

## **WAAM (Walleye Anglers Association of Manitoba)**

Nov 9, 2016 Meeting minutes by Dan James

Meeting called to order at 7:10 pm

Approval of minutes from last meeting motioned by Dan Goulet, Earl Allen 2<sup>nd</sup>. Motion carried

### **Intro of New Executive**

Jim Bais, Social network director, Web Page admin, open to suggestions about the website, if anything needs to be added talk to him.

Fundraising Coordinator, Carlo Guzzi...Unable to attend.

Dan James, Secretary...joined partly because I wanted to join a conservation based club, runs a web page Manitoba Poaching and Conservation Awareness.

Matt Gelly, Promotions Director, Member since 2013 wants to maybe get some different clothing ideas, boat towels etc.

Treasurer: Glen Lyshinski 2<sup>nd</sup> term as treasurer, works for cancer care, runs a party bus

Membership Director, Lloyd Piche Enjoys fishing

Vice President, Wayne Gee at the first meeting of WAAM, wants to help grow the club, wants to participate in the charity work, asks for support in the charity events.

President, Mark Klimchuk members since 2011 on exec past 3 years instructor at RRC of auto body tech been fishing 38 years wants to help grow the club

Mark thanked the outgoing executive for their past work on growing the club

**Christmas Party Menu review**..Party is Friday Dec 2 at Winnipeg winter club tickets at 30.00 each or two for 50.00 only 100 tickets and Nov 26 is the cut off, secret Santa 10-15 gift. Party will be held at the Winter club in the River View Room

**Presenter, Rick Wowchuk**, Legislative Assistant to the Minister of Sustainable development.

Rick's role is to support the minister, lifelong resident of Manitoba from Swan river, has a bachelor of Zoology, taught resource management at Swan Valley Regional school.

Rick stated the future of the resource relies on education and the future of recreation of commercial fishing go hand in hand

Honoured when he was asked to be the Legislative assistant, wants to build partnerships with organizations like WAAM and wants to make changes with the people.

They have had to deal with several night lighting issues recently, and violations in the commercial fishery.

Angling industry is a valuable one to the province in 2012 contributed over 400 million dollars to the economy.

Rick was also a member of the Swan Valley sport fish enhancement for 15 years.

Many economic and recreational and social benefits from angling 190K licensed anglers and thousands of youths under the age of 16 take part,

Rick wants to engage youth to make a difference for future generations to catch that big walleye.

Stated we have to bring forth change to benefit the economy and manage the walleye on the south basin of Lake Winnipeg

Some proposed changes maybe a 3 day angling licence looking at options to replace paper licence.

Fish and wildlife enhancement fund helps fisheries across the province such as the Duck mountain rearing ponds, Ten dollars of fees goes to the Fish and wild life enhancement fund, and 5 dollars is going to upgrade the hatchery.

With recreational fishing changes, stake holders are invited to give input and feedback on proposed changes. Proposed changes listed in Anglers guide for one year before being implemented.

Restitution for poaching a fish, or wild life, fines need to be large enough to deter the crime

There is an angling industry forum Nov 16, 2016 a Rep from WAAM has been asked to attend

Choice Marketing for commercial fishermen Eco certification of Lake Winnipeg, Lake MB and Lake Winnipegosis, there is a responsibility to not over harvest the resource with things such as larger net sizes. Rough fish to become a commodity in Gimli, St. Laurent will enhance walleye fishing, and needs to work with indigenous fishers as well as commercial and recreational fishers

Companies will not buy fish unless we are eco-certified, which will ensure sustainability and will use sound science to manage the resources

Waterhen Lake is our only eco certified fishery.

Rainbow smelt population is down causing the walleye in Lake Winnipeg to be smaller.

Zebra mussels spreading, now in Cedar Lake, Grand Rapids, they cannot get into landlocked lakes unless transported by people

Other concerns spiny water flea. Can have a negative impact on angling..

Boat wash stations are supposed to help slow the spread of zebra mussels

All anglers and commercial fishermen have concerns, need to first identify the common goals

Lack of resources for officer's government not considering new spending for new Conservation officers right now, need to control spending as they are accruing 344 million of interest annually.

Dan Goulet, had a question about big walleye in tournaments on the Red, Lake Winnipeg and signing the licence when a Master is caught, can only catch one but there is 3 tournaments. Can only enter one MA fish

Boat cleaning stations not always accessible

Suggestion about a tournament angler licence, to enter more MA walleyes in tournaments

Talked about how to get proposed changes in the guide, contact MLA or the minister

### **New Business**

Glen Talbot talked about the poppy drive, Glenlawn to match the contribution made by WAAM money going to the Norwood legion, mentioned the veteran's wall of remembrance. Remembers MB veterans of WW1 and WW2

WAAM webpage down for 2 weeks, server problems up and running now

Review of event calendar

Garth Cheung, talked about the kid Fish ice derby, Jan 8, planning meeting Mondays at 7pm at Smittys on Regent, the event has grown from 700 to 1200 participants, and raised over 50k the last two years,

Motion brought by Mark to buy ice rods for kids at special events, Craig indicated that the motion was already accepted and there was the ability to do so

Financial report, \$4556.00 in the account, \$600 in the float

Memberships are due

Reliant Action offering a club discount to WAAM members details on the website

Real Safety solutions to become a club sponsor and offer discounts to members copy of the discounts available and products to be on the face book page

Next Meeting Dec 14 at Glen Lawn...Motion to adjourn at 9:30pm

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