BOARD OF DIRECTORS MINUTES

Strategic Plan - https://friendsofspiritlake.com/images/sitepics/Strategic_Plan_v2_Sept2022.pdf
Goal One: Improve safe recreational opportunities for the community of Spirit Lake and the surrounding areas
Goal Two: Mitigate environmental impact: improve water clarity and flow and prevent and manage potential flooding
Goal Three: Take steps to protect natural lake flora and fauna

Date: October 26, 2026– Meeting time: 10:00 – Noon
Location: Spirit Lake Museum, 6th and Jefferson and Zoom

Board Members: Dan Beha, Paul Sturm, Kurt Peterson, Jerry Peterson, Galen Beem, Rob Brewster, Tod Kiblen, Tim King, Ron Largent, Justin Morrison, Ed Niblock, Dustin Thiers, Margie Wilke. Wyatt Brown

Advisors: Carol Capra, Doug Freeland, Randy Hurst, Brad Pendleton, Linda Pendleton

Attending: Dan Beha, Paul Sturm, Jerry Peterson, Galen Beem, Dustin Thiers, Tim King, Tod Kiblen, Wyatt Brown

Advisors Attending: None

Guests Attending: Hal Monheim & Dave Krise

Absent Excused: Kurt Peterson, Margie Wilke, Ed Niblock

Absent Unexcused: Rob Brewster, Justin Morrison

Call to Order: Meeting called to order at 10:00 AM

BOARD MEETING AGENDA

Introduction of Attending Guests: Hal Monheim & Dave Krise

Agenda Approval: Accepted With No Discussion

Approval of Minutes: September Board Meeting Minutes – Approved With Unanimous Vote

1. **Treasures Report -** Jerry Peterson
   a. See Treasurers Report Attached
   b. HIP Grant Returned to State
      i. **Motion to Approve:** Galen Beem
      ii. **Seconded:** Wyatt Brown
      iii. **None Opposed – Approved**

Old Business:

2. **Board and Committee Reports**

   a. **Boat Wakes & Erosion** – Ron Largent Update

i. Small Lakes Coalition actively engaged with Kootenai County and still working on gathering a larger coalition group.
ii. Ron is less unavailable as Main Representative of Spirit Lake due to work conflicts. Missed last 2 meetings, and is requesting New or Joint Representative with time to attend future meetings.
iii. Jerry Peterson ops to assist Ron going forward as Joint Representative.
iv. Dustin Thiers has documented erosion pictures across lake in October 2026, to begin providing photo documentation for future needs on a Spring, Mid Summer, & Fall Basis. Will document location of each picture, and send to Jerry For Archival.

b. Brickel Creek – Paul Sturm Update
i. No Current Updates, Possible New Update Spring or Summer 2027 with Landowner

c. Communications – Paul Sturm & Dan Beha Update
i. Newsletters: Discussion about Timing and Number of Yearly Newsletters, to possibly reduce spending overhead. Currently At 4 Mailings Per Year. Jan/Feb – April/May – July – Oct/Nov.
ii. January February Newsletters may be skip-able, or combined with April newsletter going forward.
iii. Consensus was that 3 is the bare minimum news letters, but 4 is still reasonable.
iv. Dan brought up using the Jan/Feb newsletter to focus on Membership & Donation Drives.
v. Dan wants to focus on Membership and increase participation of community in 2027

d. **Water Quality –** Jerry Peterson Update
i. Nutrient Loads such as Nitrates are high and accumulating compared to previous years, will continue monitoring. Property Owners continue to burn on beaches, which will exasperate nutrient loading.
ii. No further discussion.

e. **Invasives** – No update
i. Doug Freeland Removal of Mill Foil to be Discussed in New Business

New Business:

1. Mill Pond Sink Holes – Hal Monheim & Dave Krise – Inspection Completed & Update

a. Inspection Update – With Video & Map - Map Attached
i. 1 large actively draining sink sole, with evidence of another larger one nearby that has collapsed, and 15 smaller holes identified.
ii. Larger holes are appearing along a liner connection, where the liner material was either not laid properly, or was disturbed in some manner, allowing for water to bypass.
iii. Both larger holes are in the same vicinity and appear to be along the same liner line of the previous 2015 hole discovered and repaired.
iv. Possible the whole liner connection along the overlap may be failing. Circa year 2000 original liner install.

b. **Future Planning - Discussion:** Long term maintenance yearly is likely necessary until a larger repair is conducted.
i. Discussion: Possibly excavate entire line of liner overlap, and lay new liner down over the connection to fix that specific issue area.
ii. Use of Bentonite Clay, or Flocculant to seal the smaller holes, and possibly the larger.
iii. Galen commented that it may be prudent to plan to replace entire liner and re-do the project, with better materials, and a better understanding of what issues arise after 25+ years of the existing system

iv. Roadway and Bridge system reduces silt flow into millpond which could seal smaller holes as they arise.
v. Bridge is ending end of life (1978-1979 Install), and Lakes Highway district has long-term but not concrete plans to repair.
vi. May be a time to coordinate with LHD, City of Spirit Lake, and other relevant organizations to discuss a better fix for the fill-bridge system that allows for better water flow into the mill pond.
vii. Jerry: LHD says larger grants and coordination with other agencies will be needed.

c. Steps Forward – Discussion:

i. Paul - Good evidence has been collected of the repairs needed, suggests Jerry share info with IDL, and make plan as to who or what combination of entities may assist or conduct repair.
ii. Jerry: Will collect photos of the existing holes, and get approval with IDL, with a repair proposal to do the excavation and add overlapping material ASAP, with intent to repair this year. Will need another meeting to discuss after connections have been made, with permitting and recommendations.
iii. Dan: Explore full liner repair in area of main leaks, with a proposed budget for cost of project. Separate larger holes and small holes into separate projects/repairs.
iv. A separate executive meeting will be necessary prior to repair.

d. Motions Made:

i. **Motion:** Dan Beha – Motion to Move Forward with Proposed Plan of excavating liner connection where leaks are occurring, add overlap connections with new liner, and re-cover.
ii. **Seconded:** Galen Beem
iii. **None Opposed - Passed**

2. Maiden Boat Launch Issue – Galen Beem & Dustin Thiers Update

a. **Galen - Report:** Meeting at Bayview community center was an organizing of the affected groups, primarily from the Bayview community. Organizing to discuss with the County Commissioners on the Oct 27th meeting in CDA, to show a united front that this issue needs to be resolved. Lakes Highway District representative attended, says that all 3 lakes need coordinate and work together to resolve this. Bayview is in danger of losing its only boat access, and the only access on the south side of lake Pend'Orielle for emergency access, including the Navy.

b. Discussion:

i. Dustin: Issue of the county no longer maintaining the Maiden Rock launch has minimal effect on Spirit Lake, compared to Bayview, but no path forward can be decided upon until the Oct 27th meeting with the County Commissioners. Dustin volunteers to attend the meeting.
ii. LHD also has a proposed agreement of a 10 year - $1 lease of the Maiden Rock launch that will allow for maintenance and improvements, that can be awarded to a government entity, 501 (c3), or LLC, as long as remains open to the public, the leaser has a $500,000 liability police, among other stipulations.
iii. Jerry notes that a lawyer will be needed to asses the lease agreement

c. Motions Made:

i. **Motion:** Jerry Peterson - **Table Discussion until after Oct 27th Meeting**
ii. **Seconded:** Dustin Thiers
iii. **None Opposed - Passed**

3. SLPOA Board Calender – No Discussion

4. Logs In Narrows / Public Laumch – Dustin Thiers Update

a. **Dustin Report:** Currently 60 logs identifed that are within 3' of the surface, in the 60' center of the narrows centered on the no wake buoys. Large portion are located in front of Galen Beems property on the west side. 20 Logs are less than 18", and 7 are 12" or less and show signs of prop hits or are partially floating.
   i. Current Depth of Narrows: Lake Haven No Wake Buoy – 8' Chetaqua No Wake Buoy – 6' Galen No Wake Buoy – 3' Last Buoy by Launch – 2' Culvert in front of Launch – 18"

b. **Discussion:**
   i. Dan – IDL is ok with removal of danger logs & trees without permit as long as they are notified
   ii. Paul – Combine 7 hazard logs with Lake Cleanup 2027 with any other hazard logs

c. **No Motions Made**.

5. **Stipend for Museum Use –**
   a. **Discussion:** Increase Stipend for SLPOAs use of the Spirit Lake Museum for Association Meetings. Currently $150/year.

   b. **Motions Made:**
      i. **Motion: Dan Beha - Raise Stipend from $150 to $500.**
      ii. **Seconded:** Jerry Peterson
      iii. **None Opposed – Passed**

6. **Millfoil Expenses –**
   a. **Discussion:** Compensating Freeland Family for last Mill Foil Removal, previously ~$2,000.

   b. **Motions Made:**
      i. **Motion: Paul Sturm – Motion to get official price on removal, and not to exceed an allotted $3,500.**
      ii. **Seconded:** Jerry Peterson
      iii. **None Opposed – Passed**

7. **Broken Maiden Rock Launch Wake Zone Signage -**
   a. **Discussion:** Replacement Post & Sign already purchased and available, Galen will replace both by Spring.

   b. **Motions - None**

8. **Member Survey & Strategic Plan Review –**
   a. **No Update, No Discussion.**

   b. **Motions - None**

9. **Winter Gala –**
   a. **Discussion:** Dan Beha will head Gala & Tree Decoration again. Ask for volunteers for decorations and $ to assist Dan, as he fronted the cost last year. Gala was a hit and exceeded expectations last year with a ~$900 return on the distribution of funds by the organizers. Positive comments on how it went and how it was run.

   b. **Motions Made:**
      i. **Motion:** Paul Sturm – Have SPLOA spend $200 for Gala this year

ii. **Seconded:** Wyatt Brown
iii. **None Opposed** – Passed.

10. **Lake Water Usage –**
    a. **Discussion:** How irrigation may be and by what amount is it affecting the water levels. Jerry believes it has negligible affect, but he will use his own irrigation water usage to aggregate out an estimated calculation of the total water usage by lake front properties.

    b. Motions - None

11. For the Good of the Order:

a. Possible New Members Interested: Cassandra Hillard (New Property Owner) & Jake Stockton – Local Chiropractor Neither were able to attend meeting this time.

b. **Signatory Privileges –** Need to keep Paul Sturm as signatory on accounts, as he is no longer President. Possibly keep Paul on Executive Committee, or change bylaws to include previous President or Executives as signators in the future.
   i. **Motion Made**: Jerry Peterson – Give Paul Sturm continued Signatory rights for SLPOA bank accounts.
   ii. **Seconded:** Dustin Thiers
   iii. **No Opposed – Passed - Jerry Peterson Proxy for Galen Beem for Vote**

c. **Next Meeting Date: Jan 9, 2027– 10:00 A.M. – Spirit Lake Museum, 6th and Jefferson + Zoom;** Objective to fill VP and one board member position; strategic plan review deferred to a dedicated session (likely January).

d. **Jan 9 Meeting or Another TBD Meeting to be Executive Meeting Only**.

12. **Adjourn Board Meeting:** Meeting adjourned @ 11:50 AM


N TOMAHO CT
W MAINE ST
W SALISHAN WAY
W VERMONT ST
2026 Small Holes
2026 Large Holes
2015 Hole
2026 Mill Pond
Hole Location Map