

# TOWER LAKES DRAIN PARTNERSHIP MEETING MINUTES

Monday, January 19, 2015  
6:00-8:00 p.m.

## *Present*

Lisa Woolford, BACT

Mike Novotney, LCSWMC

Paul Berlin, LBS

Paul Dietzen, TMBRL

Steve Burgoon, TLIA

Brian Vallesky, ILMA

Rich Bahr, TLIA

Beth Adler, BACT

Nancy Schumm, VTL

Loretta Adams, Slocum Lake

John Lambert, Bangs Lake Alliance

Barb Day, LBS

**Introductions and Administration** – All attendees introduced themselves. Everyone used the sign-in roster.....  
GREAT ..... makes things easier.

**Steering Committee** -- Steve discussed that the “Steering Committee” – Barb Day (LBS), Brian Vallesky (ILMA), Mike Novotney (LCSWMC), Paul Dietzen (TMBR), Steve Burgoon (TLIA), Lisa Woolford (BACT) had met two times to develop the team’s mission statement, objectives, tactics and spring calendar. Steve reviewed all aspects of the plan and the group in attendance approved the document. Going forward all of our actions and results can be evaluated in accordance with this plan. We will review this plan quarterly to assess our accomplishments and next steps.

**Spring Meetings** – to accommodate the Village of Tower Lakes and its Planning Commission the group agreed to move our regular meeting night to the fourth Monday of the month. The dates that follow are adjusted accordingly. Meeting subjects can/will be adjusted as necessary.

Monday, February 23 -- Funding sources

Mike Novotney (SMC) to discuss SMC-related funding and resources

Brian Vallesky provided additional input on other funding sources and resources?

February 19-21 (Thursday - Saturday) -- ILMA 30<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference

Monday, March 23 –

Weed Harvesting – Paul Dietzen -- TMBR

Grant application and writing -- Nancy Schumm

Monday, April 27– Dredging – Geo Bags – TLIA

Monday, May 25 – Dredging – Mechanical – Bangs Lake

Monday, June 22 – Fish Management (IDNR)

## **Guest Speaker – Beth Adler, BACT**

Beth provided a very detailed presentation on the Conservation at Home (C@H) program that is offered by Barrington Area Conservation Trust (BACT). Beth spent considerable time discussing the challenges provided to the watershed from stormwater runoff – pollutants, salts, septic effluent, fertilizers, etc. All of these materials negatively impact lake quality.

Of particular importance is the effort made by the community of Burnsville Minnesota. They wanted to lower the Phosphorous loads entering their lake. They teamed up to install numerous rain water gardens to soak up large amounts of stormwater rather than allow it to enter the lake through storm sewers. This project took place in 2003. The community and home owners installed 17 rain gardens along road san in a backyard swale. Post installation the community found that they reduced total runoff to the lake by an amazing 90%!!!

This type of project is one of the most practical remedies to lower phosphorous entry to a water retention basin, lake or pond. The key feature of the program is that it can be installed by homeowners. The C@H program will provide a consultant to visit a homeowner property to evaluate and suggest methods to bring more native plants, rain gardens, and rain barrels in an effort to reduce poor landscaping that is causing damage to the environment. With evaluation and selection a homeowner can earn a C@H designation with street signage.

After completion of the program the lakes discussed the program. Some of the lakes will contact Beth to have C@H provide a presentation to their lake members in hopes of community participation. Lakes outside the BACT jurisdiction will be referred to the correct servicing agency. Steve Burgoon will discuss C@H with the TLIA Lake Committee to see about further expansion of the program in TLIA and possible invitation of other lakes to our presentation.

## **Lake Sharing**

**Lake Barrington** – Paul Berlin – LB will be voting this month for approval to implement an alum treatment on their lake to control algae that is getting excessive.

**Tower Lakes** – Rich Bahr –TLIA Lake Committee did not approve any funding to install aeration system(s) to avoid a winter fish kill. With the warmer weather and a lack of snow the team feels good about our chances this year. TLIA and the Village of TL did receive a \$12,000 Watershed Management Board (LCSWMC) grant for a project to mitigate an “eroded” mess at Lathan’s Landing” and use some of our ur silt spoils to fill the site then re-landscape. We will feature this project and the process at a future meeting.

**Timber Lake** -- Paul Dietzen shared that there is a larger area in TMBR with a large ravine which has so much tree canopy that it will not allow for lower lying vegetation as in rain gardens. How can they utilize the C@H or like process to minimize the excessive erosion and silt that they experience? Nancy Schumm and Mike Novotney said they would discuss with Paul.

**Slocum Lake** -- Loretta Adams – With the significant erosion that they have at Slocum Lake, Loretta believes that they will be able to utilize the C@H program.

**Bang’s Lake** – Jon Lambert -- Jon definitely wants to utilize the C@H program.

The meeting adjourned at 8 PM.