

WICOLA
White Iron Chain of Lakes Association
2006 Annual Meeting
June 17, 2006

The 2006 Annual Meeting was held at Silver Rapids Lodge starting with coffee and rolls at 10:00. John Niemela, hydrologist from Minnesota Power, opened the meeting with a presentation about the way the Winton and Birch Lake dams are used to control the water level on the White Iron Chain as well as for Birch Lake. His presentation was followed by a lively question and answer session.

Annual Meeting

After the presentation, Jim Pinckney, President, called the Annual Meeting to order.

President's Report

The President's Report, presented by Jim Pinckney, focused on both the water quality monitoring the Association started in 2005 as well as the need for more volunteers within the Association, especially for Board positions. The Minnesota Pollution Control Agency has said that WICOLA is one of the leading lake associations doing water sampling. Right now WICOLA is sampling 5 sites, mostly at the deepest point in the lake or area: 1 on Garden Lake, 1 on Farm Lake, 1 on White Iron Lake, 1 on the North Kawishiwi just before it enters Farm Lake, and one upstream from Silver Rapids. WICOLA is taking temperatures at various levels and obtaining samples to test for phosphorus and chlorophyll. The Association would also like to test for dissolved oxygen, but needs additional funds in order to purchase the necessary equipment.

In addition the President outlined the current status of the unfilled positions within WICOLA. They are (or will be after the proposed by-law changes are passed), Vice-President, Secretary, Garden Lake Representative, and White Iron Representative.

After the President's report, the meeting was turned over to Vice President Charlene Mason.

2005 Annual Meeting Minutes

The minutes of the 2005 Annual Meeting were distributed. A motion was made and seconded to accept the minutes as distributed. The motion passed on a voice vote.

2005 Financial Report

The 2005 Financial Report was distributed. Don Ortle, Treasurer, walked the members through the various items, including the grants received and expenditures for the water monitoring project, which are broken out separately. With the cost of monitoring at \$150 per site, the addition of more sites has raised this cost. A question was raised about the amount of money spent on the Newsletter. Don explained that most of the cost for the Newsletter was for printing and postage. The printing costs will be reduced this year due to a change in the way the Newsletter is created before taking it to the printer. A motion was made and seconded to accept the 2005 Financial Report. The motion passed on a voice vote.

Survey

Charlene Mason told the group about the survey (handed out at the beginning of the meeting to the members attending) which will be sent to all household members of WICOLA and also all non-member households identified on the Lake and St. Louis County records as having property on the lakes in the White Iron Chain. The purpose of the survey is to determine the critical issues that WICOLA should be addressing, both in the short and long term. The survey may or may not lead to an overarching lake management plan. She told the group that the

confidentiality of the responses will be assured; the only purpose in returning the surveys in the numbered envelopes is to be able to send reminders only to those who have not returned the survey.

By-Law Change

Charlene Mason distributed copies of a proposed change to the WICOLA By-Laws which would separate the positions of Secretary and Treasurer. The proposed changes would also allow the Treasurer to remain on the Board longer than the two term limit specified for the other Board members. She explained that it was often hard to find someone who has the appropriate background and interest to fill both parts of the position as it is now defined. In addition, the By-Laws changes add the duty of Historian to the Secretary position, as well as make it responsible for assuring that the minutes of meetings are posted to the WICOLA web site.

A motion was made and seconded to approve the By-Law changes. The motion was approved by voice vote.

Nominations and Elections

Charlene Mason opened the floor for nominations, including self-nomination. The following people volunteered for the open positions:

Vice-President/President Elect:	Paul Haraldson
Secretary:	Peter Davis
White Iron Representative:	Ken Wichmann
Garden Lake Representative:	Teresa Sagen
President:	Charlene Mason

A motion was made and seconded to close nominations. The motion was approved on a voice vote.

A motion was made and seconded to elect the preceding slate of officers. The motion was approved on a voice vote.

In addition to the newly elected persons, Don Ortlely will continue as Treasurer, Laura Moberly will continue as Farm Lake Representative, George Nieman will continue as the other White Iron Lake Representative. Jim Pinckney has agreed to continue editing the Newsletter with Kathy Miller as co-editor and Ray Doran will continue as Membership Chair.

Thank yous

The Association expressed its gratitude to a number of people who have supported its work over the past year:

1. Ray Doran as Membership Chair. Ray has increased the membership of WICOLA from 125 members to over 175 members in the past year. Now about one-third of the households around the chain of lakes are members of WICOLA.
2. Water Quality Monitoring Group: Jim Pinckney, Don Ortlely, Ray Doran, George Nieman, Watson (Bud) Mason
3. Secchi Disk Readers: John Lenartz, Gene Behnke, Watson (Bud) Mason, Bob Pinckney, and Sheldon Ajax who reported 66 Secchi disk readings for various points on the chain in 2005.
4. Silver Rapids Lodge for hosting the Annual Meeting.

There being no further business, a motion was made to adjourn. It was seconded and approved.