

LRIA Annual Meeting April 24, 2017 - 7 p.m.

Call to order at 7:00 p.m. by President Bob Adomaitis

Introductions

Agenda Approval- approved

Approval of 2016 Meeting Minutes- approved

Correction of Treasurer's report will be in 2017 minutes.

Brief Introductions

Guest Speakers:

Riley Purgatory Bluff Creek Watershed District Administrator, Claire Bleser

• Curly Leaf Pondweed, Eurasian Water Milfoil, and Alum treatments

Last year was a big year because of the Alum treatment. This was a split dose. The District is continuing to monitor Lake Riley to determine when the 2nd alum dose will be. Will be looking at phosphorus levels, taking cores of the lake to test the chemical balance. The expected life-span is 5-10 years before needing the 2nd dose. In total, the District hopes this will be effective for 30 years. The WD district has paid for the first treatment at the cost of about \$250,000.

The District has also done electro-fishing to test if the carp population control is working. If you see those nets on the shoreline they are testing the fish population, varieties, and making sure the carp don't resurge. Want the bluegills to eat the baby carp population. It has been stable for the last few years.

Ray will address our lake vegetation issues, but Claire wants us to know that we will be notified that the District is treating for curly-leaf and milfoil again. ****notice has been posted on lakeriley.org***

— Some questions arose from residents about whether the milfoil treatment was applied correctly, according to the map. Several noted that in the areas treated at their lakeshore it was NOT effective. Claire responded that they went back to treated areas the day after treatment and some of the narrow treatment areas showed a rapid dissipation of herbicide, thus not as effective as they'd hoped for. This year they will treat in larger areas to maximize the effectiveness. All parties involved are evaluating the best areas and methods for maximum effect.

Working on 10-year plan, and will release the draft in the fall for public comment.

Claire noted that the District now has postcards of Lake Riley, and a rain barrel sale: \$84 + tax, to put by your downspout.

—Question arose about Lake Restoration and individual herbicide treatments: Not sure whether DNR is letting them give residents permission to treat with chemical aquaticicide, but the District and U of M would prefer not. In any case, it will be up to the DNR and Lake Restoration.

The watershed District still has cost share programs for rain gardens, plus they'll give technical assistance. Please contact them if you have questions for landscaping. City of Eden Prairie has programs as well.

Claire encouraged anyone interested to check out the updated [Lake Riley Fact Sheet](#).

The watershed District has moved offices - SW corner of Dell and Lake Drive. The District board meets on 1st Wednesday of every month. All are welcome to come.

Professor Ray Newman, U of M

• Vegetation Assessment of Lake Riley

The aim of the Dr. Newman's project is to restore native plant community to help maintain aquatic habitat and water clarity. Native plants are very important to our lakes- they provide fish habitat, water clarity, habitat for fish food. A repopulation of native aquatic plants in Lake Riley - that is the end goal!

The invasive plants do well in poor quality water. Natives do better in clearer water. The Alum treatment in 2016 was done in the hope it would lead to clearer water and give natives a better chance to compete, especially in deeper parts of the lake.

By 2010 carp were removed from Lake Riley. Curlyleaf pondweed treatments have taken place from 2013 - 2016 and milfoil treatments in 2015 & 16. The treatments have kept curlyleaf in relative check. The milfoil treatment also led to good suppression. In 2013 the native plant assessment was very poor. We now have native plants in about 70% of the lake now - that's a good increase in biomass of native plants. One caveat - we do have coontail, and although it is a native, it's not the most desirable. It is not rooted. Dr. Newman is looking for the rooted native plants.

Last year, in the narrow treatment areas, the herbicide dissipated quickly and was not as effective. Ray and his team will re-examine their strategy and very possibly focus treatment in larger blocks of areas where it can be more effective. Last summer we also saw a lot of filamentous algae, which is not so desirable. But Lake Riley was not alone: many, many lakes had an abundance of it, not just us.

The first invasive lake weed to surge in spring is coontail and curlyleaf, then in mid-June we'll see milfoil. This spring they will treat for curlyleaf and milfoil again. Treatments are dependent on water temperatures many feet down from surface- needs to be gauged carefully given the changing weather temps. Post-treatment they will monitor the clarity of the water and plant response. They will consider transplants of desirable native lake plants in 2017 and 2018 (from other local lakes, with permission from DNR) if natives do not continue to increase, and will concentrate in the north and west bays. We will put this presentation on our website. ****slideshow has been posted on lakeriley.org***

Eden Prairie Parks and Recreation Director, Jay Lotthammer and Matt Ord, Parks and Natural Resources

• Riley Lake Park Major Make-Over

We have 4 major larger parks in Eden Prairie: Miller, Round, Staring, Riley. They have learned a lot from the work and renovation on the other lake parks, that they will apply to this Riley renovation.

Theme of the Riley renovation is “Resident’s Resort.” This renovation will try to provide this amenity for all residents. Est. budget is \$800,000. In the last phase in 2014 the ballfields at Riley were extended. The Pioneer road-widening project took some land, but now the city has acquired what used to be the old residences. This has been on the radar for 20-30 years.

In considering this phase of Riley Park renovation, safety and accessibility were of prime importance. There is not good traffic flow and poor sight lines currently. Main ideas for re-design:

Resident’s Resort.

Safety.

Circulation.

Environmental improvements.

Will have native plantings in rain gardens. A new beach building is planned for in a future phase of work on Riley Park, with changing facilities included.

In this plan the beach will be a little expanded, with a small boardwalk area. There will be seating areas with Adirondack chairs by the lake. Lets Go Fishing will still operate from dock, but the seating areas will provide more space for those folks for waiting.

The city partnered with Hennepin County and will be putting in a boat cleaning station - it will use compressed air, not water, and will have all the tools needed to clean the boats. Will add new parking, going from 17 - 23 boat parking stalls. Trying to get away from boat trailer parking on Pioneer Trail. Better circulation planned around the boat launch.

— There was much discussion of the different ways the boat trailer parking has been handled over the years, and the problems with too many boats and dangers of boat trailers parking on Pioneer Trail. Our membership urged the city to do more research into what can be done to minimize the problem of too many boats and trailers.

There will be designated picnic areas. Will have room for a food truck. Have worked hard to keep most of the trees, but there will be a few taken down, esp. near the LRT trail.

The boat launch will be closed for several weeks, probably during August. The timeline will be posted on edenprairie.org - [parks and recreation page](#).

LRIA Members share summer of 2016 weed-control measures

Lake Rake - Hired someone to rake the lake bed, pull up the weeds and let the weeds dry on shore. Was very effective.

LakeScape - scuba divers. Did a fabulous job for many of us on the south shore. Very reasonable, very effective. This company will allow you to hire them for one time or multiple times per summer.

—Ray Newman responded to a question about whether we should be clearing plants from our shorelines. He said that if a defined area of weeds is cleared by raking or pulling for boat access and swimming, it's really just fine. It's better than the indiscriminate nature of the aquacades that kills everything and is harder to control both the application accuracy and the drifting in the water.

Weed roller - hefty up front investment, but really works. Costs about \$3000. Covers 21 ft. You need a DNR permit to run one. After 1 year, no problems yet with the mechanics.

Report from AIS Monitoring Committee - Scott Bryan

This is a Hennepin County project, and will need volunteers to take some minimal training (not to be confused with the Watershed District, who also has a monitoring program.) Will send out a notice when we get more information on what this volunteer position entails.

Navigation Buoy Placement - Issues and concerns

John Bushey put 2 buoys out, but may need help finding the 3rd rock area. Let John know if you feel they need better placement. It's not an exact thing and John welcomes help with it.

Fish-Stocking Update

Last year we put in 3500 walleyes. Perch are being caught now, that were stocked several years ago. Some big walleyes have been caught! It's possible that they are reproducing, given the years we have not stocked them and the size that are being caught.

LRIA General Business

• Treasurer's Report from Shelly Manning

Annual dues are \$20. Fish stocking is an extra, voluntary donation into a fund that is kept separate.

2016: Members - 63

Fish Stocking Fund - \$2,360

Ending Balance - \$12,516.55

2017: Members - 68

Fish Stocking Fund - \$915

Ending Balance - \$9,775.28

- **By-Laws Changes**

It was proposed by the outgoing and incoming board to make changes to the bylaws to more accurately reflect how this association actually functions. After a brief discussion, a motion was made to accept the proposed changes to the bylaws. The vote was unanimous to make the changes. ****amended bylaws have been posted on lakeriley.org***

- **Election of Officers**

President - Ryan Majkrzak

Vice President - Bryan Maloney

Secretary - Laurie Hable

Treasurer - Bob Kruempelstaedter

Motion accepted to accept the proposed slate of officers - voted and approved.

Additional committee members endorsed:

Fish Stocking - Greg Hastings with Marc Hope

Technology - Jake Petersen

AIS Coordinator - Scott Bryan

Social Committee - Deb Bryan and Lisa Adzick

Motion to adjourn, adjourned at 9:25pm.