

Papakeechee Protective Association

LAPSI Team Meeting 7/11/14, 7:00pm

Minutes

Attendees (Alphabetically): Kendall Floyd, Anthony Serianni, Virginia Surso, Diane Tulloh,

Misc:

Virginia reported on Wawasee Chautauqua Week. "Past, Present, and Preservation" which ended today. Diana Castell was a speaker on a historic boat trip pointing out sea walls made of stone rather than concrete, artesian wells, lake history including old hotels, etc... including the usual assortment of bad weeds.

7/26: Hope Floats (cardboard boat regatta).

Talk & Eats: First Sat in Aug: Native Plants speaker. There will be plants to buy.

Dillon Creek: 90' drop from state road 5 to Wawasee. 15% comes from Turkey Creek & 15% from Papakeechee. Residence time of 3.5 years for water to leave Wawasee.

Community Canoeing: Every Tuesday from 7/15 through 8/12 at Syracuse Municipal Pier.

Old Business:

Lab: Diane reported that John did ask the board about insurance and that they are looking into it.

Anthony: P & N test kits. He had the students test them and prove out that they worked. Anthony is going to make a standard solution to test them further.

Student Interns (Brian & Matt): Drew some water samples yesterday. No detectable soluble P, but the meter only measures as low as one mg/l. There was however a positive test for N. These results are very preliminary.

Their only outstanding issue is the survey component. Brian is familiar with WordPress. He wants to put the survey on-line. He uses a Google Survey and needs to work with Kendall to get a link to the survey on the web site. We may have to send out some type of postcard asking people to complete the survey.

From Anthony's e-mail on 9/2/14: I have not had a chance to reconnect with Brian and Matt since they returned to campus last week. I plan to work with them this semester to tidy things up. I think the mechanism to do the polling is in place - we need to incorporate the link on the PPA website. We have another student working with us this semester - her name is Chelsey. Hannah is also back - she will be working all year on her capstone project which involves her work at the lake. She will be attending our meetings this year - at least some of them.

Anthony will also talk to the interns about how to go about acquiring the E. coli tests. Diane also passed along about 20 unused test kits to Anthony.

Turbidity: Diane has some data from earlier in the spring which shows Papakeechee was cloudier (as is Wawasee from what we are hearing). Anthony's theory: cold winter, lake cooled more deeply, temperature gradient between layers was greater, leading to a greater stronger spring turnover. There has been some difficulty scheduling the interns between 10 and 2 o'clock (ideal Secchi times.)

Speakers: Diane e-mailed Nate Bosch. He may have misinterpreted Diane's e-mail request as wanting specific scientific data regarding Papakeechee and tri-county, whereas we really only want him to speak with us in a more general sense. Anthony said he would contact him. We decided that if he couldn't make it this year, Anthony will try Gary Lamberti. If he can't make it he'll tap some other Notre Dame people. Then maybe Nate in this spring.

We also discussed scheduling only 2 speakers per year (for the spring & fall). We will leave the option open for a third if necessary.

We should also avoid redundancy of Wawasee speakers and events.

In spring: suggested native plant people.

From Diane's e-mail on 8/14: We're (Tony, Virginia, Jody and Diane) thinking of inviting Martha Ferguson from Riverside Nursery as our spring LAPSI speaker. She will be talking about the effect that buffers of plants can have on a lake. We're looking at March 21 or March 28, 2015. Does anyone have a preference?

Topic: Virginia mentioned the difficulty in obtaining info from past minutes and suggested that we include within our minutes the location where any positive E. coli tests occur. We revisited the spring E. coli tests. It was mentioned that only one spot tested positive, but even that was considerably lower than state standards.

Testing:

We decided to change the units on the Lowrance to meters.

E. coli: Diane said that there was another test available for \$5 where you take an existing positive and retest it. We also discussed using 3ml (of water?) in the tests, as opposed to less.

We also discussed our test protocols. Anthony again said that we should update them as necessary. He added that there should be a cover sheet which tracks changes/versions of these S.O.P.s.

Interns can help John with wetland management. Anthony may bring up this issue to the board prior to having the interns participate.

Again we discussed the importance of tracking the specifics of the chemicals and how to go about getting this type of measurement instituted. Anthony will address this with the board and ask for next steps and or reasons for/against. Re: scientific concerns have been raised about the long term applications of fluridone.

Invasive Weeds: Melissa Clark is not able to come.

Anthony is going to take the interns into the game reserve. How to test in tri-county: Although we have the impression that it is OK, we want to specifically ask them. Goal to pull one sample out of each of those bodies of water this year.

Long term concerns:

Anthony discussed the sustainability of our group: where do we go beyond this summer? He suggested that we expand our testing next year including adding chlorophyll A (which is an expensive test). We may want to team with WACF on more expensive tests. Aside from our local focus, we discussed what we are going to do to expand collaborative types of funding. Virginia noted that Diana Castell mentioned during the Wawasee tour that WACF gets a lot of their funding from LARE.

We again discussed Wawasee's watershed management plan and whether or not it is actively being implemented. Diane asked Diana via e-mail but has not yet received a response. Diane said that she asked Heather. We will also ask Diana the next time she visits us.

Septic Systems (Anthony): There is a molecule which fluoresces which can be tested for. He contacted the DO meter people and asked if they could use this test as a substitute to a die test. This test can detect really small amounts (rather than the visual test), but it's an \$8,000 real-time test kit. Also, this is (obviously) dependent on a homeowner's co-operation.

Approval of Minutes from Previous Meeting: Yes.

Next meeting: 7:00pm on 8/15/14 at PPA Bldg.