



Friendship Lake District

P.O. Box 473, Friendship, WI, 53934

April 2017 Newsletter



<http://www.friendshiplake.org>

Bob Berry, Chairperson
Cell: 608-548-2191
57penguin@charter.net

Karen Pokorny, Secretary, point of contact
Please email or call me with email address, or telephone number. Many emails are undelivered or returned. Call /email me with questions/concerns. Website will be updated.
Cell: 414-840-2076
Kpokorny55@yahoo.com

Linda Moonan, Treasurer, Newsletter
Home: 608-339-6502
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Advisory Group
Steve LaVallee, Chairperson
Home: 608-339-7347
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Pending – Village of Friendship
Matt Morrow- Township of Preston
Ron Johnson – Town of Adams
Deborah Parr – County

Board Meetings – 5:30 pm
569 N Cedar Street, Adams
May 2, 2017
June 6, 2017
July 11, 2017
August 1, 2017

September 2, 2017 – Annual Meeting 9 a.m.

A Chamber of Commerce Non-Profit Member

If you receive a newsletter you are a Lake District property owner, and you are encouraged and welcome to attend all meetings and events.

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Annual Spring Fling

Saturday May 6, 2017

Carlson's Rustic Ridge

Cocktails at 5:00 p.m. (Cash Bar)

Dinner at 6:00 p.m. (Includes 2 meat buffet, salad, potato, vegetable, coffee, tea or milk, rolls, after dinner drink, or an ice cream dessert)

Cost Per Person: \$16.00

Raffle tickets, 50/50 draw, Door Prizes

RSVP: Linda Graf by Monday 5/1/17

608-339-2674 or lbgraf83@yahoo.com

Please Join Us on May 6th.

Chairman's Corner

I would like to thank everyone for the great turnout at last fall's annual meeting. It was very refreshing to see such a great diverse group of lake residents there, especially with all we had to discuss and talk about.

We had some very good discussions on the main topic of whether or not we should consider the purchase of the Dam and what direction the district residents wanted to go. I feel the condemnation process was the right choice. It has been a slow process but we are moving forward. Maybe not as fast as we would like to see it, but we are moving.

I am also very pleased to see the great turnout that we have had at our board meetings and I hope that continues. Soon we will have an idea of what the Dam will cost based on the appraisal, and then we will be able to discuss what the options are.

The other important thing I want to talk about is the upcoming board seat. Linda Moonan is not running this fall. I would like to take this opportunity to very much thank her for her years of service and all the time and hard work she has put in helping out the District. We now need someone to step up and take her place on the board.

Talk to your neighbors. Let's get the word out that we must have someone to fill her position or we won't have a Lake District anymore.

Now that spring is slowly on its way we can think about seeing our neighbors whom we haven't seen since last fall, and sitting on our docks and enjoying all the birds and wildlife on our lake. We have had a fair amount of Loons once again this spring, and the Ospreys are back and the Eagles are stilling flying around.

Chairman's Corner cont....

Hopefully, we will again enjoy the fireworks this year like we have for many years thanks to the Ashworths and their love of them. I hope to see many of you at the Spring Fling and at the yearly picnic in the park. They are both great events to bring our group of Lake District residents together.

Thank you,

Bob Berry, Chairman

District Position to Open

A position will be open this fall. State statute mandates that a Lake District property owner must fill the elected position. This is a requirement to continue as a formal Lake District, and it also is a requirement in our Lake District by-laws. We need a volunteer to run for the open position on the board this fall.

Each commissioner serves a three year term. Every year one of the three elected board members has fulfilled their three year term and they can either agree to run again, or not. Linda Moonan filled the remainder of Fran O'Brien's term when she resigned due to illness, and she will have served her three year term ending this fall. Linda is not running again. This spot on the board must now be filled by a Lake District property owner in accordance with state statutes.

State statute does **not** allow a two member elected property owner board. Serious consideration needs to be given to this opportunity to help with our ongoing Lake District business.

We need you. Please check our website for additional information about this position. *Board members must be able to attend the regularly scheduled board meetings.*

Timeline on Condemnation:

September 3, 2016 to March 31, 2017

9/3/2016 Annual Meeting.

After much discussion, and after open microphone time the motion to pursue Eminent Domain (condemnation) proceedings was seconded and approved by a majority vote of property owners in attendance.

9/3/2016 - Larry Swaziak's term ended, so his point of contact responsibilities with our Axley Brynelson attorneys was turned over to Bob Berry, Chairman, for follow through.

10/4/2016 – Attorney Michael Hahn notified the board and asked permission to hire Compass Land Consultants from Minocqua to appraise the Dam. Point of contact authorized on 10/7/2016.

10/10/2016 –Email request from Village Rep. Spargo asking to be kept updated on actions being taken. Paul Kent, Village Attorney, and DNR will be advised. A DNR requirement to maintain the stay on the spring drawdown.

10/30/2016 – Point of contact requested a status update from attorneys.

10/31/2016 – Attorney Don Murn verified that Jeff Olsen of Compass Land Consultants had been hired. We should hear from them in two to three weeks with their proposal.

11/12/2016 – Proposal document from appraiser received via email from attorney Michael Hahn with request for authorization to move forward with appraisal. Secretary and Treasurer forwarded questions to point of contact for follow up. No file record of point person follow up with attorney, no response to questions on file.

11/15/2016 – Email received from attorney Michael Hahn with two Title Report details received. These determine flowage rights.

11/17/2016 –Email sent to point of contact concerning past questions and concerns of secretary and treasurer. No record of point response or status request to attorneys.

12/2016 – Questions that needed answering: Have the appraisers gained access to Dam facility, and all questions concerning Compass Land Consultants that had been asked in November concerning the method of appraisal. No status request made to attorneys.

1/3/2017 – Michael Hahn advised via email that the appraisers had not gained access to the Dam facility due to lack of cooperation from Mr. Pfeiffer. A 12/26/16 letter from Mr. McFarlin was attached advising that McFarlin would facilitate access to the Dam structure to aid the appraisers in gaining admittance.

1/13/2017 – Treasurer observed McFarlin opening the Dam facility with the appraisers.

2/2017 – No status requested from point person.

3/7/2017 – Michael Hahn email follow up response to point of contact phone call 3/6/2017. Mr. Hahn's email passed out to all attending. It highlighted the condemnation process and steps that will be followed.

3/13/2017- Karen Pokorny assumed point of contact with District attorneys.

3/31/2017 – Status update requested by point person. Michael Hahn forwarded copy of Dam Report; Mr. Pfeiffer has what amounts to an easement to flood the lake and therefore does not own the lake bed. Appraisal is due shortly. Attorneys and board will then discuss results.

Our Newest Commissioner – Karen Pokorny, Secretary

My husband Steve and I bought our retirement home in 2012 on Friendship Lake while still living and working in Greenfield, WI. I retired in 2015 after working 40 years in the medical field as a clinic manager in an Orthopedic Surgeon's practice, and then for Aurora Healthcare after merging with that hospital system. My husband, Steve, retired about a year before me, working for WE Energies at the Oak Creek Power Plant as a heavy equipment operator for 35 years.

It was our dream to someday have a lake home like my husband's grandparents. We have two children and two grandchildren, and we wanted to share fun times and make memories just like my husband's grandparents shared with him.

I will say that we have had two really good years boating and fishing on the lake with family and friends. It is unfortunate that at the time we purchased the home we were at the beginning of the Dam situation, and there really was not a lot of information available with regards to the lake situation. We were upset with the possibility of our lake disappearing, loss of our property value, and all around lack of concern by our County, Town, and Village elected officials.

We are full time residents and able to attend monthly board meetings. When the current position became available I felt that it would be a position I could represent for the district. I am confident that the attorney's the district retained are working for all property owners and I look forward to a resolution soon.

Karen Pokorny, Commissioner Secretary

Friends of Friendship Lake

The Friends of Friendship Lake is our District support group. Over the years this group of women has been instrumental in helping our harvesting and other programs through fundraising efforts. The yearly Brat Fry/bake sale along with raffle sales at the Spring Fling and picnic helped to purchase tools and other needs for our harvesting program. Their efforts have been needed and beneficial.

This past Christmas the Friends group participated in the Annual Parade of Trees event at Moundview Memorial Hospital. Several of the woman worked on our fishing theme submission which was raffled off to benefit the Moundview programs.



This group is now in need of volunteers. Several of our long term members, after years of working hard to support the District, are unable to continue with this group so our numbers are down dramatically. We welcome you.

When: The third Wednesday of every month.

Where: The Family Affair Restaurant.

Time: 11:30 am. For lunch and conversation.

Linda Graf at 339-2674 or lbgraf83@yahoo.com

Friends of Friendship cont. Fall Picnic

This will be held on August 26, 2017 at Friendship Park - by the Dam. Noon start time. The fall newsletter will have more detail.



Because we have lost several Friends of Friendship Lake members in 2017 we had to cancel plans for our major Brat Fry/ Bake Sale fundraiser this year. The raffle style date choices have already been picked for this summer and fall season. The suggestion was made that we attempt to have a Brat Fry if we get volunteers. Because County Market is rarely made aware prior to a cancellation, the chance remains slim for a Brat Fry this year.

Bob Berry would like volunteers to help plan a float for the 4th of July parade this year. Pat Kierstyn has suggested using a boat that had been donated to the Heritage Society. This boat has historical value with a connection to this community, and Bob has a trailer that can be used. We need someone to help chair the committee and others to help organize. Please contact Bob Berry at 608-548-2191.

Other Lake News: Monitoring Refresher



Reesa Evans, Adams County Land and Water Conservation, is having a lunch and refresher session Saturday, April 29, 2017 to review the latest news in water quality and aquatic invasive species monitoring. Linda Moonan will be attending this refresher to be kept informed since we will be involved again with monitoring practices on Friendship Lake. If you are interested email Reesa by April 27th at: revans@co.adams.wi.us or call 608-339-4275. Refresher from 11.00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. at the Community Center.

Helping our Community Adams County Historical Society

In the fall of 2015 the Historical Society began to raise funds to build an addition and install an elevator in the rear of the Heritage Center in Friendship.

They have already raised \$115,000 toward reaching their goal of \$150,000. Most of the money raised has come from Adams County residents, but they have also received gifts from out of town friends.

Because the mission of the Adams County Historical Society is to collect, preserve and share the history of our community, adding an elevator will enable the Society to share our history with all members of the community.

If interested, contributions can be mailed to the Adams County Historical Society, P.O. Box 254, Friendship WI 53934.

For information phone: 608-339-7733

***Check our website for updated
information on all events/happenings***

Ground Water Management and High Capacity Wells –Pending Legislation:

When groundwater is depleted, all users – businesses, farmers, municipalities, anglers, boaters, waterfront property owners -pay the price. There are areas in Wisconsin where rivers, lakes, and streams are drying up.

Assembly Bill 105 (SB 105) and Senate Bill 76 (SB 76) have been introduced. These measures serve to lock-in the current problems homeowners and citizens are facing.

SB 76 and AB 105 ensure continuation of the groundwater drawdowns already occurring – most notably in the Central Sands area – by allowing high-capacity wells to be transferred, repaired, replaced and reconstructed without approval from the DNR. This effectively makes high-capacity well permits permanent, even if those wells are already contributing to groundwater drawdowns. This ensures that large water users get first access to the water at the expense of all other users. And because high-capacity well permits never expire, there are no opportunities to address a well's sustain provision to these high-capacity well permits.

The bill also requires the DNR to study only a few small watersheds in Central Wisconsin to determine if further conditions should be put on wells in that area. The small study areas of SB 76 would exclude 82% of the high-capacity, 79% of trout streams and 75% of the Outstanding and Exceptional Resource Waters of the Central Sands.

Due to geological conditions involved, study and groundwater modeling should incorporate the entire Central Sands region and not the limited areas proposed. Wording is included that denies a citizen's right to request a

contested case hearing. Citizens should have the right to contest the decision before a permit holder is allowed to operate, based on studies and evidence that shows the potential risks and/or imminent impacts to ground and surface waters.

The agriculture industry, golf courses and municipalities are all huge users of wells. We live in the area defined as the Central Sands region, so our interest in ground water management and high-capacity wells is well-known.

If this is something that you are concerned about please call or write your Assembly and Senate representatives and ask that they add an expiration provision to these high-capacity well permits, and to periodically review these wells and their impacts instead of granting a private right to water in perpetuity to a select handful of users as SB 76 and AB 105, in their current form, would do.

Call or write Sen. Patrick Testin (R-WI) 608-266-3123, Rep. Scott Krug (R-WI) 608-266-0215.



