

Silver Lake Improvement Association (SLIA)

To enhance the water quality, recreational use and natural beauty of Silver Lake

ANNUAL MEETING MINUTES – Jan 29, 2017

www.silverlakensp.org

	Attendance	Rick Gelbman, Joyce Germscheid, John Muller, Paul Anderson, Missy Lillie, Terry Furlong (NSP council member), Mike Kuehn(Mayor of NSP), Mark Kotz, Chris and Becky Johnson, Cheryl Ettlinger, Lincoln Fletcher (Valley Branch Watershed District/VBWD)
1.	Approve Agenda	Approved
2.	Election of Board Members (2 positions)	John Muller elected by voice all aye's. No volunteers to fill Jason's position. We will need to recruit. <i>If anyone in the community is interested please let the board know. You do not have to be home owner on the lake to be on the board.</i>
3.	Financial & Membership Reports	Discussion on DNR funding for 2018. A December posting on their website said no grants in 2018 . Becky Johnson, SLIA member, in attendance, works at the DNR and knows the commissioner. Anything she can do to help? <i>Becky, can you ask if there will be any Grant \$\$\$ available in the future?</i>
4.	2017 Activities	
a	Treatment	2017 – A successful year in the treatment of invasives.
b	Lake Levels	<p>High water levels – damage has occurred to properties along the lakeshore due to high water level; the SLIA has talked to the VBWD asking them to work with the DNR to help; SLIA conducted a survey in 2016, 19 homes reported damage from the survey, 8 had water damage in basements; including a water main break in one home; lots of damage to shore line; extensive erosion. Estimate 25% of lake shore had damage, \$660,000 est. Concern - \$150,000 expected in more damage if lake stays at high level.</p> <p>It is important that all govt parties come up with a solution to the water level of Silver Lake and the volume of water that is coming <i>into</i> our lake; how can it be slowed down? It seems logical to slow it down <i>before</i> it comes into the lake. It takes months without any rain to drop the current lake level. This needs to be coordinated effort. Lincoln (VBWD) said this type of thing is happening all over the place, not just at Silver Lake. However, working with various Gov't agencies is essential in helping resolve this long term. -DNR, VBWD, and Ramsey County? Can our association come up with an overall plan/strategy to go to these agencies with a plan? Help?</p> <p>VBWD can be a strong ally in achieving our goals. SLIA has attended VBWD meetings twice this past Fall; Lincoln Fletcher (VBWD) is on the board there, John has attended meetings. We are the busiest lake in the district. Getting twice the fishing as other lakes in the district. Work with DNR to draw on their expertise to help us manage the lake. Once we get ourselves organized on a broad basis go to them and see how</p>

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		<p>they can help us treat and manage the lake. Takes everyone to come together and get organized.</p> <p>Silver Lake Weir – on the northeast corner of the lake there is a device which was established to help control the lake level. Is this level working to keep Silver Lake at a maintainable level for shoreline damage? Mayor Kuehn will talk to the City about lowering the weir. The weir was turned off for 2 weeks in Oct (illegal), people are doing that because they are frustrated that their homes are being damaged by high water levels. Water level info, no wake is 989.84 ours is set lower than that. Low areas on Swan, Broman’s, Lillie’s, Swan’s, Manthi’s.</p> <p>Swan Water Main Breaks – Recently on Swan Ave, there have been 5 water main breaks so far this year. This street will be replaced next year but unless we do something we’ll continue to have breaks. Address with City engineers and DNR? Mayor Kuehn will talk to city engineer. Home owners are frustrated. The City would be willing to be part of that process. Mayor - will talk to engineer to get assessment on the breaks; New house built on Swan had 200+ dump trucks bringing in dirt which may have greatly added to wear and tear, the high water could contribute to this; in addition, the city has old pipes. Ponds use to exist in Dorothy Park and by Wayne’s house on Swan. Now there are no ponds but high water. City had to raise the area for new equipment at Dorothy park this past fall.</p>
c	Funding	<p>Oakdale residents on east side do benefit from Silver Lake as there are 120 homes on the east side of Century close to the lake.</p> <p>SLIA was too late to apply for Maplewood charitable gaming \$\$ in 2018. SLIA must become a 501c3 non-profit status to qualify for these funds. This will be a goal for us in 2018. Aug/Sept is when we can apply.</p> <p>Ramsey AIS (Aquatic Invasive) program has regular meetings and Rick is attending and talking to them. Their grant funds are for education of prevention of AIS. They are at our boat launch 2-3 times a year for education, signage. Another resource in 2018?</p> <p>Fundraising ideas – golf tournament, bags tournament, maybe at the wine tasting event. Booth at car show (more out of town attendees at that) We will do another Wine tasting in Sept. Get it put in the NSP Electric bill newsletter in July. Go Fund Me page. <i>Ideas are welcome!</i></p>

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5.	2018 Goals	
a	Partnerships	We have a great opportunity to partner with Demontreville and Olson Lake assoc.: possible joint website, consolidated treatments etc. to keep costs down and improve the lake quality and management.
b	Lake Management	<p>A formal Silver Lake 'Plan'. One is needed for Silver Lake going forward. VBWD will help us. Lincoln Fletcher/VBWD will work with SLIA as they do other lake assoc's. Preference would be for VBWD to give us technical assistance, lake plans; lake studies; point intercepts of vegetation; focusing on water quality; and putting in a basin up off Lydia on north end of the lake, a filter system that would curb lake input. 50% of run-off sediment contaminates come in from that run off. They are working on a plan. Lincoln has talked to the city engineers on that street project.</p> <p>Other help would be to get homeowners to put in rain gardens and shoreline gardens, there is grant \$\$ available for those projects. Please contact Lincoln or SLIA if interested!!</p> <p>With this internal loading, we have phosphorus at the bottom of the lake, we need to get inputs managed to clean the water. Then we can do an Allon treatment to bind the phosphorus to keep vegetation down. Problem- it's a shallow lake and turbulence can also cause it to act up. Rick did a study last summer and he didn't see a major bump after a weekend of traffic on the lake. Last 2 years saw less boat traffic. While the lake is stocked by DNR we are not sure why traffic has been down. Weather has had a terrible effect on all the lakes, we saw bigger algae blooms. City of Maplewood brought up issue with the basin since it's in Maplewood.</p> <p>NSP put in sediment pond by tennis courts so both cities are working on this issue. Nice to see coalition of cities.</p>
6.	Lake Treatment	Permitting for 2018 will be done online. Joyce will reach out to Kati Kari now to get our permit for the lake treatment this year. Individual lakeshore permits will also be completed online. Joyce to also get more information on that process and share with homeowners.
7.	Open Forum	<p>Missy concerned about boat launch cement slab uneven. She has notified DNR last fall but maybe will follow up in spring.</p> <p>City of NSP is committed to helping with the lake.</p>
8.	Adjourn	Meeting adjourned 8:30 John moved Joyce seconded.