

GLA ANNUAL MEETING Minutes
Saturday, July 29, 2017 Fontana, Wisconsin
Big Foot Country Club, 9:30 a.m.

WELCOME —President Goggin called the meeting to order at 9:30 a.m. and thanked the attendees for their support. He welcomed Senator Nass; Representatives Amy Loudbeck and Tyler August, other invited speakers; members; and guests. Goggin reminded the membership of the Mission of the GLA, noted the involvement of the GLA in addressing the ‘Muck Suck’ race, and expressed pride in the scholarship awardees and the work of the Environmental Education Foundation, an affiliate organization.

MINUTES FROM THE ANNUAL MEETING, JULY 30, 2016 —A motion to approve the minutes was passed (Taylor/Larson).

TREASURER’S REPORT — Treasurer Robin Randolph reported another successful year. Unexpected expenses of approximately \$15,000 for legal fees to address the ‘Muck Suck’ race were offset by approximately \$10,000 in special donations for that cause. The GLA committed nearly \$5,000 toward the effort. A substantial anonymous unrestricted donation increased GLA income again in the fiscal year, but for the sake of a conservative budget it is not included in the budget for 2017-2018.

NOMINATING COMMITTEE REPORTS —Nominating Committee Chairman Gee nominated the following, which were approved:

EEF Directors for three-year terms ending in 2020: Linda Ciaglia (2nd term), Bill Duncan (2nd term), Harold Friestad (1st term), Toni Harkness (1st term).

Additionally, Doris Frentress for a 1st term ending in 2018, and Mary King for a 1st term ending in 2019. Approved (Gee/Williams).

GLA Directors with three-year terms to expire in 2020: David Anderson, Dianna Colman, Tricia Forbeck, John Goggin, Lynn Grayson, Scott Craven Jones, John Larson, William McClayton, and Donald Taylor. Additionally, Robert Klockars for a 1st term ending in 2018, and Karl Otzen for a 1st term ending in 2019. Approved (Gee/Morava).

Retiring members Margaret Farwell Goes, Baxter Phillip, Marie Kropp, and Robert Flannery, Jr. were thanked for their distinguished service on the Board.

EEF SCHOLARSHIP/GRANT PRESENTATIONS — EEF President Chuck Ebeling recognized the following 2017 EEF Scholars in attendance. Over \$33,00 in scholarships are awarded from donations of GLA members and others:

Heidi Lininger (High School Senior Scholarship, Badger)

Douglas Reuss (High School Senior Scholarship, Badger)
Hannah Peterson (High School Senior Scholarship, Faith Christian)
Christine Wen (Cashman Graduate Scholarship)
Brooke Berryman (Undergraduate Scholarship)
Shanell Budleski (Undergraduate Scholarship)
Derek Waulet (Dark Sky Scholarship)
Madeline Neubauer (Dark Sky Scholarship)

John Reynolds introduced the Thomas E. Reynolds Endowment Scholars, each of whom receives a \$12,000 scholarship over four years. The endowment from the Reynolds family in 1980 fully funds the awards:

Makalyn Peterson (Big Foot, Freshman)
Casey Burmeister (Badger, Sophomore)
Molly Cocroft (Badger, Junior)

President Ebeling thanked the EEF directors and donors.

ASSOCIATION HONORS —President Goggin announced the Honorary Directorship of James Hanny for his 38 years of service to the association. Hanny spoke of the numerous accomplishments of the GLA over the years, and emphasized how much good can be accomplished when people aren't concerned with who gets the credit.

PROGRAM SPEAKERS:

Senator Nass congratulated the scholars and noted that a state tuition freeze has saved students over \$6,000 in increased costs and possibly more in the pending budget. Nass and Loudenbeck co-authored a bill on beekeeping. The Foxconn project has been called a 'gamechanger' for Wisconsin and will be a 'lifechanger,' as technical schools and universities will provide programs to train vast number of employees. Nass noted that citizens can request automatic updates on the action of any pending bills in the legislature.

Representative August reported no major changes on water-related zoning. August spoke extensively on efforts to kill a waterski proposal eliminating the spotter in boats towing skiers, etc. August thanked Water Safety Patrol Director Pankau for testifying on behalf of the Geneva Lake area along with Lake Police officer Hausner. Their testimony about the density of boats on Geneva Lake will likely effect an amendment exempting Walworth and Waukesha Counties from the new law.

Representative Loudenbeck described her successful efforts to expand the services authorized by EMTs in an effort to decrease unnecessary emergency room visits, and to eliminate unnecessary work permit applications each time a youth under 18 changes or takes a new job. The budget should be providing property tax relief, investment in higher education, welfare reform, and transportation funding and DOT reform.

AFFILIATED ASSOCIATION REPORTS

Geneva Lake Water Safety Patrol —Ted Pankau spoke on opposition to the waterski proposal. Regardless of state regulations, Geneva Lake can pass more restrictive regulations. The problem is with educating boaters from out of town or out of state. Area flooding has caused some area lakes to enforce no-wake rules, which has brought more boaters to Geneva Lake where no wake was not prescribed.

Brigid Cashman reported concern regarding boaters riding on transom swim platforms while the boat is in motion. Member Darre reported the difficulty in seeing paddleboarders who do not wear bright PFDs. He suggested more to be done to educate them and the vendors on the danger.

The issue of noise from sound systems and the related issue of inappropriate lyrics in noisy sound systems was discussed. Pankau reports that while noise levels are limited by statute, they were originally purposed to limit exhaust noise, and according to Lake Police officer Hausner “it is difficult to enforce or prosecute” noise from sound systems. The WSP asks boaters to keep the noise down but cannot enforce it. Goggin suggested taking the issue to the Lake Use Committee.

Kishwauketoe Nature Conservancy — President Harold Friestad reported that the 230 acres survived the extensive rains. Four interns help to maintain the conservancy grounds. The conservancy is taking steps to get schools and very young children involved in nature clubs and events at Kishwauketoe. With the help of interns from Yerkes, Kishwauketoe has applied to become the first Dark Sky park in the state.

Geneva Lake Conservancy— Chairman Dennis Jordan reports great efforts over their 40-year history, preserving lands for conservation along the lake front and in other Walworth County locations, preventing obtrusive waterparks, promoting better shoreline regulations, and erecting signs denoting the Geneva Lake watershed. The GLC was pleased to join with GLA in opposition to the ‘Muck Suck’ race. The conservancy has a new, experienced Executive Secretary, and a ten-year plan for the further preservation of sensitive areas.

Geneva Lake Environmental Agency: Director Ted Peters introduced Hayden King whose summer internship was made possible by a GLA grant. GLEA is studying the effect of a retreating zebra mussel population and a related loss in plankton and other microscopic fish food. Geneva Lake ‘took a beating’ from the heavy rains, and the surrounding areas are so saturated, that additional rains move directly into the lake without being absorbed. Water clarity and quality is improving as the levels recede. Peters emphasized the importance of good shoreline zoning.

Real Estate Market Trends —Bob Rauland, from Rauland Realty, highlighted real estate market trends especially those related to lakefront and lake access houses. Bob provided a hand out with current statistics and maps of Walworth County lakes. The handout, produced with help from Realtor Bob Webster, is available from the Rauland office, and will be posted on the GLA website.

Town of Linn Fire Department: Chief Jason Smith reported that the Linn Fire Boat, purchased with funds generated by the GLA, has been used for training for many area fire departments, has answered many distress call, and a missing person call, and has helped with over 16 incidents on the lake. The department recently upgraded the sonar system to a 3D sonar. Goggin presented the Fire Department with a check for \$3,350, representing remaining donated funds from the GLA Fire Boat Fund.

Geneva Lake Museum: Jim Gee reported a vibrant Geneva Lake Museum currently working on a Northwestern Naval and Military exhibit with help from many alum and St. Johns in Delafield. The museum, which had 150 members five years ago, now has 700 members and a healthy endowment from which to draw.

President Goggin reported ongoing efforts by the GLA to further protect the Lake Shore Path, hereafter to be known as the Lake Shore Foot Path. GLA has been involved with the path since 1935 including signage for over 50 years. Approximately 23 recently revised and installed signs located in strategic positions around the lake, remind visitors that they are on private property. The GLA intends to amplify the language of the signs, ask the surrounding municipalities to accept the proposed path rules by ordinance, and reference strategically located riparian GLA lakefront owners on their tax key numbers. The purpose of the efforts is to prevent commercial events and maintain the historical purpose of the path as a foot path.

President Goggin adjourned the meeting at 11:05 a.m. on a motion by Taylor and second by Stuhley.

Respectfully submitted,

James A. Smith
Executive Secretary