

Fall Creek Inland Lake Protection & Rehabilitation District

Minutes of Meeting

July 22, 2020

1. **Call to Order:** 6:00 p.m., Keller Park, 535 N State St., Fall Creek
2. **Roll Call: Members Present:** President Dane Zook, Matt Mattoon, Karen Strasburg.
Members Absent: None. Also Present: Buzz Sorgi (retired DNR Water Quality Specialist) and several citizens.
3. **Certify Open Meeting Law Requirements Have Been Met:** A notice of the meeting and an agenda was posted in the three public places and newspapers were notified.
4. **Adopt Agenda:**
 - MOTION (Mattoon/Strasburg) to adopt the agenda as printed. PASSED, without negative vote.
5. **Restore Fall Creek Pond:**
 - A. **Discuss Progress-to-Date:** President Dane Zook stated that the committee has set a goal to offer the community a cleaner pond area. Buzz Sorge stated the pond is a valued community asset, full of opportunities for residents and visitors today and in the future. He asked, "What is the community vision for the pond, what are our goals and what do you need to accomplish?" The following issues were deemed important from previous meetings:
 - Water quality: nutrient levels are hypereutrophic
 - Weeds: continue to grow
 - Algae: produced annually
 - Recreation: is somewhat limited
 - Sediment: needs to be managed in the pond basin
 - Water fowl: should be controlled and limited
 - Fish: needs additional habitat to thrive
 - Questions about sediment removal, chemical treatment, reduction of birds, regular harvesting of weeds, and the cost of doing these projects
 - B. **Discuss Plans for Future:** The Inland Lake District is taking the lead on the restoration project. With the aid of Buzz Sorge, the committee is trying to write a plan that is believable and achievable, to manage sediment in the basin. Jody Loepsch of the DNR is working on plant studies and lake-bed mapping, Chris Willinger of the DNR is working on water quality and chemistry work, Joseph Gerbachek is working on fish recognition and habitat studies, and Greg Leonard-EC County Conservation is assisting, and Buzz Sorge is writing the plan and working towards permits. With the support of everyone and other community resources, Lake District funding, and ground work, grants have been applied for in several places and will continue to seek more. Everyone can play a part: local government, public works, Fall Creek Lions Club, Fall Creek Area Foundation, Fall Creek Fire Dept., Fall Creek schools, science groups, kids in grades 6-12, Wildlands School, Beaver Creek Reserve, Eau Claire County, WI Dept of Natural Resources, local business and citizens. The first steps have started with research and permitting requests, along with meetings with citizens. The next move is serious planning, and sediment trap cleaning.
The next meeting will be August 12 at 6:00 p.m. at Keller Park. All are again welcome.
6. **Adjourn:**
 - MOTION (Mattoon/Strasburg) @ 7:11 p.m.

Dane Zook, Recording Secretary