

Sunset Lake Association
DNR Grant Application Meeting - #4
July 10, 2025

Board Members present: Pat Quigley, Nola Knight, Peg Milosevich, Katie Simenson

Others present: Chris Hamerla, Golden Sands Regional Aquatic Invasive Species Coordinator

Call to Order: The meeting started at 7:02 p.m.

Grant Writing Initiative Update:

The purpose of this meeting was for Chris to educate and inform us. To bring Chris up to speed, Pat provided a brief update about our efforts. (Fortunately, Chris is willing to provide technical assistance in applying for a grant.) Briefly:

- 2009 – Milfoil was identified in Sunset Lake and volunteers have handled removal. We identified colonies and harvested what we could.
- 2022 – Lake Association was founded.
- 2024 – DASH divers for 5 days
- 2025 – DASH divers are scheduled for 3 days based upon funding (end of July/early August)

Chris shared the DNR Surface Water Grant Link (<https://dnr.wisconsin.gov/aid/SurfaceWater.html>) for everyone's reference. We discussed applying for a Surface Water Planning grant, which has a deadline of November 15, 2025.

We need to develop an APMP (Aquatic Plant Management Plan) to be completed in 2026 and then apply for an AIS (Aquatic Invasive Species) Management grant in 2026 to be implemented starting in 2027. We have a lake management plan which we will share with Chris to determine if that has the potential to be the APMP since the DNR requires that we have an approved APMP before we can apply for the AIS Management Grant.

We have two options:

- Develop the APMP ourselves using the data in the Sunset Lake Management Plan and apply for the AIS Management Grant this year or next year.
- Apply for a Planning Grant this year and hire a consultant to develop the APMP, then apply for the AIS Management Grant next year.

Additionally:

- The DNR has ultimate control over the grants.
- The grant requires an updated PI (Point Intercept) plan, which we completed in 2022, but must be updated every 5 years. We may want to consider updating it since the grant might be after the expiration.
- A stakeholder survey is also necessary – which was completed by Tracy Arnold in 2023 and approved by the DNR.

- The AIS planning grant needs to include data about the lake – baseline water information along with water quality information. We should also articulate the importance of the beach and proximity of “stuff”.
- The grants are very competitive and there is no template for the APMP. The Grant Application form is the template for the grants.
- One option is to consider hiring someone to write the grant, but there is no guarantee of success. Katie offered to look at some potential AI options for assisting in preparing the grant.

Chris also offered to share the Lake Helen Aquatic Plant Management Plan for reference.

Clean Boats Clean Waters Grant

Chris shared that it is a watercraft inspection program with a person at the boat landing providing education, gathering information and walking around the boats. The DNR grant is for \$4,000 with a 200-hour minimum requirement. We could hire some to do it or enlist volunteers. There is no equipment needed, just information. This grant is not competitive.

Unfortunately, we ran out of time and will continue to discuss at our next Board meeting.

Next Meeting Date

The meeting ended at 7:58 p.m.

- The next Board meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, July 30th at 7:00.

Please let me know if you have any questions. Thank you!

Respectfully submitted,

Peg Purcell Milosevich

