

Northwoods Chapter of Muskies Inc.

Date: October 8, 2015

Location: Merrill Lynch office, Minocqua

Present: Pete Stoltman, Mike Sasse, Jon Jantzen, Jim Cheshire, Andrew Ragas, John Bennett

Absent: Dean Zaumseil, Nick Durkee, Nick MacDonald

Meeting called to order 7:05 pm

Review & Approve Last Month's Minutes

Mike motioned to approve as submitted, Jon J. second, motion carried.

Treasurers Report:

Aug:

Beg of Month Bal	\$9,105.99
- Expenses	\$6,967.00
+ <u>Income</u>	<u>\$1,465.00</u>
Month End Balance	\$3,603.99

Note: \$5,000 of expenses were donation to DNR for stocking in Vilas and Oneida county.

Sept:

Beg of Month Bal	\$3,603.99
- Expenses	\$ 860.00
+ <u>Income</u>	<u>\$ 848.82</u>
Month End Balance	\$3,592.81

Note: Expect \$1421.25 coming from Musky Alliance boat raffle ticket sales in near future.

Mike motioned to approve report, Jim second, motion carried.

Regional VP Report:

No report

Marketing Report:

Andrew suggested that website be updated with new pictures or he could build new site over winter to give it a fresh look. Also need to update officers and directors listed and will begin to post minutes from board meetings for members to review. Pete will email copy of article on chapter published this summer in Lakeland Times to Andrew to post on site.

Discussed expanding media reach with announcement of club events. Pete and Andrew will discuss further and create a consolidated list of media outlets chapter will use to promote future events.

Newsletter was discussed. John B will send newsletter that Mike forwarded from Milwaukee MI chapter to Andrew for good example and ideas. Jim offered to write newsletter then forward to Andrew for publishing online and email to members.

Mike will draft press release about recent donations to DNR and send to Dean and Andrew to finalize and distribute.

Pete will talk with Steve Worrall from MuskieFirst about joining chapter and helping promote.

Andrew suggested that chapter create posters with educational catch and release tips to be posted at landings. Posters would also include our basic chapter information. Will try on some of the most popular local lakes.

Membership Report:

No report. Pete will talk to Nick M. to update. Nick will need to renew his membership in order to access to membership reports online.

Fisheries Stocking Report:

No report. As earlier noted, that the chapter recently donated \$5,000 (\$2,500 for Vilas county and \$2,500 for Oneida county) to the DNR to help with stocking "action" lakes.

Tournament / Outings Report:

Discussed whether to host tournament for 2016. General consensus was that we would not organize a stand alone event due to competition with several other area tournaments and lack of members willing to help with the organization needed. Decided to explore chamber of commerce circuit with Rhinelander, Minocqua and either St. Germain or Eagle River chambers. Mike will contact Dana DeMet from Rhinelander Chamber to discuss further.

Meeting and Event Report:

Holiday party planning was discussed. Decided to have similar format as past years with a speaker, dinner and raffle prizes. John B will contact Whitetail Inn to see if Jan. 16 or Jan. 23 are available dates. Pete will contact Tony Rizzo to be guest speaker. We need to determine date, venue, speaker, time and cost very soon so we can start promoting this event before end of October.

Pete is continuing to search for a venue that would accommodate the chapter having routine monthly meetings at a set date each month that are open to members.

Youth Programs Report:

No report.

Fishing Contest Report:

No report.

Member comments:

None

Old Business:

Size increase proposal update: Proposal to increase size limit to 50" on Trout Lake and North & South Twin passed Warm Water Committee. Conservation congress will now determine if it makes ballot for 2016 spring hearings. Should know by January.

Chapter Challenge Sept 26: Northwoods had 14 participants and Headwaters had 12 participants. Northwoods caught 3 fish and Headwaters caught 2 so our chapter won the challenge again this year. Big fish was a 45" caught by Chad Popp from our chapter. Fun event, good overall feedback from participants. Overall, expenses were \$730 and income was \$410, so net cost was \$220. Next year will be hosted by headwaters.

New Business:

Jon J. suggested chapter consider hosting a large bait swap in spring. Host at a large venue where beer can be served. Arbor Vitae and St. Germain community buildings might be good options. Board will discuss further at next meeting.

Next board meeting will be Thursday, Nov. 12 , 6pm at Merrill Lynch office.

Jon J. motion to adjourn, Andrew second. Meeting adjourned at 9:03pm.