

Chair's Report, Pigeon Lake District, January, 2023

A new year brings new energy to our collective work. I'm excited about what this year will hold!

56% of survey respondents were AGAINST "no active management" of Pigeon Lake. 13% unsure; 20% neutral). That means only 11% supported doing nothing. There is BROAD support (up to 89%) for active management of and care for Pigeon Lake. Respondents want us doing things.

- 1) Telephone light/electrical hookup at Mathew's Bay—meeting with Dave Tichenel, Justin McAuly, Myron Radtke and 2 others: considering 2 lights down at Mathew's Bay, and electrical hookup/meter. City would have to approve. Dave will put together numbers, and could present at next meeting (Mar 29)
- 2) Meeting with Sara Mullen-Hornung on FB, social media, publicity, website...Sara has made repeated updates to FB page (check it out and "like" posts). She has a mock-up of webpage that she will share at next meeting (Mar 29). Still cannot access current page. May change domain name to PigeonLakeWi.org, and then shut-down current page. Sara has files/photos of everything on current page.
- 3) Does DNR check water quality? They have a volunteer program. Can we organize water-quality monitoring teams? (47 respondents said they'd be interested):
<https://dnr.wisconsin.gov/topic/lakes/clmn>
- 4) Can we organize wildlife/bird monitoring: viewing, recognizing, diversity? Stations/cameras? 48 respondents said they'd be interested):
 - a. Is wildlife healthy in the ecosystem?
 - b. What can we do about the excessive number of geese?
 - c. What is the bird population around Pigeon Lake?
- 5) Story ideas for "Letters from Pigeon Lake" (newspaper column/FB posts)
 - a. Viewing Nature on Pigeon Lake—where to? (130 respondents)
 - b. Boating on Pigeon Lake
 - c. Blast Myths and Facts ^{1, 1, 1}
 - d. Draw-down plusses and minuses
 - e. Birding on Pigeon Lake
 - f. Access to Pigeon Lake: boatlaunches and trails
 - g. Water quality monitoring and updates
 - h. Volunteering to Support PLD
 - i. Fishing—Stocked and Loaded
 - i. Get stories from local fishermen
 - j. 7 Maples: Planting Project
 - k. 7 Maples or Pickerel Point: Viewing Tower?
 - l. Herbicides and AIS
 - i. Weed-cutting: 8.25 cutter loads, 2022 vs. 429 in 2009
 - m. What is DASH—Diver-Assisted Suction Harvesting

- n. Muck Smell: How to Get Rid of It?
 - o. Beach? 50/50 in survey
 - p. Carp
 - q. Partnership with Wild Ones
 - r. Lawncare to Care for the Lake
 - s. Agriculture and Pigeon Lake
 - t. Shoreline Restoration: What and Why?
 - u. Why a Lake District? What are benefits that flow from tax dollars?
 - i. Civic, Environmental, Tourism
 - ii.
- 6) Partnerships to Cultivate: Rotary, Biology/Environmental Classes at HS, Lions, Chamber, etc
- 7) Fundraising: Form "Friends of Pigeon Lake" 501(c)3 nonprofit organization?
- 8) Other fundraising efforts/social events (35 respondents)
- a. Rough Fish Tournament: July 15, 2023
 - b. Kayak Race
 - c. Duck Race
 - d. Ice-Fishing Tourney (in tandem with Winter Whirl, 2024?)
- 9) Board Development: do we add one or two members?

Term ending 2023: J Pahl

2024: Ray Walker, Drew Lundt

2025: Branden Schirpke, Tammy Strey-Hirt

2026: Myron Radtke, Trish Dawson