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## NLPOA Board Meeting Minutes

October 4, 2016

Newman Lake Fire Department

Board Members Present: Bob Takai, Staci Lehman, Karen Stebbins, Jerry Le Grand, Lorne Burley, Eileen Weyrauch, Jeanne Ellern

Board Members Absent: Craig Aldworth, Lorne Burley

Guests: Dawnell Geller, Wendy Burley, Tom Stebbins, Dennis Rewinkle, Faye Le Grand, Chad Lemley

1. **Call to Order:** President Karen Stebbins called the meeting to order at 6:36 p.m. She said the Fire Department had given the NLPOA a waiver of a year, or 12 meetings, to use the station. She said this will make it easier to publicize meetings and invite guests to attend.
2. **Treasurer Report:** Bob Takai reported that the total current balance in the NLPOA account is $2131.14. He said recent expenses were $297.50 for the ice cream social and $275 for the poker run. There were “donations” of $86.54 from the poker run, $30 from t-shirt sales, and $320 in membership that came in. There are 12 new members and $20 was turned in to Bob at the meeting for memberships.
3. **Approval of Minutes from Last Meeting:** Kelli Lemley moved to accept the minutes from the May 31, 2016 meeting as written. Eileen Weyrauch seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

**4. Community Group Reports:**

**Newman Lake Flood Control Zone District (NLFCZD):** Jerry said there are no minutes available from the most recent NLFCZD meeting yet but there are a number of positions coming open on the Advisory Board.

Jeanne Ellern joined the meeting at 6:47 p.m.

Karen asked what happened to the proposal to have the Board vote to request additional money from Spokane County. Jerry said he didn’t bring it up because he believes it requires all Board members to be in agreement to request a vote and not everyone was in agreement.

Karen asked if the NLPOA is interested in getting involved in milfoil control, such as by applying for the HPA permit for the entire lake that is required to remove nuisance weeds. Karen said she would send out the Aquatic Plants and Fish packet required for property owners who want to pull or rake weeds themselves.

Board members agreed to explore the possibility of getting a permit and becoming involved in milfoil and water quality issues.

Board members went around the table and introduced themselves as this was Jeanne’s first meeting as a Board member.

**Fire Auxiliary:** Kelli said Breakfast with Santa will be Dec. 3 but there will be no fall open house for the Fire Department.

**Fire Auxiliary:** Karen said there is nothing new with the Fire Auxiliary as the last meeting was cancelled. Auxiliary recently purchased new desks and wardrobes for the station.

**Grange:** Karen said she was not happy with the Grange survey that came out. The first question stating something to the effect of “Do you want the Grange to close after the first of the year?” It didn’t explain the repercussions of letting the Grange close. Others said they joined the Grange to help out but long-time members don’t want to give up officer positions, despite saying they need to be filled.

1. **Old Business:**

**Annual Meeting Review:** Kelli said she heard positive input on the ice cream social. Eileen said she didn’t hear anything negative but not everyone had access to the politicians that were there. Wendy suggested having a short meeting next time. Faye suggested having questions for County Commissioners submitted in advance. Jerry suggested reassessing when the meeting is held.   
  
**Survey:** Karen said 62 people took the survey. Thirty-nine of those were fulltime residents. Jerry said that the only people who took it are those that are already active in the community. He suggested sending out the results to those who took the survey.

**Public Access Cleanup Schedule:** Wendy said Dawnelle and Jerry signed up. Karen said we would push it harder next year to get members of the public to sign up.

**July 4th Poker Run Review:** Karen Stebbins said we need to get ahead of the high school all- nighters next year when asking for donations. Dennis Rewinkle counted the number of people who came to his dock and it was 162. He said people liked that anyone could participate, including children. Kelli said she had heard suggestions to do a boat light parade. Karen said the money raised from the poker run came from people buying “better” cards at the end of the run. She said people suggested having a motorized and non-motorized division and a “pure hand” versus a “bought hand” division. It was decided that universal dock markers are needed for next year, possibly tall flags.

**Elections Review:** Karen said she liked the electronic voting option so that everyone can vote. It just needs to be put out immediately after the summer meeting next year.

1. **New Business**

**Discuss/Plan new year events/schedule:** Karen asked if the NLPOA should tackle anything in addition to the annual meeting, cleanup day and poker run. Wendy said next year will be the 25th anniversary of cleanup day. It was agreed to try to coordinate with the scouts to get some kids to help. Tom Stebbins asked if anyone knows how to adopt a roadway. Staci Lehman said the Department of Transportation manages the program so it is only on state highways.

Karen said other lakes are doing things such as a dock demolition day, pancake feeds or an extra cleanup day. Eileen suggested adding a second cleanup day in September.

Bob reminded the group that an astronomy night had been suggested at one point. Faye suggested having some sort of event in February when we’re in the winter doldrums.

**NLPOA sponsoring NLFCZD and other events:** Karen asked if it was okay that the NLPOA “sponsored” the milfoil meeting. Jerry said he thought it was fine. Wendy said she was speaking for Lorne, who wasn’t present, and that he thought it was a good idea; that the NLFCZD has always talked about working with volunteers, so that worked well. Dennis said the County won’t do it on their own because they say they can’t afford to rent the fire station for $25. Dennis suggested that County staff may not even be needed at future meetings if other experts or the milfoil liaisons are used. Jerry said he would like to push the sanitation issue.

**Role of NLPOA as related to shoreline permitting, monitoring and violations:** Karen asked if the NLPOA should serve as a liaison between the County and the public, such as to report permit violations, etc. as many people don’t like to be put in the position of turning their neighbors in. Wendy suggested just giving those people the lake hotline number so they can call in their own complaints. Tom pointed out that County staff answers that line and they already aren’t acting on these issues. Dennis warned against policing ourselves, when we are paying the county, and taxes, to do this.

**NewmanLakeWa.com- Is this a NLPOA website?** Karen said she and Tom started this website several years ago because the only other Newman Lake website was not being maintained and was very out of date. She asked if it is a community website or should be managed by the NLPOA. Jerry said it should be the NLPOA’s. Kelli seconded the idea. Karen said they pay $200 a year to host the site. Jerry amended his “motion” to include that Tom and Karen be reimbursed for hosting the site. It was decided that after Karen updates the site, volunteers will be used to keep it current.

Dennis said the NLPOA needs to communicate better to the smaller associations around the area. He will give Karen the membership information he has on those associations so she can devote a page on the website to them.

Tom asked about the multiple email lists. It was decided efforts would be made toward combining all of them.

The vote to make the website a NLPOA site and reimburse Karen and Tom’s costs passed unanimously.

**Annual election of officers:** Jerry suggested that the group is doing well currently and suggested officers maintain their current positions. Karen said she was open to that, as did Bob, Jerry and Staci. Eileen made a motion for Karen to stay president, Jerry to remain as vice president, Bob as treasurer and Staci as secretary. Kelli seconded the motion. It passed unanimously. Craig Aldworth was declared to be the group’s mascot. The search is on for a costume for him.

1. **Next Meeting:** The next meeting will be held at a to-be-determined date in November.
2. **Adjournment:** The meeting was adjourned at 8:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Staci Lehman

Secretary, NLPOA