

GLA ANNUAL MEETING Minutes
Saturday, July 30, 2016 Fontana, Wisconsin
Big Foot Country Club, 9:30 a.m.

WELCOME —President Goggin called the meeting to order at 9:34 a.m. He welcomed Senator Nass; Representatives Amy Loudenberg and Tyler August, Mary Panzer, other invited speakers; members; and guests. Goggin reminded the membership of the Mission of the GLA.

MINUTES FROM THE ANNUAL MEETING, AUG. 1, 2015 —A motion to approve the minutes was passed.

TREASURER'S REPORT —Robin Randolph reported a successful year with a gain of 17% in receipts and flat expenses compared to the previous year. We welcomed an unexpected large donation which helped.

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

EEF Directors for three-year terms ending in 2019: Mike Hinske (1st term), Barbara Kelly (2nd term), Mary King (1st term), Charles Ebeling (2nd term). Additionally, Carl Rathmann for a 1st term ending in 2018.

GLA Directors with three-year terms to expire in 2019: Brigid Cashman, Brian Griffith, James McAvoy, Robert Morava, Jr., Thomas Nichols, Dana Hagenah, Robin Randolph, Robert Flannery, Jr., William Duncan. Additionally, Lynn Grayson for a term ending in 2017.

EEF SCHOLARSHIP/GRANT PRESENTATIONS — After a few remarks by EEF President Chuck Ebeling, Tom Reynolds, Jr. recognized the following 2016 Scholars in attendance:

Casey Burmeister (Thomas E. Reynolds Endowment Scholarship)
Molly Cocroft (Sophomore Thomas E. Reynolds Endowment Scholarship)
Kylie Smith (High School Senior Scholarship)
Joshua Kundert (Undergraduate Scholarship)
Brooke Berryman (Undergraduate Scholarship)
Christine Wen (Thomas J. Cashman Graduate Scholar)
Kyle Bunne (Geneva Lake Dark Sky Scholarship)

ASSOCIATION AWARDS —President Goggin presented a memento to James Hanny for his 38 years of service to the GLA and other lake area associations.

PROGRAM SPEAKERS:

Senator Nass reported that while full repeal of the zoning changes in Act 55 is unlikely, some items are worthy of further discussion and change. Nass is striving to help local fire departments find qualified volunteers.

Representative Loudonbeck described a legislative proposal that would allow water-skiers to ski without a spotter in the boat.

Representative August reported that he and Loudonbeck had at least slowed down a hurried passage of the waterskiing legislation and were instrumental in helping the Geneva Lake Level Corp. to negotiate a solution with the DNR regarding operation of the Geneva Lake dam.

Mary Panzer spoke on the formation and goals of the Wisconsin Shoreland Initiative. The GLA joined the Initiative and made a grant to help it get started. It now has approximately 70 lake organizations united in the goal to return local control to shoreland zoning issues. The Initiative is seeking to educate the public and find ways to correct some of the excesses of Act 55.

AFFILIATED ASSOCIATION REPORTS

Geneva Lake Water Safety Patrol — Ted Pankau and Brigid Cashman spoke on the increase in boat sinkings, opposition to the waterski proposal, and boats drifting away from swimmers. Law requires the boat to be anchored while there is swimming or that a capable driver remain in the boat.

Kishwaukee Nature Conservancy — President Charles Colman described the hundreds of visitors to the conservancy, its ongoing maintenance and future projects, and its great value in protecting Geneva Lake.

Geneva Lake Conservancy— Charles Colman reported that the GLC has expanded to cover Walworth County, and has hired a professional Executive Director with land trust experience. The GLC is watching the lake path issue in the legislature, and will inform the GLA when information needs to be disseminated to members.

Geneva Lake Environmental Agency: Director Ted Peters introduced Cassie Taplin whose summer internship was made possible by a GLA grant. GLEA is studying the effect of a retreating zebra mussel population on the lake bottom and its creatures. Concerns include a reduction in plankton and a potential invasion from the Great Lakes of another aggressive mussel.

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.

ADDITIONAL REPORTS

Goggin reported that the GLA was instrumental in helping to insure that legislation negotiated by the GLLC protecting local control of the Geneva Lake Level was not subject to veto. The GLA was able to help the Geneva Lake Museum with a grant supporting its air conditioning project. The Linn Township Fire Department is training firefighters from surrounding communities on use of the fireboat, which serves, most importantly as a pumping station with unlimited water. Colin Griffith was noted as the impetus behind the Geneva Lake Dark Sky Initiative, scholarships for which are funded by the Griffith family via the EEF.

President Goggin adjourned the meeting at 11:08 a.m. on a motion by C. Colman and second by D. Taylor.

Respectfully submitted,
James A. Smith