

Minutes for the August 2, 2017 - LGA Monthly Meeting (APPROVED)
Lake Gaston Baptist Church

At 9:30 AM President Mazine Lowe called the meeting to order. Mazine led those in attendance with the Pledge of Allegiance and then requested a moment of silence. Mazine requested a motion to approve the agenda which was made by Jack Saunders, seconded and passed.

In attendance were President Mazine Lowe, Directors' Jeff Dowhan, Carol Warfel, Wally Sayko, Tony Moran, Jack Saunders, Al Potter, Brian Goldsworthy and Executive Director Moira Underwood. Also participating were 31 members/guests.

Mazine introduced AJ Reyes, Extension Associate, NC State University Department of Crop Science, who provided an excellent layman's update on the lake's Re-Vegetation Project and treatment efforts. AJ's comments were well presented and he made it easy to understand how we are doing on the lake with our two nemesis, Hydrilla and Lyngbya.

In the past you have read the Hydrilla efforts have been successful and we are down to approximately 300 acres on the lake. We can't claim total success but AJ encourages dock owners who have concerns about Hydrilla to contact him. AJ also referenced a new APP both for IOS and Droid mobile users to assist in identifying different types of aquatic plants on the lake. Search "Aquatic Plants" (NCSU Aquatic Division). Just so you know if you click on a photo the app may crash. However, the photo at least quickly provides visual identification on your handheld device.

As to Lyngbya, AJ reminded us this isn't just a Lake Gaston problem. When present we know how it impacts what we do on the water. He also told us how harmful algae blooms can impact a city's water supply. AJ said something called Cyanobacteria (like Lyngbya) threatened the water supply in Toledo, Ohio. Ongoing efforts continue to find the right solution to at least control the algae. Monthly treatments are underway to figure out what works best. The good news is the Lake Gaston Weed Control Council, AJ Reyes (NCSU) and the LGA continue to support efforts to control this evasive vegetation.

If you have specific questions or concerns about aquatic vegetation, please contact AJ Reyes (aquaticplants@ncsu.edu) or Wally Sayko with the LGA/Lake Gaston Weed Control Council (wasay1943@gmail.com).

Our next speaker was Bruce Johnson who spoke about the Annual Fall Aquatic Plant Survey. VOLUNTEERS are needed!! Between September 1 and October 31, 6,000 survey points (it's a big lake) need to be checked. The goal is around 200 points per day. Bruce walked us through how to use the mobile tablet which is provided and other aids to quickly and efficiently survey the lake. He will offer training on August 24th or (Saturday) August 26th at 9:00 AM or by appointment. Pick your own team and the survey can be done on "your" stretch of shoreline (you get to select) when convenient.

This is one of our top priorities each year and helps determine areas that need attention the following year. Please accept this invite to do a good deed on the lake which will benefit everyone. Please email Bruce at brucejohnson659@gmail.com to volunteer.

If you would like more information about any of the LGA committees or would like to come out and help at one of the special events, please email info@lakegastonassoc.com or visit www.lakegastonassoc.com.

As a reminder, our next meeting will be on September 6, 2017, and our the speakers will be the five county sheriff's who are responsible for policing activity around the lake. This should be an interesting meeting.

With no further comments, Mazine closed the meeting at 11:00 AM.

Respectfully submitted,

Brian Goldsworthy, Secretary