

WASHINGTON STATE LAKE PROTECTION ASSOCIATION
Board of Directors Meeting
December 12, 2005
Bellevue, Washington

ATTENDEES:

Present: Sally Abella, Beth Cullen, Tricia Shoblom, Bob Roper, and via telephone – Bijay Adams, Marianne Barrentine, Peter Burgoon, Glen Rothrock, Ray Latham, Paula Rudberg Lowe and Sean Ultican.

Absent: Debra Bouchard, Barry Moore, Stephanie Woolett, Isabel Ragland, Pete DeArteaga and Harry Gibbons

Call to order

President Sally Abella called the meeting to order at 6:05 p.m. at the Bellevue DOE

Agenda Changes

None

Secretary's Report

The minutes from the September meeting should be changed to reflect that Glen Rothrock was absent. Minutes were approved after that correction was made.

Treasurer's Report

The new format of the report shows the net inflow and outflow of cash, not the total balance at the end of the period. Sally will ask Debra if it's possible to get the total balance on the report for next time. It was moved, seconded and passed to accept the Treasurer's report.

Committee Reports:

By-laws

There was a discussion regarding Article IV, Section D: the membership by-law. Two options for changing the membership dues by-law were presented by Isabel in an e-mail. The first change is to remove the word 'not' from the by-law, leaving it to read "annual membership dues are pro-rated". The second option was "annual membership dues are pro-ratable; those joining during the second half of the year will pay half the annual dues." Glen brings up the point that this change should apply only to new memberships. It was hoped that the pro-rate option would encourage new members to join rather than to wait until the start of the new WALPA year. Bob R. suggested that we adopt the second option with the change "new members" so the new article would read "...annual membership dues are pro-ratable; new members joining during the second half of the year will pay half the annual dues." This new by-law change was moved, seconded and passed. The new membership by-law will be sent to the general WALPA membership for vote. It was decided that an on-line vote would be easiest and Bijay will check with our

NALMS representative to see if the vote can be administered from the WALPA webpage. For those not on-line, Sally Abella's phone number will be given to take votes by phone. Sally will check with Isabel regarding the rules for a member vote, and Paula will put an announcement for the vote in the next Waterline.

Public Policy and Legislative

Harry, Sally and Tricia were in Olympia participating in the discussion regarding changes to the new DOE aquatic weed permit, and presently there is a 60 day waiting period before treatment of a new, noxious aquatic pest. Harry wants to know if there is a reason to lobby for a reduction of the 60 day waiting period to the minimum 38 days for cases of newly discovered noxious weeds. Ray asked if there is any way to do it faster than 38 days. Tricia will look into the possibility of an "emergency" permit or waiver granted for newly discovered noxious aquatic pests. There may be a precedent set in Lake Washington recently for an emergency treatment permit. Tricia and Ray will look into whether the 38 day limit is in a WAC or a RCW. There was also a question about whether the legislature must be in session in order to enact such measures— especially important for emergency situations.

Elections

The WALPA board needs to start thinking about replacements for the outgoing members. Everyone is charged with bringing one new name or recommendation to the table. The Board members who will end their two year service this year are Bob Roper, Marianne Barrentine, Sean Ultican, Ray Latham, and Peter DeArteaga. Isabel Ragland will end her appointment as secretary. The new positions available for filling are five board members, president and secretary. It is possible that Debra may also seek replacement as Treasurer. Beth will make a point of seeing if there are any citizens who would like to be a part of the Board, Peter B. mentioned checking with groups associated with Moses Lake and Lake Chelan, and Bijay will check with Liberty Lake. Bob recommended Dan Smith from Federal Way as a Board member, and Sally suggested Gene Williams from Snohomish County as President. The board is to submit names to Pete D. and cc Sally on the e-mail.

Waterline / Publications

Paula will ask Harry to write a piece on public policy for the next Waterline. Taylor Associates is continuing to write the lake articles, and Paula will check to see if Carla and Heidi (Taylor Associate employees) are interested in continuing with this work. Paula will get someone from Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife to write the spring fisheries report for the next Waterline. It's a smaller issue – only four pages. Glen noted that an article on Lake Pend Oreille was planned and offered help with getting up to date information and good contacts. Peter B. talked about the annual advertisement contracts: the prices for these contracts need to be updated with Paula's new numbers, based on changes to creating and printing the Waterline. Once Peter B. updates this he will send out an e-mail to the board to review the costs.

Membership

Marianne proposed changes to membership and conference fees with reduced rates for lake association individuals. Bob presented the rationale for new conference registration prices and membership dues for professionals, students, individuals, Lake Associations, and individuals who belong to a member Lake Association. It was decided that everyone who comes to a conference should become a member of WALPA, with the exception of invited speakers, who will have a choice. Professional costs will go up slightly- \$30 to become a member, \$85 for one day conference registration and \$140 for two day conference registration. Individuals with a lake association which is a WALPA member go down - \$10 to become a member, \$55 for a one day conference and \$100 for a two day conference. The new proposed fee schedule outlined in the chart below.

		membership	membership
	only	conference	conference
	membership	2-day	1-day
students	15	75	40
individuals	20	130	75
individuals (Lake assoc)	10	100	55
Professionals	30	140	85
Lake Associations	40		

There was a motion to accept these new changes, which was seconded and approved. According to the by-laws the board can set the annual membership dues each fiscal year., so the changes do not have to go to a membership vote. There was concern that the new membership fees can not be enacted this year because of the regional conference. It was suggested that Paula should send out a renewal notice in April and then pro-rate dues for new members who join at the time of the regional conference. Individual members can take advantage of the new rate if their lake association is part of WALPA. There was a motion to send out renewal notices with the new fee structure along with membership packets in April, which was seconded and approved. The discussion regarding conference fees is tabled until there is more information about costs and the committees suggested fee structure.

Annual Conference

Bijay asked for feed back on the preliminary program and suggestions for topics to cover. Beth noted that it is important to have sessions that are applicable to lake associations and citizen members. She brought up the possibility of doing a session on grants. The board responded positively to this suggestion. It would be important to have separate information available for grant opportunities for each state. Not clear where a grant session would fit – either as a third break-out session or in the “hot topic” portion of the conference. Bijay will talk to Joe and OLA about this possibility. A suggestion was made to have a speaker who can teach how to write grants. Other ideas for sessions are to have consultants speak about specific problems in the ecosystem, recycle some of the more popular topics from previous years, and Sean suggested having someone give a presentation about the Mt St Helen’s lakes in the blast zone.

The lunch time speaker this year might be Russ Sadler – an Oregon resident /historian/free-lance writer. He has reported on issues from salmon populations, effects of development and restoration to impacts of global climate change.

Bijay gave an update on the planning of the meeting. They have secured a hotel, the University Place Hotel in Portland. There are three possibilities for conference meeting areas – George C Hoffman Hall, which is a large lecture hall that can have 250 to 300 people – the Smith Student Union, which has break-out rooms and is the ideal location if we can get it – the final option is the Science Building 1 which is a back up should we not get the student union and be used in conjunction with Hoffman Hall. More will be known in January and Bijay will update us. OLA is leaning towards a very general theme for the conference.

TJ Sisson has talked about having Hatch participating in the regional conference. They would like to do their bracelet promotion , with each purchase triggering a \$1 donation to a different lake association. They would like to underwrite the name badges, but it was felt that the name badges should be WALPA and OLA oriented. They also suggested doing the pre-conference mailer and invitations. Paula or NALMS will probably send these out, as it is important to keep the mailing list secure.

Scholarships

The issue of where and when to do the scholarship awards has been brought up since the conference is moving to September this year. OLA doesn't give scholarships, so WALPA is the only organization affected. It was thought that staying on the same schedule is beneficial, continuing to recruit and reward scholarships in spring and then possibly invite the awardees to the conference in fall. If awardees are unable to attend in fall perhaps they could present their work by sending a poster to the conference. To accommodate the 2005 scholarship winners, we need to survey them to see if they are willing to present at the regional conference, if not perhaps the following WALPA conference. Bijay will follow up on this.

Old Business

Lake Association List

Bob R. finished the lake association list and has distributed it to several Board members. He would like updates/corrections from Board members. In the case of multiple listings, an inquiry card will be sent to that lake association to identify the best contact for that group.

Website

Bijay will update the website with the new by-law changes, web links for our advertisers and put the scholarship form on-line.

Note: The next meeting is tentatively scheduled for Monday February 13, 2006. Location/date may change based on Bellevue DOE conference room availability – stay posted. If anyone has a facility with a phone bridge or conference call capability that could accommodate up to 7 callers, please let Sally know!