**Minutes of the McDill Inland Lake Protection and Rehabilitation District Dredging Committee Meeting**

 **5:50 PM Thursday March 1, 2018 at the Ben Franklin Junior High School Library**

**Commissioners Present:** Krista Olson, Joe Blonigen, Dave Enerson, Bob Gifford, Gary Hurm, Mike Phillips and Marv Van Kekrix.

**Also present were:** Dave Burger and Paul Killian from GEI, plus Scott Beduhn and Joe Lemke from the City of Stevens Point.

**Review Limits of Dredging:** GEI handed out a map outlining the potential area to be dredged, which includes the silt trap that was dredged in 2001-2002. Krista showed a map of the area dredged previously for comparison and one from 2017 showing the areas that filled in. GEI said the proposed potential dredge area would produce about 16,000 cubic yards of dredge material. The material would cover about 0.9 acres 11 feet high. There was a question if a dredging of a wider shallower area would do a better job of dropping sediment than a deeper narrower dredge, as performed previously. GEI said the sources of the sediment would require a study. Dave Enerson said such studies have been done and are available for review.

**Possible Sediment Disposal Sites:** GEI asked about potential disposal sites for the sediment dredged. Deposit of dredge material on the park land adjacent to the area to be dredged, would require approval by the City of Stevens Point. Approval by the city is thought to take about 30 days. The city may allow sediment to be deposited in lower lying areas of the park and/or be temporarily stocked piled until remove for use elsewhere vs being immediately trucked to another location. A question was asked whether a drawdown of the Pond of about 3 feet would allow access equipment to excavate the sediment in the area to be dredged as a cheaper option than hydraulic dredging piped to the disposal site? There is a concern expressed of the amount time need for the lake bed to be dry enough or whether it would get dry enough to allow equipment in the area.

**Discussion of the Project Budget:** Dredging and disposal of the material is estimated to be $30 to $40 per cubic yard. There does not appear to be funding for the project from either the City of Stevens Point or Portage County. GEI said funding could be available from a Recreational Boating Facilities Grant. The grant would need to be applied for and is awarded on a competitive basis. Applications for this grant however have exceeded the amount awarded annually. If no outside funding is available and the project is totally paid by the Lake District members, would require an additional annual assessment of about $375 annually over a 10 year period.

The discussion then turned to the dredging of the river going through Iverson Park. This area would be accessible for dredging from the shore and trucked out for disposal. Dredging was performed along the swimming beach of Iverson Park by the city prior to the opening of the Copps swimming pool. Dredging of this area is thought to reduce the amount of sediment entering McDill Pond. It was questioned whether excessing permits would allow dredging in the Park. If not the Lake District has experience in obtaining such permit. This would also require approval by the City of Stevens Point. It was also suggested that past drawdowns of the Pond increased the fill in of the silt trap and the life of the silt trap could be longer without future drawdowns of the Pond.

**Next Steps:** Submission of a pre-application to the DNR with assistance from GEI. Request a conditional use permit with the City of Stevens Point for disposal of dredge material.

The next quarterly McDill Lake District Commissioners meeting is agreed to be held at 6:30 PM on April 19, 2018 at the Ben Franklin Junior High School Library.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Joe Blonigen Secretary McDill Lake District.