

**CULLEN LAKES ASSOCIATION  
2018 ANNUAL MEETING**

**August 11, 2018 – Lutheran Church of the Cross**

**Call to order/Welcome:** Ann Beaver, president, welcomed attendees and called the meeting to order.

**Special presentation:** Ann introduced guest speakers Dan and Kay Long from Lower Cullen Lake. Dan presented the history of his and Kay's cabin and involvement in the area, sharing many tidbits of history: meeting Tim Russell, the sound guy from the Prairie Home Companion radio program; the Lennon sisters being on Lower Cullen (Lennon built their home in the 1920s); their summer kitchen with 31 windows now being the home of the Cullen Lakes sailing regatta each summer; the history of the 4<sup>th</sup> of July boat parade (this was our 50<sup>th</sup> year); having one of the largest red maples in the state, and his and Kay's view that they are the caretakers of this land with intent to preserve it for future generations.

**Approval of minutes of 2017 meeting:** Attendees were asked to review the minutes from last year's meeting. It was moved, seconded and carried to approve the minutes as presented.

**Treasurer's report:** Jack McNamara, treasurer, presented the current financial data, outlining the Legacy Fund of major donations and the balance in the capital fund, which is higher this year because we did not treat curly-leaf pondweed (CLP) due to weather conditions. This balance allows us to have a reserve against future needs. He noted that the Board recently agreed to adopt a fiscal year of October 1 to September 30 to give better transparency to the membership on income and expenses, since most dues and donations are given at year-end and money is spent during the spring/summer. CLP treatment is expected to be our major expense and we will ask for donations at the same level. Ann noted that one expense we incur is sales tax on the chemicals used in the CLP treatment, and asked members to contact their state representatives to work to exempt lake associations from this tax. It was moved, seconded and carried to accept the treasurer's report.

**Agenda:** Ann asked the membership if anyone wanted items added to the agenda for the Annual Meeting. The agenda was adopted as printed.

**Election of Board Members:** Paul Beilfuss noted that five Board members have terms that end with this meeting. Leaving the Board for a "sabbatical" is Rich Johnson. The attendees thanked Rich for his service on the Board. Paul then presented the slate of candidates: Ann Beaver, Lower; John MacGibbon, Lower; Jack McNamara, Lower, and Denny Opsahl, Upper Cullen. Ann asked if there were any nominations from the floor. There being none, a motion was made, seconded and carried to cast a unanimous ballot for the slate of candidates.

**Approval of 2018 Budget:** Paul Beilfuss presented the proposed budget for FY 2019. The budget shows member donations at the same level as this year and projects an operating deficit of \$1100. Paul indicated that we will continue to have to treat CLP and thanked all donors who support this effort. He further asked that attendees consider putting the CLA in their estate plans to support the Legacy Fund. It was moved, seconded and carried to approve the budget as presented.

**Miscellaneous:**

- Fifteen attendees were selected at random to receive a CLA logo mug or glass.

**Membership discussion:**

- Members commented that navigation in the channel seems to be getting worse and asked for the history of that area. Tom Beaver noted that lakes are constantly changing and that is true in this situation as well. Historically, at one point there was no navigation between the two lakes. Over time, the channel and point developed, and beavers and humans changed the area. The lake owners on both sides of the channel have worked with the DNR to stabilize the land. The lake association has sought the DNR's review of this area and they will not interfere with the natural process of the channel and the sand bar area it has created. It was noted that we can work with the property owners on the channel to keep it cleaned out and that has helped in previous years. Several property owners on the Middle Cullen side of the channel expressed concern that making it more open will increase the speed and number of boats using the channel making the erosion they are already seeing only worse. Also, the fact that Lower has zebra mussels now but Middle does not argues against more boats moving through the channel and possibly spreading them to Middle.
- Ann reminded everyone to inspect all docks and boats during fall removal for the presence of zebra mussels.
- Several attendees noted that the number of jet skis seems to have increased and that they need to be educated on keeping away from other boats and loons, and that they are not allowed on the lakes later than one hour before sunset.

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