

**Alpena Wildlife Sanctuary Board Minutes
May 20, 2021
Zoom Meeting**

Members Present:

Terry Gougeon, Roger Witherbee, Tom Orth, Boris Gerber, Susie Austin, Elizabeth Littler, and Judy Kalmanek

Members Absent: Vernie Nethercut, Karen Enterline,

City Staff: there was no city liaison present

I. Call to Order:

The meeting was called to order by the Chair, Terry Gougeon at 4:05 p.m.

II. Approval of minutes from March 18, 2021

A motion was made by Roger seconded by Boris and carried that the minutes of April 15, 2021 be approved as presented.

III. Additions to the Agenda

There were no additions to the agenda and it was accepted as presented.

IV. City Update

There was no city update this month

V. River Center Update

The TBRC Board learned that the City has a restricted River Center fund of \$45,000 to which another unspecified amount will be added, if approved, at the next Council meeting.

The business plan has been parceled out to the four TBRC committee members who are working to streamline the verbiage and make the sections more graphic. The charge is to complete the business plan, have it approved by the TBRC Board and used to apply for grants.

The first bowfishing tournament was a small but quite successful event. Plans are to have it each year, probably at night and at a later time, like in June. It will be the second yearly fundraiser for TBRC and together with the Reel Fun in February will help with TBRC's sustainability.

Members of both the AWS and TBRC Boards have received boat/trailer raffle tickets to sell. All were encouraged to sell what they have and contact Judy for additional tickets to sell. Tickets are available at Clem's, Top O'Michigan, Besser Museum, Chamber of Commerce, Jimmie's. The drawing for the boat/trailer will be at noon on Labor Day, September 6, 2021.

VI. Artist in Residence

Terry has spoken with Mark Beins sister-in-law and will contact her again to see if the family will donate one of Mark's art pieces as a memorial to be placed in the River Center when it is opened. A motion was made by Judy and seconded by Roger to do so.

Meanwhile, board members are asked to see if there is someone who can take over the coordination of the Artist in Residence program.

VII. Island Park Maintenance

Boris marked the trees and was present when the city crew cleared away the fallen trees and branches from Island Park. Boris reported that the city did an excellent clean up job. Terry noted that he'd like a work day to clean the stairways of leaves and winter debris. He scheduled Tuesday, May 25th at 10:00 a.m. Boris, Susie, Terry and Judy agreed to help.

VIII. Additional Remarks from the Table

Susie reported that Science in the Sanctuary will be on Tuesday June 29th from 11:00 a.m. until 1:00 p.m. She has sent an email to all those who had booths/tables last year and will forward the email to the Board. River Rats will occur in July this year and she already has some interest expressed.

Elizabeth needs someone to pick up the explanatory pamphlets from her house and place them, as needed, in the pamphlet rack at Duck Park. Catherine will pick them up for Terry, who will keep the rack supplied.

Boris observed that a beaver (or two) have been chewing down trees and moving them to their building site. Boris is also interested in promoting *Plogging* on the Island. What's *Plogging*? When he runs the Island, Boris takes along a plastic bag to collect any trash that is there and removes it. Judy will ask to have the idea published on our Facebook page.

Tom will participate with the Huron Pines AmeriCorps workers who are going to map frogbit locations in the Wildlife Sanctuary. He is planning as well to mark the sanctuary map with the names of islands, passages and "pools" to help us identify various areas.

Catherine will be leading the tour at the Alpena Nature Center off of Misery Bay Road on Saturday at 11:00 a.m. and 1:00 p.m. respectively. Susan Szczukowski will lead the tours at the same times on Friday.

IX. Next Meeting

The next meeting of the Alpena Wildlife Sanctuary Board will be on June 17, 2021. Terry will let us know if it will be Zoom or in person at City Hall.

X. Adjourn

The meeting was adjourned by the Chair at 4:27 upon a motion made by Judy and seconded by Boris.

Minutes taken and submitted by
Judy Kalmanek, Secretary
Alpena Wildlife Sanctuary Board