



# Lake Orono Improvement Association INC.

Wednesday, June 21<sup>st</sup> 2017 @ 6:00 pm

Location: Lake Orono Park Shelter

- Committee Reports
  - Water Quality Committee Report/Update – Christy Cox, Patrick Plant, Dan Cibulka
    - Lake Management Plan Goals

The LOWQC recommends the following goals take place in order to preserve and enhance the ecological and aesthetic integrity of Lake Orono:

1. That our 2017 – 2020 lake Orono Management Plan be adopted by the Elk River City Council
  - Ensure that goals are realistic, attainable, and funding paths determined, supported by concrete action plans and evaluation mechanisms
2. Implement a comprehensive program to alleviate current ecological stressors and recreational impairment, brought about by excessive non-native vegetation, native plant overgrowth, algae proliferation and sedimentation
  - The LOWQC will investigate the feasibility, financial and political support for two primary tools – **dredging and a partial lake drawdown, for implementation during 2017-2020**
    - Establish a program to remove 120,000 cubic yards of sediment to return Lake Orono to its historic baseline depth: an average of 5' or greater
    - To be funded from a combination of 50% from State Legacy funds or State bonding capacity, 25% through lake property owner assessments and 25% from a very modest city-wide tax
    - Pursue land best management practices to extend this investment in lake and river infrastructure to a 30-year life cycle
  - Put in place **a consistent Lake Vegetation Management Plan to effectively address invasive plants, native plant overgrowth and algae proliferation**
    - It is proposed the plan be funded through the creation of a Lake Improvement District (LID) and/or Friends of Lake Orono Fund
3. Maintain, restore or establish natural upland buffers to encourage wildlife, help prevent decline in species, deter Canada geese, and provide enjoyment for future generations
  - Primary strategy will be the Lake Orono Improvement Association partnering with the **Sherburne COLA** and using City of Elk River programs and educational mediums
4. Increase public awareness and use of Best Management Practices targeting the reduction of sedimentation, phosphorus and salt inputs from upstream and shoreline sources to Lake Orono
  - Same strategy as goal 3
5. Build the public perception and “brand” of Lake Orono as a quality recreation destination, valuable community asset and safe lake
  - Primary strategy will be using Lake Orono Improvement Association and City of Elk River communication tools, programs and educational mediums