

AIS Plan Task Force Members Present:

Joe Shneider, Christmas Lake Association  
Tom Frahm, Lake Minnetonka Association  
Ken Gothberg, Citizens for the Minnehaha Creek Corridor  
Doug Babcock, Lake Minnetonka Conservation District  
Jay Green, Anglers for Habitat  
Gabriel Jabbour, Tonka Bay Marina  
Sara Wyatt, Three Rivers Park District  
Bob Fine, Minneapolis Park & Recreation Board

Not Present: Steve Gunther, Lake Minnewashta Preservation Association  
Kurt Zuppke, Pierson Lake Association  
Vern Wagner, Anglers for Habitat  
Tom Casey, MCWD Citizens Advisory Committee  
Lee Keeley, MCWD Citizens Advisory Committee  
Jerry Moja, Carver County Parks Commission  
Tom Niccum, Minnetonka Portable Dredging

Also Present:

Craig Dawson, AIS Program Director  
Louis Smith, District Counsel (arrived 5:25 p.m.)  
Eric Fieldseth, AIS Specialist  
Sherry White, MCWD Board and Hydrodata Committee Member  
Bill Olson, MCWD Board and Hydrodata Committee Member

**1. Call to Order**

The meeting began at 5:05 p.m.

**2. Acceptance of December 19, 2012, Meeting Notes**

The meeting notes were accepted without comment.

### **3. Review of In-progress Draft of AIS Management Plan**

Craig Dawson reviewed the text of the Plan drafted to date. He asked that the group review what had been prepared for clarity and completeness, rather than to engage in wordsmithing. Task Force members were generally pleased with the completeness and quality of what had been prepared thus far. The next topic planned to be addressed in the text related to regulation and legislation, and the following issues were identified for inclusion:

- Ways to safeguard lakes from infested watercraft (e.g., home lake; red-lake / blue lake)
- Strong penalties and significant consequences for violations of AIS laws and regulations (e.g., very stiff fines, confiscation of watercraft, revocation of license)
- Raise priority of enforcement of AIS laws and regulations by local law enforcement

There was discussion to clarify which units of government have what levels of authority to enact laws and regulations, and their powers for enforcement.

### **4. Other Matters**

Sara Wyatt related that the Three Rivers Park District Board is still considering boat operator licensure as part of its legislative agenda for 2013. There had been some concern about a long-term funding mechanism if this should be enacted.

Gabriel Jabbour, Jay Green, Joe Shneider, and Craig Dawson had attended the “DNR Roundtable” in Saint Paul on January 4-5. They shared their observations of the meeting sessions. AIS had not been identified as a top priority of the DNR as it had been at the 2012 Roundtable. DNR speakers stated that the major, revolutionary initiatives had been undertaken during the last few years, and that changes in its efforts during the next several years would be more evolutionary and incremental in nature. The DNR acknowledged that it will need to work more closely with local interests in implementing State and local measures.

### **5. Next Meeting**

The Task Force’s meetings were scheduled for Wednesday, January 23, was canceled. The next meeting will be held on Wednesday, February 6. It is hoped that the Task Force can conclude its work in terms of approving a draft plan on February 20.

### **6. Adjournment** took place at 6:20 p.m.

Submitted by: Craig Dawson, Recorder