

CLTA Annual Meeting

5/19/21

Via Zoom

(Note: These minutes are unofficial until they are approved by the members at our next Annual Meeting in May, 2022.)

The meeting was called to order by Vice President Russ Walters at 7:00 P.M.

Guests attending were John Tucci of Lake Savers, and Veronica Kenreich of Restorative Lake Sciences.

Russ opened the meeting by recognizing President Jim Roberts who had passed away in April and his extraordinary contributions to the Crooked Lake Texas Association and the welfare of our lake. Russ read the last president's message Jim wrote from our most recent newsletter.

The minutes of the 2020 annual meeting were read and approved.

President's Report

Russ delivered the latest president's report. The township's efforts to create a new zoning district for lake properties is a work still in progress. Members can check the status of the zoning effort on the township's website: <http://www.texastownship.org/> Today, Crooked Lake is 1.5 inches above the normal high water mark. Our court date for a hearing on a long term solution to set a legal lake level will be on May 28. The CLTA Board has already submitted a statement supporting the project.

Russ reminded attendees that the channel buoys will be placed soon, and that state law prohibits wakes between the buoys. He asked that residents please observe this rule since properties will still suffer damage if boaters don't follow it. He also reminded members that state law requires boaters to stay 100 ft. from rafts, docks, and other boats. It is also important to stop the spread of invasive species into our lake by washing boats and trailers before launching if they have been in another body of water. Russ asked members who have contractors working from the lake to have them wash their boats and trailers as well. The car wash in Texas Corners is perfect for this. Russ also asked members to remove dead trees from the lake as soon as possible.

Treasurer's Report

Rodney Nimtz displayed a handout that compared 2020 expenditures with our 2021 budget. He also stated that the CLTA fund balance currently was \$16,795.81 and that the Ramp / Store fund was \$82,294.41.

As of this meeting, Rodney announced that we have 125 members, an increase of 2 from last year.

The apartment over the old Crooked Lake Market has new tenants with a 2 year lease. Rodney read the names of 10 new families on the lake.

Sandy Steinbach added that if members lose their ramp access card, it can be replaced for \$25. Members can contact Sandy. She also reminded members that if

they sell their home, they need to disclose our ramp policy to buyers. Rodney added that sellers should forward the names of new buyers to him so he can give them a contract to sign.

Sandy also repeated 3 important rules for using the ramp: 1. It is open from dawn to dusk; 2. Members may not loan their access cards to others; 3. Members should stay with marina workers and other contractors who are using the ramp until such workers leave.

Laminar Flow Aeration / Restorative Lake Sciences Reports

Russ introduced John Tucci and Veronica Kenreich after noting that the Laminar Flow Aeration, LFA, hasn't been working for 2 years due to the high water. It is now back on. We have extended our contract with Lake Savers for 2 years since we lost 2 years to the flooding. He added that if we want to continue beyond 2 years, the township has said that we will need to petition for a renewal of the Special Assessment District 2 (SAD 2).

John Tucci reported that there was significant damage to all 3 systems he'd installed due to the flooding. He had repaired all of the systems without cost to CLTA. He had to replace the whole compressor in the West Basin as well as the diffusers. He will evaluate the progress in that basin to see if he should add more diffusers. He repaired the other 2 compressors and still has some work to do in the Cove. He has noticed that water clarity has recovered already. He noted that lots of fertilizer was washed into the lake during the flooding.

Ronnie Kenreich agreed with Tucci that the water clarity was the best in 3 years. She stated that their survey found 52 acres of Curly Leaf Pondweed and some Eurasian Milfoil, though it is early yet for the Milfoil to be up. She added that she will supervise a herbicide treatment tomorrow for Cabomba. We'll need to turn off the pumps for the treatment. Russ noted that the Crooked Lake pump is permanently off and that Eagle Lake will apply a treatment on a different day. Russ added that he will check with the township to be certain that the Eagle Lake pump is off when they apply their treatment. Ronnie cautioned lake residents to not knock Curly Leaf Pondweed off their props into the water since it will germinate easily at their docks. She suggested using it as fertilizer in gardens instead. She noted that it was exploding in growth right now. Sanjay Dalal said that he had lots of Milfoil already growing around his dock. Ronnie replied that she will return in 2 weeks to treat the lake again, especially for Milfoil. Russ reminded members that it is best if we do NOT use the lake in any way tomorrow. Boats displace the herbicides from the invasive plants, thereby lessening their effectiveness.

Member Kevin Noe inquired about the cause of the algae blooms. Ronnie answered that the algae is fed by decaying plant matter in the lake and from the lily pads that are being harvested in the Cove. John Tucci added that algae is also fed by phosphorus from soil and plants washing into the lake from rain and the past flooding. He recommended that members should reduce fertilizer usage on their lawns and gardens and rake organic matter out of the lake, especially leaves in the fall.

FEMA

Russ reported that FEMA has the responsibility to define flood areas across the nation. FEMA made no changes to the flood maps of the lakes in Texas Township. Residents can see the FEMA report on the township website if any would like to comment.

Activities Committee

Lesa Newby reported that the Annual Boat Parade would be held on July 4th at 3:00 P.M. Fun Day will be held August 7th with a band in the evening at the old market. Her committee was looking into getting another band for later in the year.

Landscaping

Rod Krapf reminded members of how poorly lawn grass did to hold soil together during the flooding. He suggested that members think about using native plants which have deeper roots as they re-landscape their shorelines. He also noted that a 2 to 3 foot wide strip of plants 2 - 3 ft tall along the shoreline will discourage geese from dining on members' lawns. They can't see if there are predators lurking behind the taller plants. He added that native plants and other shoreline tolerable plants can be found at the Hidden Savana Nursery, Wedel's, and other local greenhouses.

Goose Roundup

Russ reminded members that the CLTA Board had looked at holding a goose roundup 2 years ago. The board found out that it takes 2 years of training from the DNR before a person is allowed to capture and move geese.

Election of the CLTA Board of Directors

Russ Walters, Rod Krapf, Dot DeYoung, Judy Ford, and Lesa Newby all had expiring terms and were willing to run again. Sanjay Dalal, who has served as a committee member the last 2 years, is running for Jim Roberts open seat. There were no nominations from the floor.

The board will elect its officers at the next board meeting and will let members know who the officers are.

All the candidates were elected.

Call for Volunteers

Russ issued a call for members who would like to volunteer to serve on board committees.

New Business

Russ told the members that the board has discussed having an official July 4th fireworks display that could be paid for by a dues

increase or voluntary contributions. Resident Kristine Lemmer asked from where the fireworks would be launched, since if it was from the Cove, the main lake couldn't see them; and if from the main lake, the Cove residents couldn't observe them. Russ replied that we would ask experts on where the best launch site would be. An unofficial tally of the members was in agreement on having an official fireworks display. Russ indicated that the board would proceed on planning such an event.

Safe Boating

Russ reminded members of the need for safe boating practices. Board members are concerned about our members safety and have observed a number of unsafe boat / jet ski operations this year. Russ added that members should consult the last newsletter which had diagrams for boats safely passing in different situations. The state has boating rules and regulations on its website, and a link can be found on the CLTA website.

Former Crooked Lake Market Property

Russ opened discussion up to members on ideas for what to do with the market property. We have a capital fund with money donated by several CLTA members along with additions each year from membership dues. These funds are intended to remove the old building and to create something new to benefit lake residents. Russ explained that until the fund is large enough to act, we will continue to rent the apartment out to meet expenses of the property such as taxes, maintenance, and insurance. He did add that the building can no longer be operated as a store or restaurant since the grandfathered commercial zoning has lapsed. And, it is a poor site to operate a profitable business. No members spoke up with ideas.

Board Member Comments

Chuck Buxton reported that another bill to restrict local governments from banning short term rentals of properties was

introduced into the State House of Representatives. It is bill number 4722. He said it is as bad as previous bills which have so far failed to pass. The CLTA Board interest in this bill stems from frequent complaints about the behavior of weekend renters in a few properties on the lake.

Rod Krapf reminded members that state law prohibits boaters from going above a no wake speed at night. Several residents have reported hearing boats going at high speed when it is too dark to navigate safely.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:30 P.M.