

Friends of Spanaway Lake Board Meeting

Minutes

Thursday, June 4th, 2020- 7-9 PM

Location: Board meeting is via Zoom video call. The zoom instructions are:

Join FOSL Zoom Meeting –

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83210939285?pwd=bIZub1M5Q2kwT1Q3R2VicXp4UWxrdz09>

Meeting ID: 832 1093 9285 Password: fosl

You can also call in with a phone by either method below:

One tap mobile [+12532158782](tel:+12532158782), [83210939285#](tel:+12532158782), [1#](tel:+12532158782), [116021#](tel:+12532158782) US (Tacoma)

Or [+1 253 215 8782](tel:+12532158782) US (Tacoma) and type in meeting id

If you want to test Zoom on your phone or computer before then go to zoom.com or

<https://support.zoom.us/hc/en-us/articles/115002262083-Joining-a-test-meeting>

1) Call to Order& Roll Call -Sandy

Meeting called to order at 7:03pm.

Attendees: Ed Larson, Penny Cooper Howard, Mel Oleson, Elizabeth Iselin, Kathy Creso, Jessie Richards, Sue Thompson, Jim Overway, Linda Heade, Kim Long, Sandy Williamson

2) Approval of the agenda & Prior Meeting Minutes –Sandy & board

May 7, 2020 board meeting minutes have been approved.

3) Finance update. Balance, count of 2019, 2020 FOSL Sponsor Plates –

Finance budget as of 6-3-2020 is \$15,550. Includes Clover Creek Grant of \$2500, \$200 Personal donation, \$38 Amazon Smile, less web expenses of \$59.

4) Old Business

a. Annual Meeting Follow Up:

a.i. Newsletter was distributed on May 21st, 2020.

Newsletter was emailed on 5/21/2020.

May Newsletter will also be sent as Snail mail newsletter. (Mailed in early June). In the future to minimize costs, the newsletter won't be sent by snail mail.

Elizabeth made a motion that we send out the Newsletter snail mail in early June in addition to the email for the next one or two times, then it will be email only.

Ed amended motion: After the June snail mail Newsletter, all future newsletters will be by email and add to the June Newsletter that if residents are interested in getting the newsletter ongoing, then send your email to FOSL. MSC

Team to work on the Newsletter: Elizabeth, Penny, Kathy,

Mel will add information to the snail mail letter in a following newsletter.
Time to get together and create this newsletter.
Suggestions, photos or additions to Penny as the gatekeeper.
Try to distribute the newsletter at about the same time each month.
Corrections on the existing newsletter that should be done.
Create the address labels – Kim
Target mailing date is Monday, June 8th.
Do we know the printer charges in color?

Ed made a motion made to approve the printing the newsletter if it doesn't exceed \$250 and stamps not to exceed \$200, total not more than \$550. Elizabeth seconded the motion. MSC

b. Spanaway Lake Science:

- Optical brighteners. It's a test on the end of a probe and it tests multiple things including optical brighteners. The indicators will let you know when you get near a deeper groundwater vent. The county has the meter and will do optical brightener test for free on Tuesday, May 12th. Justin and Sandy will go out with the county for this testing. Update on Test – Sandy
- Three ground water vents found in shallow part of lake. Kim, Carol, Across from Jim, by the boat house. Jeff's students will deploy 6" diameter shower curtains, early Summer in June. They'll also be looking on the east side for another one mentioned by fishermen. (Dark Orange on mud map.) Students will deploy rings with curtain that goes to bottom, starting in SE cove and maybe others, and as deeper vents are identified. Rings will be tested as follows: Iron, Alum, Phoslock, not treated. Some of the same testing will occur in the deeper spots.
- At the end of the cove, end of Jim Utterback's neighbor, and north of that, there's another. The Kerns' location is difficult to keep the boat still enough. Can FOSL get permission to stand on and tie to his dock. **Shem Zakem will look into this.** Ask permission to use the dock of the home pending – once it closes. **Kim:** Home just closed but new owners haven't yet arrived. **The best sampling is at Kern's at the boat house. The boat needs to be tied to dock. Kim will get permission. New owner has not been available to request permission.**
- By Jim Overway's home and in the south, there is a lot of hard rocky ground. There might be thinner muck and some gravel below it. **Jim should find out if he has less muck in the dark orange versus in the lighter orange and then he'd need to identify exactly where on the map this test is being done.**
- Adding lysimeter to sample GW coming in in the canal. Put Jeff's sediment traps in 2 locations April 9. There are 2 deep points at 5 mile buoys, one near Scott's house and one off the island closest to park.
- USGS, will give us some tools to put monitoring wells at the bottom of the lake. – Eds home and Sandy's home.

- Sandy got the Secchi disk today and has two monthly measurements. Lake clarity improved last month and AGAIN THIS BODES BADLY FOR LAKE THIS SUMMER TO BE WORSE. Recently, the Secchi disk could be seen at 20 feet. Last summer, many people noticed the clear water in July just before the large algae bloom. The deeper the visibility, the lower the sun can go and quicker the plants grow.
 - FOSL is continuing to look for more vents, fishing holes, cleared gravel, etc.
 - Jim Overway has hump of silt 26 inches deep. South are all hard rock. North, the muck is deeper and deeper. Possibly due to wave action.
 - Barbara Ann really went to town for the county's meter, depth, longitude, latitude. Scott will send the results to us.
 - Elizabeth and Sandy went out with Scott.
 - Optical Brightener didn't find much. Not sure if it's working right.
 - 10 number readings came out every 10 seconds. Found outliers, that might be ground water vents in deep water.
 - Scott's been very helpful. He's in charge of water quality and data management for SWM.
 - Spanaway was on their list for sampling and was dropped in 2016. Sandy sent a link. We were at the bottom of the list for water quality.
 - Rob doesn't count it as a hit unless it's 5 times the background. Maybe we're seeing P from natural sources. Sandy then talked with Shuhui Dun and discussed checking the background wells and are they all High which would indicate that the ground is all high everywhere. Sandy still needs to check this.
 - Meanwhile, Don mentioned a UW-T researcher created a technique to analyze a lot of organic compounds- natural, runoff, stormwater, agricultural. He agreed to take 5 samples from us for free.
 - Septic tank – hard to tell where the caffeine is coming from. So he's agreed to do these 5 samples. Kim's, canal, 2 psizometers – by Sandy and by Greg, and by Ed's new Blue house. Ed will place it.
 - Shuhui Dun – She's the person to figure out the well data and see what the p levels are on the one's B&C sampled. Wells in Spanaway South and East.
 - Sample Carol and Karen's (Gray house) well's and send sample to Don and Scott. Kim to work with Elizabeth to get Carol's sample.
 - 3/8" vinyl tubing to go in lids and secure to 5 gallon buckets. Vinyl tubing is 8' long. 2-4 of these. Screw-on lids on Amazon are \$30 each.
- c. Herbicide Treatment – Herbicide on Spanaway Lake – Jim Overway
- Information included in FOLS Newsletter emailed on May 21st.
 - Aquatechnex agreed to buy the permit for Spraying Spanaway Lake so FOSL won't be purchasing the permit. Jim to confirm Aquatechnex has the permit.
 - Acquire permit from Doug Dorling xfer to Terry/Aquatechnex
 - Cost is variable but based on \$275 per 75 ft of lake front.
 - Jim Overway will work with Terry McNabb of Aquatechnex.
 - Only 50 lots can be sprayed in the permit.
 - Initial email was sent to residents on 5-12-2020

- Limit was 25% of shoreline. Aquatic Plant Management study, might allow them to treat more properties. Will need to coordinate with Aquatechnex. Are we far enough in plant study to be above the 25% limit?
- Can spraying happen while rings are deployed. FOSL would prefer to not spray that section with the rings. Talk to Jeff about if this is part of the control.
- Penny received a letter from NW Aquatics about contracting the spraying. Penny got an email. Jessie didn't get an email. Penny will check with Merle and find out how many people are on this email list. Penny and Jim O will coordinate.
- Date for Spraying – as early as possible. – Third week of June possibly.
- The Herbicides treat lily pads and elodea (weeds growing up from the bottom of the lake to the surface in some places, not to be confused with milfoil as Spanaway has no milfoil).

We've not been in contact with Aquatechnex. Per Jesse, Merle Anderson says NW Aquatics is still in the picture.

We might need to call Terry everyday and request the report for the meeting. He's more likely to respond to Sandy. Update should be by Monday noon.

Terry had to wait until the May 31st before he could move on the FOSL requests. No risk of Terry getting the permit.

The third guy, Kyle, may be a lot more organized.

Merle Anderson contacted, he had a very organized bid, a lot more expensive, but his price might come down if he was spraying for everyone. Kyle is NW Aquatics.

Kyle Steelhammer has a different style of permit and may be more expensive if residents aren't on the permit. Jim to call Sandy as soon as he hears from Kyle.

The permit Doug and maybe Terry had in the past has allowed to spray up to 50 homes.

The permit Kyle Steelhammer has is aimed by properties and he's targeting 30 or so homes possibly.

Sandy/Jim need to contact Aquatechnex tomorrow to find out what's occurring.

Sandy suggests to delay the newsletter until we have action from Terry to residents or we go with Kyle.

Can FOSL choose who gets the permit? County has chosen FOSL as the organizer of the lake, so FOSL might get to choose who gets the permit?

Linda - Do we need to be more specific in the newsletter. Whatever info FOSL puts out needs to be accurate.

Elizabeth would be willing to use her phone number as the middle person to contact for information.

One person needs to be the gate keeper and clarify the information. This is Jim Overway currently.

- d. JARPA application for permit on DNR property (Joint Aquatic Resources Permit Application). Mel suggested we discuss finding a person to write up the JARPA application for projects that we may want to do. This would then enable us to receive permission to do multiple projects with one JARPA application. Ed: recommend that we hold off until next month to be able to see better what we are doing.

- Mel - Once FOSL has this permit, then it can be used when needed for a plant harvester, plant removal and other tools. It makes the process go much quicker later on.
 - A couple of months to pull this together, make it lake wide, start with something simple, build a boat ramp or lake wall. \$250 roughly. We only need to identify one thing for the first application, then subsequent permitting is based on the first one that's approved.
 - Mel will work with Shem, Jessie, Elizabeth to do this, this year prior to this fall's grant application deadlines. They will probably need a small budget to get all the data for the JARPA application.
 - On the large grant that FOSL didn't get, this was one thing that we were asked if we had it in place, and we didn't. Some Grants start in October, November. Green Grant was late fall/winter.
Mel's been talking to Ecology and Fish and Wildlife.
 - They wanted the \$250 for every project but it's currently negotiated to one permit for multiple instances of the same activity on the lake. – For instance, underwater aeration line in the water – group them together under one permit. This JARPA can be applied for at any time and doesn't require legislative session.
 - Goal is to get a general permit for all work done around the lake. This may take legislative action for the General JARPA. This has to wait until they're back in session. Usually amending an existing bill.
 - Send your upcoming lake projects to Mel so he can gain understanding of the types of permits needed. List of things for a single permit application.
 - Individual owners would be named on the permit.
 - Question – Can Victoria Lincoln assist with this? Mel has been talking to her about this already. An example might be a bulkhead repair.
- e. Boat House Display – Jessie
Yes it's in place. See picture at bottom of agenda. Include the newsletter in the Boat House Display.
New contact is Tony Bubenas: tony.bubenas@piercecountywa.gov
- f. Coffee Creek Board Meeting – Third Thursday of each month at 5:30pm. Elizabeth Cancelled the last couple of meetings. **Elizabeth will get on the mailing list** to learn what their agenda items are.
Elizabeth will confirm their next meeting is June 18th.
- g. Fund raising for summer treatment.
- Discuss with local donors that might have capacity and be willing to match donation funds.
 - Kathy talked to Nancy Lemay. Sandy talked to Nancy and Doug Lemay about a match for a go fund me campaign. Doug listened to how he could limit funds and type of match. He's pondering.
 - Anyone else we could approach? Mark or Ricky Ceccanti – Jessie
 - Go Fund Me Fees have been lowered from 8% for non-profits.

Newsletter should always list our corporate sponsors – Request sponsorship.
Are we going to list our Spanaway Lake Sponsors.

- h. Future of FOSL and lake treatment.
 - Placeholder. It might be that the lake needs \$150,000 - \$200,000 annual to treat the lake. FOSL almost won \$150,000 from the state this year.
 - Products fall to the bottom and they become a coating for the bottom. They strip the phosphorus as its falling down or treat the phosphorus out of the bottom sediment.
 - Contrary Research: In the B&C study, it states when algae dies, it takes the phosphorus to the lake bottom. All FOSL work is showing that most phosphorus is coming in through ground water.

5) Committee Reports

- a) Aquatic Plant & Phosphorus Fractionization update (Cost \$20,000) – Ed
Still waiting on a draft of the report and Ed's working on quarterly report for the county.
Ed – No update at the moment.
- b) Grant updates – Sandy
FOSL WIN: FOSL has been awarded an Operating Expense Grant for \$2500.
Need volunteer to send thank you to Clover Creek council.
Celebrate!! We might be able to apply for multiple grants next year as they barely had enough applicants to use all their funds.
Rene Buck – **Elizabeth will send out thank you.**
- c) Facebook Stats – Are there opportunities with the Facebook site to engage the community?
Sandy's 2-3-2020 email.
 - We felt it would be good to keep Facebook going for FOSL. Sandy does it with a bit of help from Karen Margeson. NEED HELP HERE ALSO
- d) Phosphorus Testing at Ground Water Vents: Volunteers are Ed, Elizabeth to assist Sandy and Greg. 2-4 hours every 2 weeks. Sandy's boat can be used. Best to have a driver and someone to fill bottles. Ed and Elizabeth with trade off. Greg or Sandy will work with Elizabeth. Ed has been working 7 days a week.
- e) Summer 2020 watch to predict algae bloom and plant growth:
Watch volunteers are Mel, Penny, Jessie, Jim O, Elizabeth
No toxic algae is being seen in the scum at this time. Another sample will be done on Sunday.
Jessie saw toxic algae at the northern swim area and the next day it was closer to Jessie's home.
Ed saw what looked like toxic algae.
Linda is not seeing the toxic algae.

Jessie is seeing specs in the water but not the toxic algae. It seems to be from the surface down 6-7" and the specs are gelling, but are just floating in the water. Per Mel, these free floating are not toxic bacteria, but standard algae.

Water is not nearly as stirred up because of low boat traffic from COVID-19. Others are seeing the boat traffic normal to high.

Water is up to 66 degrees.

Pictures of the various types of algae – These were handed out last year. and may now be at Kathy Creso's. Almost cardboard and about 30-40 of them. Sue has 5 of these.

- f) Facebook Stats – Are there opportunities with the Facebook site to engage the community? Sandy's 2-3-2020 email.

7) New Business

- a. Caffeine Concentration Sampling - Sample analysis cost 217 per sample for a number of caffeine concentration that has been used widely and for decades to identify septic or sewage pollution. We would need at least 2-3 samples to prove our Phosphorus is coming from septic. But considering the inconclusive results of optical brightener testing last week there is another downside besides the cost. I will explain this orally at the meeting. Now it still appears likely and widely that this is the source. If our results are negative, this could have some negative impacts.
- b. Toxic Algae Advisory for Spanaway Lake on May 15, 2020.
 - Is it the intent of FOSL to forward county information via email to everyone on FOSL's email list. I.e. Will FOSL be sending out emails for Lake Advisories?
- c. Photos, Maps, Sharing, database -

8) FOSL Member Open Forum-Sandy

- a. Maui Supreme Court ruling - Left it up to the EPA to determine when the situation occurs, when septic goes into surface water, falls into the clean water act and needs a permit.

9) Adjournment-Sandy

Next Meeting: Date: Thursday, July 2nd, 2020. Time: 7-9pm. Location: Zoom or TBD Meeting has been moved to July 9th, 2020, via Zoom.