

CULLEN LAKES ASSOCIATION
Board of Directors Meeting
9:00 a.m., October 14, 2017, Lutheran Church of the Cross

Present: Ann Beaver, Charlie Boudrye, Jim Burrell, Dan Hurley, Joel Knutson, Anne Kostreba, Carol Lindahl, Jack McNamara

Absent: Paul Beilfuss, C.B. Bylander, Patty Hicks, Rich Johnson, John MacGibbon, Debi Oliverius, Denny Opsahl

1. **Ann Beaver, president, called the meeting to order.**
2. **Approval of Minutes:** A motion was made, seconded and carried to approve the September 9 Board meeting minutes.
3. **Treasurer's report:** Jack McNamara distributed copies of the report, noting monthly expense reporting and the comparison to the approved budget for the year. During discussion it was agreed that Jack would prorate the interest earned against the legacy fund and the general funds. Jack also distributed expense report forms that can be used for reimbursement. A motion was made, seconded and carried to approve the Treasurer's report.
4. **Review of agenda:** The agenda was adopted as presented.
5. **Committee assignments for 2017-2018:** Ann Beaver said the committee assignments she emailed to board members before the meeting were now final.
6. **Committee reports:**
 - a. **Administration:** Ann reported that she has delayed asking Pam Perry to be the speaker at next year's Annual Meeting due to illness in Pam's family. Ann agreed to talk with Dan Long to see if he would be interested in presenting their family's history on the lake. Carol Lindahl reported that all procedures had been sent for review and updating by the applicable Board members and nearly all are finalized. Dan Meixner has agreed to draft a procedure for the website and Jack is working on the treasurer's procedures.
 - b. **Budget & Finances:** Jack reported in Paul Beilfuss's absence that the "legacy fund committee" had not yet had a chance to meet and that no audit has been done.
 - c. **Education:** Ann reported that the newsletter is at the printer and will be distributed next week. Dan Meixner has received information on a new update from Go Daddy, which hosts our website, that has improved capability but requires the current site to be transitioned to the new platform. The Board moved, seconded and approved a motion to authorize Dan to make the move to the new platform.
 - d. **Environmental Issues:** Anne Kostreba noted that she and Jack are working on a proposal to seek funds from CWEPA (which have to be matched by CLA) to plant trees along the new highway sections between the road and Lower Cullen. It was suggested that the legacy fund monies might be available to cover our matching dollars if a grant is approved. She has also talked to MnDOT regarding expectations for road clean-up with the expanded highway. Board agreed to end this commitment given the changes in the highway and general reduced interest in volunteering from our membership. Anne also reported on discussions with the Dufours on their experience with the loons this season. They reported that the platform by their property had a nest with two eggs and one hatched but did not survive. Anne has volunteered to write an article on loons on our lakes for the spring newsletter.
 - e. **Fisheries:** No report.

f. Invasive Species: Ann reported that we used 197 hours on Lower Cullen and 197.5 hours on Middle Cullen of public access monitoring provided by State funding through Crow Wing County. She has sent letters to property owners on both sides of the channel between Lower and Middle Cullen to ask permission to place signage alerting boats of the risk of transporting zebra mussels from Lower to Middle. Board agreed that this would still be a good education effort. Clarke has given us a new three-year contract proposal for CLP treatments. The contract mirrors our current contract and specifies a 5 percent increase annually to cover cost of chemicals. A motion was made, seconded and carried to authorize Ann Beaver to sign this contract. Ann noted that the Minnesota Lakes and Rivers Advocates continue to lobby the Minnesota legislature to eliminate taxes paid by lake associations on AIS treatments.

g. Land Development: Good Ol' Days resort presented a sketch plan showing a possible expansion of the resort to the Nisswa planning commission. The new buildings would be located north of the current properties. Originally planned as 10 new cabins, they are now requesting 8 in order to meet setback requirements. There is an open issue regarding setback along Cullen Creek, which Ann says the DNR would label as forested, not urban, as the resort is asking. They are also proposing more dock spaces and a 100 foot beach area. Questions were raised about distance from the Paul Bunyan trail as well. Ann will continue to monitor the issue.

h. Membership: The annual membership mailing will be sent just after Thanksgiving. Jack will draft a letter to accompany the membership form. Lots of ideas for the letter were suggested including setting out the goal of meeting our budget needs (\$43,000 for 2018) and asking everyone to step up to the challenge. We decided to increase the "ask" from \$200 in 2017 to \$250 for CLP treatment and keep dues at \$25. The Board agreed that the letter should confirm that all Board members have committed to donate at this level or above. To focus on the CLP treatment funds needed, we agreed to eliminate the "other" category of donations, since dues cover all other expenses that we incur.

i. Water Quality: Ann reported that water quality on all three lakes continues to be the same or better than the averages, with the exception of the Secchi disk readings on Upper Cullen.

7. Old business: None.

8. New business: None.

9. Adjournment: A motion was made, seconded and carried to adjourn the meeting.

Next meeting: 9 a.m., Saturday, May 20, 2018 at the Lutheran Church of the Cross.

Submitted by Carol Lindahl, CLA Secretary