



Big Eau Pleine Concerned Owners (BEPCO)

DATE/TIME: **November 9, 2008 @ 10:00 am** LOCATION: **Hotchkiss's Last Cast**

1. Introduction-Lynn Patton introduced her-self and explained after reading the City Pages about the Marathon Co. Park Dept. not having money for the aerator on the Eau Pleine, she called some friends and neighbors resulting in the first meeting of the revived BEPCO.
2. Sign in Sheet-Everyone was asked to sign in with their Name, Address, Phone & email address
3. Purpose of meeting-To organize BEPCO with all landowners, hunters, snowmobile clubs, realtors, fisherman, and individuals who use the Eau Pleine to see what can be done about the water level, fish management, tax adjustment for not having lake frontage property.
4. Issue of Election of officers-Individuals volunteered for temporary officers with an election in Jan 2009. Tim Garrigan volunteered to be President; Mike Paul-Vice President; Lynn Patton-Secretary/Treasurer; Tim Garrigan, Scott Borchardt, Mike Paul, Gerald Bucholtz, Larry Frane, Jim Bove, Randy Brown, Carey Abel, and Lynn Patton will comprise the Board of Directors.
5. \$ from old BEPCO organization, Membership dues & checking account-There is approximately \$200 in Associated Bank in Marshfield from the old BEPCO. Lynn will be closing the account and opening a new account at Valley Community CU. There was also a discussion about dues and a motion was made (Tim Garrigan) and seconded (Jim Bove) to have \$25.00 per family/household and \$40.00 for a business. All attendees were in agreement. Everyone was asked to pass the word around about BEPCO.
6. Recent conversation with Peter Knoteck, Deputy Director of Marathon Co./City Park & Forestry Dept. – Update on Aerator & Future relationship-Lynn Patton explained that she had talked with Peter Knoteck and was informed that the DNR was going to be responsible for the aerator this year. Lynn also informed Peter about BEPCO and asked that he share the information with Director Duncanson. Peter suggested that in the future we sit down with the Park Dept. management as well as the Park Commission when we have identified our purpose and goals.
7. Conversation with The Mosinee Times-Pat Patton-Pat thanked Jim and John for their cooperation and support for including a small ad for the meeting today free of charge. It was also noted that the Edgar Record Review would be a paper to get on board as well as the Wausau and Marshfield papers.
8. Pictures and article for the Muskie, Inc-Gerald Bucholtz will be writing an article for Muskie Inc. for 01/09 about the fish and water situation on the Eau Pleine. Information was also shared that Walleyes and Muskies will not be planted in Eau Pleine this year due to the water level.
9. Sharing of other citizen's efforts-Lynn read emails from Jon/Annette Fochs and Ed Hahn. An email and response from the governor's office through contact by Bernard and Betty Yelk was also read.
10. Previous noted ideas:
 - a. Meetings with Marathon County Officials
 - b. Put out collection jugs at local business
 - c. Obtain the Wisconsin Valley Improvement License/Contract to see if they are living up to conditions agreed upon-Tim had a couple of copies of the license and someone mentioned "basically it says that they can do what they want." On 11/9/08, the water level at the dam was 16.1 ft and they can go to 27 feet below the dam.
 - d. Compare taxes between Eau Pleine and DuBay properties
 - e. Involve the media both newspapers and TV with articles and interviews-Channel 55 was interested and the other would probably be as well but someone will need to be interviewed and the President was mentioned as a resource.
 - f. Set up meetings with DNR, WVI, Fish management groups

- g. Prepare flyers and pamphlets to inform people of what we are going and expand our membership-Also set up a meeting in the spring so vacationers can get involved.*
 - h. Everyone take pictures now and on a regular basis-note location & date them for future documentation-Pat Patton agreed to take some aerial pictures and video.*
11. *New ideas-Jim Bove suggested that we get a petition going to get an official involved.*
 12. *Future Planning: Prioritizing, identifying short term and long term goals; and developing future small committees-It was felt that we would take the next 4-6 months and focus and getting organized*
 13. *What next?- Boards Meetings to bring information back to the monthly meetings.*
 14. *Next meeting-date, time, location, and agenda items-Sunday, **December 14, 2008 at 10:00 am at Hotchkiss's Last Cast.***

Submitted by

Lynn J. Patton,

Secretary/Treasurer BEPCO

BEPCO2008@aol.com

715-693-3254