

LAKE MURRAY ASSOCIATION MINUTES
February 8, 2010

Dave Landis called the meeting to order on Monday, February 8 at 7:03 in Lexington, SC. Ralph began with a prayer thanking God for blessing Bill Wendling and his family and asked for guidance and inspiration as we met tonight. (Thank you, Ralph)

The minutes were taken by Louise Love and passed out to any who had not read them. They were approved unanimously. (Thank you, Louise)

Pat Wendling tried to express her thanks to all who have prayed, thought of and supported the journey that the Wendling family is taking as Bill recovers from his 'miracle' ruptured Aortic stomach aneurysms. The kindness and generosity shown is both humbling and deeply appreciated by her family...

The Treasurer's report was presented by Tom Ruple. The expenses total \$931.32 including normal expenses plus the fees to participate in the Boat Show this week. The report was approved unanimously.

OLD BUSINESS

Tour of Homes: Louise Love

An update on the progress with the Tour of Homes was presented. Louise has been innovative and sent out 20 lovely invitations inviting suggested/ nominated homes to be part of the Tour this year. To date, she has received two replies which were both declines. However, she will follow up with these replies offering a second invitation to join LMA, if they are not already members. (May want to check out their membership status with Tom before the call.) She will also ask them for another nomination, if possible.

- Stewart Mungo has offered his home for the tour, which is spectacular. Irby, deemed a fabulous angel, is working on a couple of more homes to add to the tour.
- If anyone has a house in mind that may be a good addition to the tour, please call or email Louise by the end of this week.
- Southern Living is interested in writing a piece on the Tour of Homes.
- Kay Gordon is working with Lake Murray Magazine to have a piece or two in their publication about the Tour of Homes.
- Stan Jones will be offering a discount on food purchased at the Quarter Deck by guests of the tour. They will use their ticket to receive the discount. It was decided the ticket price will be \$30.00. We will offer a \$3.00 discount for tickets purchased at the Boat Show and the Quarterly Public meeting on February 23rd.

The invitations are a new and fresh approach to securing homes for this very special and annual event. Three to four homes are critical to the success of the tour, so all are asked to aid in the process. Thanks to Louise and Irby for their hard work to date.

Brochure: Louise Love

A generic brochure noting the accomplishments and work of the Lake Murray Association has been developed to use as a tool to increase both awareness and membership. Several copies will be made in color. Anyone who would like to use this tool, please see Louise or Joy to secure a copy.

The Boat Show: Dave Landis/ Mike Murrell

The boat show will begin this week. The schedule will be sent out tonight or tomorrow, as Dave was having issues opening it on his computer.

- Each shift will have a minimum of 2 and a maximum of 4 workers. If there are any open spots (Sunday morning) please advise whether or not you can fill in.
- Poster “JOIN OR REJOIN” noting the donated prize of a ½ day Fishing Trip thru Lake World awarded to someone who joins or rejoins at the boat show. This is a \$300 value and many note it is a wonderful prize donated by Richard Hall. Roy will try to find Gretchen’s print of Lake World to display (and possibly sell) for a promo and thanks to Lake World.
- Talking points will be available at the booth. These will be updated by Dave. *Dave and Joy want us to communicate the work LMA had done on the re-licensing and the fact that we are the “Voice of Lake Murray”.
- Passes or Tickets will be available on Tuesday...Dave and Mike will be in contact to get these to everyone.
- Please wear your Lake Murray T-shirt or Sweatshirt with khakis or jeans as you work the booth. * Louise did note that you may still purchase sweatshirts or T-shirts and to remember they are Bi-sexual...interesting ...
- Ryan Westmorland will allow us to use his flat screen TV to display our updated power point showing our activities. Set up will be on Thursday at 1:30 with Mike, Don Tyler and Dave.
- We will be sharing a booth and working with Sea Tow to enable us to promote our association. They will be using the booth (8) we secured, but we will need to move our tables, chairs and carpet to their site for our use.
- If you have any questions, call Dave or Mike. IF for some reason you are unable to meet your scheduled time, please find a replacement and let Mike know who will be coming in your place.

NEW BUSINESS:

Public Meeting: Dave Landis

The next public meeting will be at the Saluda Ruritan Club on February 23, 2010.

- House Check Program that has police checking on your lake property should you be away is going to be explained and represented by Saluda, Lexington and Richland County Sheriff’s offices.
- Saluda County Grant will be explained by Rebecca Spratlin of DHEC. The overview of this grant is to reduce the fecal coliform bacteria found in the Little Saluda and Clouds Creek Watershed. They want to develop management practices for agricultural activities and septic systems in rural residential areas as well as addressing wildlife’s part in the fecal coliform in the water. This grant will be shared with Saluda County Planning Department, Clemson Extension, USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service and Saluda County Soil & Water Resource District. This came about because the little Saluda and Clouds Creek have been listed as having impaired water bodies with fecal coliform...they want to address this problem.
- Bill Argentari will update all on the Environmental Draft and let us know the decisions on the Low inflow outcome.
- There is a lot of pertinent and important information to deliver to this area at this meeting. We need to work to get people to attend the meeting. Flyers are being distributed by Ken Fox; Lee will try to get on the radio station in the area, invitations to

Rep. Marion Fry, Ronnie Cromer and the county commissioners to solicit their attendance.

Draft Environment Assessment: Dave Landis

We are waiting for this to come, shortly. It will let us see how close FERC stuck to the settlement agreement.

H452~House Bill 452: Irby Shultz

This bill is regarding a Water Withdrawal Permit. This bill is to ensure the protection for downstream users and the protection of our surface water. Water is in demand in all states to be used for industry and states want to claim or protect water for their state. SC is one of the few without a water plan in place and this is critical to all of us. We need to strengthen our protection of the water rights in SC. *McMasters is presently fighting NC on this same issue...it is a precarious position and one that can affect future issues with GA. Lake Hartwell is involved in protecting their water from GA.

- Irby reported that this bill was introduced on 2/19/09 and sent to committee on 1/28/10. The Senate will vote on it when a compromise is reached between stakeholders, per Debbie Parker.
- S.1072 and H. 4426 were also noted as a “water related” issue that honors our own Stan Jones of Lighthouse Marina. June 12, 2010 will be Annual National Marina Day in South Carolina to honor SC’s Marinas for their contribution to the community. This is to alert citizens, policy makers and employees to be aware of the overall contributions of Marinas make to their well-being. We are being asked to join hands with other states across the US to celebrate this day.
- Irby also passed out an information sheet showing how a bill becomes a law in SC. Thanks to Irby for a most interesting and organized presentation on water issues pertinent to all of us.

Membership Letter: Dave Landis

In a bold effort to strengthen our membership, Sharon took on a project to send a welcoming membership letter to all new lake residences. She sent out 200 letters welcoming these new residents encouraging them to join LMA. Tom will track these memberships to see the percentage that joined as a result.

- It was noted that there were extra copies of this letter for anyone to take to pass out in their neighborhood to encourage membership.
- Thanks to Sharon for making the effort to reach out to new people and to any who followed her lead. (It takes a “village”.)

Sea Tow Letter: Dave Landis

We have a copy of the letter that describes our new relationship with Sea Tow and what we can offer our membership. \$25 discount on a Sea Tow Membership by verifying your LMA membership and this continues as they renew each year. Once we have 150 LMA members join Sea Tow, they will give back a \$25 donation per member to LMA. This will be promoted at the Boat Show as we share a booth with Sea Tow.

401 Certification: Dave Landis

This will be discussed at a meeting at Saluda Shoals on March 11 @ 6:00 pm. Mark your calendars to attend. DHEC has the last word on the re-license. If you would like to speak, you will need to sign up ahead of time.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Environmental: Roy Parker

Roy provided information regarding an article that had been written stating that there were Mercury contaminated fish in Lake Murray. He interviewed Dr. James Glover regarding this article to validate or refute what was written. The information learned:

1. There is NO advisory against eating fish from Lake Murray.
2. The use of the words “mercury poisoning” incites danger and implies a medical emergency...(an irresponsible use of words according to Pat)
3. There is NO acute toxicity in Lake Murray from Mercury...this is expanded to none in the USA.
4. Mercury levels in fish increase when there is dry weather or a drawdown and is caused by accelerated mercury methylation fostered by bacteria in dry soils of the shore line draw-down area.
5. The guidelines for setting mercury triggers for issuing fish consumption advisories differ for many issuing agencies. For example, the following parts per million (ppm) levels are given for the following agencies for issuing advisories: DHEC 0.25 ppm, EPA 1.00 ppm, FDA 1 ppm, Florida 0.5 ppm and The World Health Organization, 1 ppm.
6. The average level of mercury found in fish taken from Lake Murray was 0.26 ppm and no advisor was issued.
7. The highest level of mercury found in a Lake Murray fish was in the biggest fish sampled and was 0.89 ppm. Large predator fish accumulate mercury as they eat smaller fish.

Conclusion: There is no problem with Mercury contaminated fish in Lake Murray and the problem is decreasing...and eat only little fish! Thanks to Roy for taking the time to investigate this issue as there are many fisherman who had concerns...Roy will see if Dr. Glover would be willing to speak at our Lexington meeting.

Government Liaison: Irby Schultz (Joy Downs)

Already reported.

Publicity: Kay Gordon

Kay has released news releases on the Saluda Public Meeting to all print media.

She will be writing a column for the Lexington County Chronicle about Chapin and Irmo. *This will be an inside source to promote LMA.

Membership: Amy Jo Jacobson/ Ryan Westmoreland

Amy Jo reported that the Lake Murray Chamber of Commerce held a great Shrimp Boil with good attendance from the LMA Board. This was a great networking opportunity and gained at least one new member. She encourages all to attend these opportunities as often as possible...it is a captive audience and comfortable way to enlighten all of LMA.

News Letter: Sharon Miles Articles are due February 27. Sharon has found a way to save us money on the printing of the newsletter by using a 20% off coupon and buying a non-profit stamp that will reduce the mailing to .11 cents from .34 saving us 23 cents each. The old covers will be recycled to newsletters that are used to hand out at meetings. No waste, saved money...excellent job, Sharon!

Nominating: Aleda Anderson/ Bill East

Aleda mentioned that Leo Whigham is a nominee for the Board and that we are waiting to hear from Sally Edwards. There was a motion to approve all for nomination on the next ballot including present Board members: Lee Barber, Joy Downs, Ken Fox, Dave Landis, Roy Parker, Don Tyler with Del Jenkins declining as he is moving away (bummer). The entire slate was approved unanimously with a spot for Sally once she responds to "the call".

Safety: Jay Schabacker

Jay Schabacher mentions that the boating season fast approaching steps up the need for Safety articles in the newsletter. He is looking for hot points that would like to be discussed thru a survey. Share any ideas with Jay.

- Duly noted that Lee Barber conducted a 6 hour class on how to traverse the Intercoastal Waterway- including when there is no visibility. Congrats on the success of the class and in surviving *no visibility!*

Special Events:

Already discussed Boat Show.

Projects: Ken Fox

Ken Fox did not have anything to report at this time.

Web Site: Tom Ruple

The hits keep on coming. We are still getting memberships off the website. Please look at the website and give your comments or ideas to Tom.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:37 with all eager to work and attend the Boat Show. We continue looking for new members and for new Board members with a concerted effort on filling the Publicity slot. Please think of potential houses for the Tour of Homes and thank you for all of your time, effort and help.