

NLLA Board 3/13/2025

Quick recap

The team discussed the effectiveness of AI companion for meeting minutes, the treasurer's report, and the status of membership. They also explored the idea of allowing members to renew their membership or pay dues via credit card, and discussed the placement of buoys to mark shallow areas in the lake. The board also reviewed follow-up items from their January meeting, discussed water testing costs and frequency, and planned for the annual meeting.

Next steps

Harris to look into Butter payment processing system and work with Patrick on electronic payment options for membership dues.

Martha to connect Harris with their Lake Association treasurer regarding Butter payment system.

Patrick to inquire about payment processing options at MMFCU.

Chuck to gather more data on water testing costs and get input from Sarah at AW Labs.

Harris to reach out to the Water Patrol contact from last year regarding buoy placement.

Martha to email Brad for input on buoy placement.

Chuck to talk to Sullivan's about the number of boats coming in and using their facilities.

Becky to finalize welcome bags for new members and show a sample at the next meeting.

Harris to put together a layout for annual meeting signs.

Becky to research and purchase 8-10 signs for the annual meeting.

Board members to think about how to recruit more board members and AIS committee members.

Martha to write content for the newsletter about boat inspector positions and Voter Safety class.

Becky to write content for the newsletter about highway pickup.

Board to discuss and finalize annual meeting agenda at the April meeting.

Summary

AI Companion and Treasurer's Report

The team discussed the effectiveness of AI companion for meeting minutes, with Martha and Harris sharing their positive experiences. They also reviewed the treasurer's report, which showed a net gain of \$11,000 for the month, with no outstanding bills. The team approved the treasurer's report and discussed the status of membership, with 175 paid members contributing an average of \$55 to the Ais fund. They also addressed issues with undeliverable invoices, with 7 being resubmitted with new addresses.

Exploring Credit Card Payment Options

Harris proposed the idea of allowing members to renew their membership or pay dues via credit card, which Martha and Rod supported. They discussed the potential benefits of this, including increased membership and ease of payment. Patrick suggested making it easier for members to update their information. Harris will look into using PayPal and the option of Butter Payments Incorporated. The board agreed to explore these options and consider implementing them to increase membership.

Buoys for Shallow Lake Areas

The group discusses the placement of buoys to mark shallow areas in the lake. Harris suggests placing buoys 30-50 feet from the point to indicate unsafe areas, rather than marking navigable channels. The group agrees this approach reduces liability. They plan to measure water depths and consult with the sheriff's Water Patrol about permits and placement. The discussion then shifts to creating walleye spawning habitat, but Harris expresses concerns about the high cost and questionable effectiveness of such a project given the lake's characteristics.

Board Follows Up on January Items

The board discusses several follow-up items from their January meeting. Patrick has completed the PLM contract signing and 990N form. Chuck attempted to reserve the Marathons clubhouse for summer meetings but encountered new insurance and cleaning fee requirements; they are awaiting a decision on waiving the cleaning fee. Rod has arranged for a speaker from Crowing County Land Services for the annual meeting. The board reviews the annual meeting schedule, allocating 20 minutes each for two speakers from 11:00 to 11:40, followed by lunch and the business meeting, with plans to adjourn by 12:30. They also mention receiving a year-end water testing summary report from Sarah, though Chuck expresses surprise at its cost.

Lake Monitoring Recommendations and Sampling

Chuck discussed the recommendations from Sarah Aw Labs regarding lake monitoring. He suggested continuing the current monitoring process and possibly taking on some of the sampling tasks themselves. Rod expressed interest in assisting with the sampling process. Harris suggested focusing on monitoring the potential introduction of AIS at boat landings and questioned the usefulness of frequent water quality testing.

Water Testing Costs and Frequency

The board discusses water testing costs and frequency, with Chuck proposing to gather more data and potentially reduce testing to save money. Harris suggests targeted testing after rain events. The

group also reviews calendar events, including AIS permit applications and grant funding status. Harris requests articles for the spring newsletter, and Becky suggests asking members to report new property owners. Rod shares insights from his research on non-paying members. The board considers including information about setback rules and other requirements in the newsletter, possibly with input from a land services representative. Becky proposes sponsoring members to attend an AIS detector workshop, and the group discusses the deadline for newsletter submissions.

Photographs, Highway Cleanup, Lake Vegetation

In the meeting, Harris and Chuck discussed the need for photographs for the newsletter and the possibility of involving Chuck's daughter. They also discussed the highway cleanup and the need for information about it. The conversation then shifted to the lake's vegetation, with Chuck and Becky agreeing to forgo the treatment of curly leaf pondweed this year due to low growth. They also discussed the need to survey the three landings twice a year and the potential for adding other sites. Harris raised a question about the extent of the survey, which was left unresolved. The conversation ended with a discussion about the value of surveying the two boater hangouts, with Harris expressing doubts about its usefulness.

Lake Survey and Cleaning Sign Installation

The team discussed the potential risks of transient boats entering the lake and the need for surveys to identify any invasive species. They agreed to gather more specific information from the surveyors about their inspection process and to consult with local resorts about the number of boats coming in. The team also discussed the installation of cleaning signs at various lake access points, with two locations confirmed and a third pending. The welcome letter and bylaws were finalized and will be included in the welcome bags for the annual meeting. The team also discussed the upcoming picnic and the need to finalize the meeting agenda.

Annual Meeting Planning and Board Changes

The board discusses plans for the annual meeting, including creating signs to be placed at various locations. They decide to order 8-10 plastic signs with details about the meeting date, time, and location. The board also plans to send out email notifications about road cleanup, the annual meeting, and boat inspector job opportunities. Chuck announces his intention to sell his house and resign from the board after the annual meeting, highlighting the need to recruit new board members and strengthen the AIS committee. The board agrees to mention the need for new members in upcoming communications.

AI can make mistakes. Review for accuracy.