

LITTLE SISS SHOREOWNERS ASSOCIATION

May 24, 2003

President Renner Johnston called the meeting to order at 9:15 A.M.

Everyone present introduced themselves.

Minutes of the August 31, 2002 meeting were approved as written.

Mike Skwira gave the treasurers report. There is currently a \$2339. Balance in the account, however \$1166.62 will be taken out for the ½ year taxes.

David Sirianni gave a trust fund report. Overall account balance is approximately \$64,000. David said the interest on the fund currently covers what we need every year for taxes. The balance is held in reserve for any unseen expenses to the island.

Anyone that has not contributed to the fund is invited to do so.

Jim Kissinger brought up the idea of checking into a land trust (a non-profit organization set up to help save and protect land for future generations). He will check into finding a representative to come to our Aug. meeting.

Del Anderson reported there are 2 pairs of Loons on the lake and that we have an overabundance of pan fish and need to get rid of some to keep a good balance. He also mentioned that Orioles love grape jelly if you are interested in attracting them.

Minimum size to keep a Bass is 14", Muskie is 34"

FYI: Black bears have been sighted in the area.

Chuck Abrams reported that according to the DNR, the culverts have been installed 18" too low. On April 18, a measurement was taken and we are still waiting to hear the result and what will be done. The road is scheduled to be paved in June, so any corrections need to be done before that. Some feel the lake has been too high. Sand Lake has agreed to extend the culvert 2 feet and put in a baffle to correct the problem. Harold Kissinger has been talking to them about the culverts.

Greg Kissinger said the DNR will advise lakeshore owners how to prevent lakeshore erosion. Speed limit and no parking signs will be posted on the new section of the road.

The Kreofsky memorial bench has been purchased and Renner has offered to install it on Stout Island.

Chuck Abrams brought up the idea of a Little Siss web site. The site cost is \$500., and \$25./yr. For the domain. Leslie Kreofsky mentioned a site she has that might work.

The Fourth of July parade/picnic will be held on 7/5 starting at 12:00 noon at the boathouse.

Alice Kissinger encouraged everyone to recycle as much as possible and mentioned some collection locations in the area.

The annual Lakeshore Owners Association Conference will be held on Fri., June 27 if anyone is interested in attending.

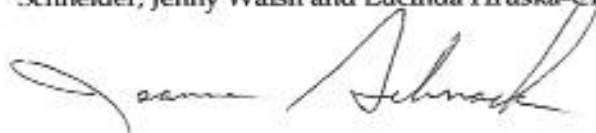
Telemark Lodge in Cable is hosting a 4-day Wisconsin Woodland Owners Association conference in September.

It was suggested that we try and stay out of the north bay of the lake while the Loons are nesting.

Leslie Kreofsky reminded everyone to have their life jackets, fishing licenses and boat registrations, the DNR will tag you if you are on the lake without them.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:25 A.M.

Present: Renner & Jane Johnston, Tom & Jeanne Schnack, Mike & Karen Skwira, Don & Adele Garretson, Del Anderson, Leslie Kreofsky, Dave & Diane Cook, Jim & Alice Kissinger, Chuck & Carol Abrams, Patrick Corcoran, Greg Kissinger, Mark Johnson, David Sirianni, Armond Schneider, Jenny Walsh and Lucinda Hruska-Chaey.



LITTLE SISS SHOREOWNERS ASSOCIATION
AUGUST 30, 2003 MINUTES

President Renner Johnston called the meeting to order at 9:10 A.M.

Minutes of the May meeting were approved as written.

Renner introduced Marvin Nordquist- Edgewater Township Assessor who answered questions about the recent assessment. He stated that the price of lakeshore property has gone up 3 1/2-7 times and that the last Edgewater assessment was in 1995. He said if we average out the increase in taxes over that eight year period, it puts the increases in the proper perspective. Stout Island meets all the requirements for tax exemption. As it stands now, unless there is a public landing on the lake, it is taxable. He suggested we contact our county representative to discuss it. Marvin values Stout Island at \$250,000. because he feels "it's an extension of our lakeshore property since we all have access to it". He stated that "desirability of the land" definitely impacts the value and the taxes. He named the following lakes as "desirable" lakes in our area; Round, Owin, Grindstone, Big Siss, Little Siss, Big Sand, Big Stone, Nelson and Courte Oreille. He also stated that the largest % of our tax dollars go to schools in the larger cities of Wisconsin. He suggested we have a representative attend the school board meetings to have more of a voice in how our tax dollars are distributed. We need to check and see if we as property owners, have a vote in local elections. Marvin hopes to keep future increases to 3-4 %.

Jim Kissinger introduced Roger Rickard from the Gathering Waters Conservancy. He explained that the conservancy is statewide and its purpose is to; promote private land conservation, support land trusts in building professionalism & building capacity, educate policy makers, encourage legislation to enact tax incentives that encourage conservation, and develop and conduct training sessions for public officials, attorneys, land owners, appraisors and assessors. A land trust is non-profit, community(locally) based, tax exempt and it's objective is to help conserve our natural resources. Roger then listed land trust objectives, types of property protected by them, why landowners love land trusts and available tools/options. He then listed four possible options for managing Little Siss/Stout Island.

David Sirianni stated that the recent assessments on Stout Island are probably fair and that we need to realize that these increases in taxes cover several years. One solution is for all shoreowners to contribute \$50.00 to cover the tax increase. It was decided that the Lakeshore Association would use the endowment fund as it was set up two years ago, for the next two years, and the trustees will review possible ways to cover the shortfalls. Sawyer county has a copy of the deed to Stout Island and it was suggested that we check to see if Frank Stout mentions in the deed that the island can never be changed.

Chuck Abrams reported on the culvert problem which is still in the township's hands. Harold Kissinger reported that he has heard that the DNR just has to come up with a

design solution for the culvert. The next Sand Lake town meeting is on the 9th of September. It was voted that we send a letter to Robert Lang. (Sand Lake Chairman of the Board) requesting him to enforce the original prescribed DNR lake level, requesting a response by Oct. 1.

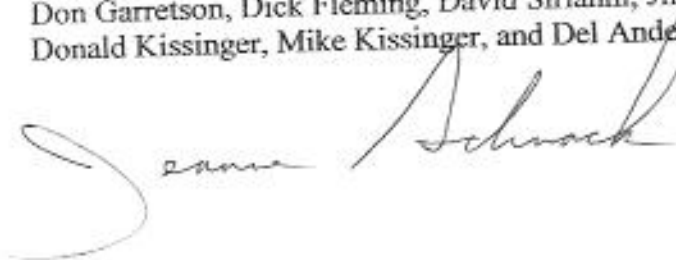
The DNR was on the lake last night.

Del Anderson stated that the DNR does not recommend restocking Little Siss right now. It was mentioned that Northern Pike are coming up through the flowage. Del recommended that we keep any size Northern Pike and pan fish that we catch and not release them. There is no size limit on Northerns on our lake.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:20.

Respectfully submitted,
Jeanne Schnack

Present: Renner & Jane Johnston, Chuck & Carol Abrams, Mike & Karen Skwira, Tom & Jeanne Schnack, Edward and David Cook, Marlo & Connie Schield, Lucinda Hruska-Claeys, John Montgomery, Paul Krolak, Dave Krolak, John & Janet Amato, Ellen Frazer, Don Garretson, Dick Fleming, David Sirianni, Jim & Alice Kissinger, Harold Kissinger, Donald Kissinger, Mike Kissinger, and Del Anderson

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Jeanne Schnack". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned below the list of attendees.