing the law by issuing citations to those individuals who, by not complying, can erase the excellent efforts of the vast majority of boaters."The complete article can be found at:

http://dnr.wi.gov/news/DNRNews_article_Lookup.asp?id=1484

Adopt a Lake Program

At our June meeting, we had an interesting presentation from Karen Reddin. She had received a DNR grant to attend a workshop and received a \$400 model groundwater display to use in her program. She demonstrated how it teaches the students the importance of groundwater and how our actions on the surface can affect our drinking water supply. She also received a core sample similar to the soil in the Randall area making it especially relevant to her students. Good weather accompanied this year's day at the lake and the enthusiasm of the students continues to be high.

Great Holiday Gift Idea

"The First Hundred Years", the history of Powers Lake, Lake Benedict and Tombeau Lake from 1830 to just before WWII. Written and researched by Dee Wells, it contains many pictures, plats and interesting stories. At \$25.00 tax included, this non-profit publication is available at the Wells-Osborn Spiral Stairways in Genoa City, Solid Brass Fine Antiques on Broadway in Richmond, and Uncle Ed's on Powers Lake. You can also order by mail from Dee Wells, P.O. Box 133 , Genoa City, WI 53128 for \$30.00 to cover postage. Dee is working very hard to have the second volume ready in time for Christmas!

Quarterly Meeting

Our next meeting will be held Friday, October 1st, at 5:00 p.m. The meeting is open to the public at the Randall Town Hall, 34530 Bassett Road, Bassett, WI.



RESOLUTION of the District of Powers Lake
Counties of Kenosha & Walworth, WI

WHEREAS, an "Ad Hoc Committee of Powers Lake" met during 1984 to discuss the formation of the District of Powers Lake and held one or more public meetings; and

WHEREAS, the District of Powers Lake was formed on February 19, 1985 by the adoption of Resolution No. 168 by the Kenosha County Board of Supervisors, Kenosha, WI; and

WHEREAS, the District of Powers Lake currently consists of 5 elected and 2 appointed commissioners as provided for in the By-Laws of the District and in the statutes of the State of Wisconsin; and

WHEREAS, the District of Powers Lake in cooperation with the Southeastern Wisconsin Regional Planning Commission created "A Management Plan for Powers Lake" in November 1991; and

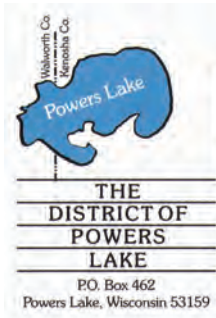
WHEREAS, the original organizers and successive commissioners of the District of Powers Lake have been proactive in the management of the District and the implementation of the Management Plan; and

WHEREAS, the District of Powers Lake has from time to time faced challenges from the natural and human environment, but has relied on the input and support of the members of the District;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the District of Powers Lake considers the service of the organizers and the past and present commissioners of the District to be an invaluable resource and acknowledges the service of those persons (listed separately), and takes this opportunity to extend its sincere appreciation for their past and present service as memorialized by a certificate of appreciation and service presented at this Annual Meeting of the District.

Adopted this 6th day of August, 2010

BY: _____, Secretary
District of Powers Lake



Elected Commissioners:

Jim Michels, Chair
Nancy Michael, Sec.
Brooke Jensen, Treas.
Neal Kuhn
Colleen Keating

Appointed Commissioners:

Judy Jooss, Kenosha Co.
Mark Halvey, Randall Twp.

LIST OF ORGANIZERS AND COMMISSIONERS 1985 – 2010

Organizers

Robert Tucker, Chairperson
Rowland Laughlin
G. S. Wadina, M.D.
William Lynch
Donald Werner
Larry Michael
Tony James
Lynne James
Robert Rieder
Maggie Brady

Appointed Commissioners

Kenosha County:

George Melcher
Judy Jooss

Town of Randall:

Maria Augustyn
Bob Gehring
Barb Reitz
Dennis Maki
Bob Stoll
Mark Pelz
Rose Nolan
Ken Mangold
Mark Halvey

Elected Commissioners

Bob Tucker
Roland Laughlin
Larry Michael
Don Werner
Jerry Christenson
Kim Kipp
Jim Michels
Lee Kozie, Jr.
Paul DeMichele
Edmund Burke
Mary Keating
Bob Laurine
Brooke Jenson
Pat Miller
Gil Kroll
Nancy Michael
Neal Kuhn
Colleen Keating