



Public Input Session
Tuesday, October 19th, 2021 4:00-5:30pm
Oakland Town Hall
N4450 County Road A
Cambridge, WI, 53523

I. Welcome and Introductions – Sign-in sheet

Jimmy DeGidio, Chairman, welcomed the group. Present from the board, as well as DeGidio were Debbie Kutz, Georgia Gomez-Ibanez, Craig Kempel, and Walt Christensen. Also present were: Lianna Spencer – Lake Manager, Jon Tilp, Tim Lorden, Tom Lorden, Todd Touton, Dave Springstead, and Tina Springstead.

II. Lake Management Plan Update – Lake Manager

Spencer explained the process of writing the new 10-year lake management plan, revising the form of the plan, and incorporating the new data and information that form the new goals and management actions. The Board has read and approved the new plan. This input session is for the public to comment and is the last step before publishing the plan.

III. Public Input Session

Spencer invited those present to comment. (Please note: conversation was flowing, and this is a summation of those comments.) Only three people present actually provided comment specifically on the new 10-year Lake Management Plan itself:

- Tom Lorden – “Great work, guys! I read the whole thing.”
- Jon Tilp – “It is excellent, very impressive! Congratulations! I liked the quotes at each chapter heading. No insect inventory? There are so many insects in that ecosystem. Critical Habitat Areas are very important to the ecosystem. There’s only one sentence about fast boats, wake boats, but they’re a huge problem. Talk about them in your foreword, Jimmy!”
- Tim Lorden – “Very excellent, but could you make a summation for the layman?”

The rest of the session focused on the problems experienced by those who live along the shoreline, where prop chop is continuously pushed up to the shore by the prevailing winds. Various solutions were voiced. Another concern was buoy placement, which is under the Town’s authority, not the Lake District’s. another topic was non-point source pollution entering the lake from lawns, and the importance of buffer gardens. It was noted that Jefferson County is working on a county-wide stormwater runoff ordinance, which could help Lake Ripley. Also, a farmers group is addressing best practices to help local waterways. The lively conversation covered many topics of interest to residents

and affirmed yet again that we are all working together to protect the lake we all care about. Most issues affecting the lake do not have simple, immediate solutions. The long-term research, data collection and analysis all take time, but in the end will provide us with actions we can take to keep the lake healthy and pleasant for everyone.

Jimmy DeGidio and Lianna Spencer made many excellent responses to all questions and comments, mostly confirming that we know prop chop is a continuous nuisance for people living along that part of Lake Ripley's shoreline, that the harvester cannot pick up individual's weeds, and that some homeowner associations hire kids to rake out plants, as one solution.

IV. Adjournment

Meeting was adjourned at 5:15pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Georgia Gómez-Ibáñez, Secretary
Recorder: Lianna Spencer

Date: October 22, 2021