

Silver Lake Improvement Association (SLIA)
ANNUAL MEETING MINUTES – Monday, February 2, 2015
North St. Paul City Hall

1.	Attendance – Welcome & Introduction	
	Meeting was called to order at 7:05	
	Board Present	Mark Kotz, Paul Anderson, Mary Anderson, John Muller, Jason Ziemer, Kristen Rieser
	Board Absent	Joyce Germscheid
	Others Present	Jason Lehmer, Anne McComb, Rick Gelbmann, Harold Broman, Chip Welling, Meg Rattei
2.	Approve Agenda	
	John moved, Kristen seconded. All ayes.	
3.	Election of Board Members	
	Re-elected Jason Ziemer and John Muller by acclamation for another 3 year term. No additional individuals expressed interest. We thank Jason and John for continuing to contribute their time.	
4.	Financial Report	
	Beg balance of \$9299. Membership dues collected of \$675. DNR grant received of \$1000. Treatment cost of \$3480. General expenses, including web site, of \$201.43. Ending balance of \$7292.57 Net loss of \$2006 .	
5.	High Water and No Wake – Review of 2014	
	a. Historical High Water Levels vs 2014	2014 was the third highest lake level since we have been recording. In summary, it was an unusual year.
	b. Review of Voluntary No Wake Request	Because of the unusually high water levels across the metro area, mandatory and voluntary no-wake restrictions were common. This information was frequently covered by the media. In general, the voluntary no wake action for Silver Lake was conveyed via email, web site and a sign posted at the public landing. The no wake was lifted by the Board on July 4 th . At that time, the level was about 1½” above the high water mark and trending downward. It was felt to be a positive move in response to all of those who adhered to the voluntary no wake request. The lake level fell below the mark 2 days later.
	c. Feedback from Members	The general consensus from the Board and membership was that the voluntary no wake was an effective approach. The Board shall continue to utilize this approach.

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6.	Invasive Weed Treatment: Review of 2013 & 2014 Treatment:	<p>All agree that the 2013 treatment was highly effective. Unfortunately, the 2014 was deemed ineffective. In order to help others understand the challenges of treating the lake, some additional information was provided:</p> <p>The process for treatment was summarized:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Submit permit paperwork in Winter• Map invasive weed presence after ice out.• Submit a proposal to the DNR, including maps showing the invasives.• DNR conducts an onsite inspection• Treatment needs to occur before native plants are present. <p>2013 – factors for success included: invasive weeds were found early so the permit process was completed early; treatment took place during desirable water temperatures; treatment was completed in a large cluster rather than thin strips.</p> <p>2014 – factors contributing to ineffectiveness: invasive weeds did not show up until late June; native plants were emerging so treatment in the bays was not approved by the DNR; the temperature of the water was warmer than desired; treatment was done in thin strips.</p>
7.	Plans for 2015 and Beyond & Assistance from Valley Branch Watershed District	<p>SLIA reached out to the VBWD in an attempt to learn more. Goals of the lake would include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Improve health of the lake• Increase the native plants• Decrease the invasive plants• Improve water quality (clarity)
	a. Presentation form Meg Rattei, Barr Engineering – consultant for VBWD	<p>VBWD does not want to invest in additional treatments unless they feel it will have some longevity. Silver Lake needs more native plants. In order for native plants to grow, water clarity needs to improve.</p> <p>VBWD does not feel the 10.6 acre treatment area, the amount allowed by the DNR, is enough to be effective. Silver Lake needs an approved Lake Management Plan in order to get an allowance to treat more than the 10.65 acres.</p> <p>To complete a Lake Management Plan, Silver Lake needs to conduct a study and gather more information over the summer. This includes clarity readings based on the effects of boat activity. They would like the Board to consider letting the lake sit for a year (no treatment) while additional information is gathered.</p>

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8.	Open Forum	Chip Welling with the DNR said they have learned a lot from Silver Lake, stating our treatment has been complicated. He does not support lake wide treatment so the SLIA should not count on that. He reminded the members that mechanical harvesting is an option for treatment over and above the 10.65 acres.
9.	Notice of Upcoming Events	None reported.
10.	Adjourn	Meeting was adjourned at 8:30 p.m.

Please note that the two presentation files are posted on the web site:

<http://www.silverlakensp.org/meetings.html>