

CULLEN LAKES ASSOCIATION  
Board of Directors Meeting  
9:00 a.m., May 19, 2018, Lutheran Church of the Cross

Present: Ann Beaver, Paul Beilfuss, Charlie Boudrye, Jim Burrell, Rich Johnson, Joel Knutson, Anne Kostreba, John MacGibbon, Jack McNamara, Denny Opsahl

Absent: C.B. Bylander, Patty Hicks, Dan Hurley, Carol Lindahl, Debi Oliverius

**1. Ann Beaver, president, called the meeting to order.**

**2. Approval of minutes:** A motion was made, seconded and carried to approve the October 14, 2017 Board meeting minutes.

**3. Treasurer's report:** Jack McNamara distributed copies of the 2017 Income Sheet and Operating Expenses to show the 2018 dues and donations collected in 2017 after the membership mailing was sent in late November. That is when the majority of both dues and donations for the upcoming year are collected. He then distributed copies of the 2018 Income Sheet and Operating Expenses showing financial activity through May 14 and went through several of the items. He said the 2018 membership mailing has resulted in \$6,075 dues and \$38,905 in contributions. Contributions have exceeded the \$31,000 projected in the 2018 budget. Ann Beaver added she has additional dues and donations checks received in May that she has not yet deposited, so the CLP contributions will pay for most of the 2018 treatment costs. Joel Knutson told the Board what he had recently learned about lake improvement districts (LIDs) and he believes CLA should look into forming a LID, as it is a much more equitable and sustainable means of raising money for AIS treatments because it would use a uniform tax levied by the County on all Cullen Lake properties. This would also relieve the Board of the responsibility of asking for donations every year. He will do more research on LIDs and what is involved in forming one and will report to the Board at a future meeting. 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 reports:**

**a. Administration:** Ann reported that Dan and Kay Long have agreed to present their family's history on Lower Cullen Lake at the Annual Meeting.

**b. Budget and Finances:** Paul Beilfuss said he would convene the Legacy Fund Subcommittee (Jack, Joel, Debi, & Paul) and they would work to develop a policy/procedure for the Fund. They will also discuss the feasibility of forming a LID.

**c. Education:** Ann asked for feedback on C.B. Bylander's educational mailing on starry stonewort, which was completely paid for by a grant. All agreed it was well done and worth the effort. Board members felt that a mailing such as this should be done each spring as long as Crow Wing County offers its \$250 AIS educational grant. Ann also said the newsletter was almost done and asked for ideas for articles to complete it. Joel suggested an article on tick tubes and said he would email her the information.

- d. Environmental Issues:** Anne Kostreba reported the tree planting project she talked about last fall and had procured a grant to help pay for has fallen through due to Minnesota Power not allowing any trees to be planted in its right of way. She and Jack McNamara talked about their frustration in dealing with the “powers that be” in trying to get permission to reopen the unofficial dirt road (471) that allowed residents on Wilderness Ridge Road to easily get into Nisswa without navigating the expanded Highway 371.
- e. Fisheries:** Ann Beaver said she is including in the spring newsletter much of an article on new northern pike regulations that appeared in the May-June issue of the Minnesota Conservation Volunteer.
- f. Invasive Species:** Ann reported seeing a Clark Aquatic Services survey boat on Lower Cullen on Friday and said she likely will be receiving the proposed treatment polygons soon. Treatment is much later than usual due to cold spring weather and thus cold water temperatures. She also said the best way to try to prevent zebra mussels from making their way into Middle Cullen is education, education, education. Placing signs at the channel would likely not be worth the expense, based on the type and volume of traffic going through the channel.
- g. Land Development:** Ann said Good Ol’ Days Resort has built one twinhome so far on the property it acquired on the north side of Cullen Creek. She will check with the Nisswa P&Z Administrator regarding the lack of a silt fence in place.
- h. Membership:** Ann gave the following membership summary as of May 18. Dues paying members, 250; complimentary members, 2. Total dues received, \$6,250. Total donations received, \$39,155. Of the 250 dues paying members, 193 have made a donation towards CLP treatment (77%). There are 67 members who contributed the suggested \$250 and 39 who contributed more than \$250. Donations ranged from \$10 to \$1,250. She also gave the following information regarding the 13 individual Wilderness Resort villa owners (not the LLCs that own villas): 10 are CLA members; 8 made CLP donations; 4 of the 8 donated \$250 or more.
- i. Water Quality:** Due to the late ice out and cold weather, the May water testing will be done over Memorial Day weekend.

**6. Nominating Committee:** Ann handed out a list of Board members showing whose terms expire in 2018 and whose expire in 2019. Also indicated was the lake distribution of members. She named Paul Beilfuss, Jim Burrell, Joel Knutson, and Debi Oliverius to the committee to be chaired by Paul. Committee responsibilities were outlined. She asked all Board members to help the committee find replacement members if the committee finds it is necessary.

**7. Old business:** None

**8. New business:**

- a. Highway pick up vests and grippers:** MnDOT did not want the vests returned, so Anne Kostreba offered them to Board members. She also offered the CLA owned grippers to Board members. Vests and grippers not taken will be offered to members at the Annual Meeting.

**b. CLA merchandise:** Jim Burrell said merchandise sales have dwindled and he questioned whether CLA should continue in the “business” since prices have gone up and not much has been selling the past year or so. Board members felt it would be good to continue to try to sell existing stock but not order any more. Jim said he has many glasses and mugs and some clothing. Ann will put a short merchandise article in the newsletter to try to boost sales. Jim said he would check with Minnesota Ts to see if people could order logo items directly from the store, since the logo has been paid for and they have it in their files. Glasses and mugs could be offered as door prizes at the Annual Meeting.

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

**Next meeting: Saturday, June 9, 2018, 9:00 a.m. at Lutheran Church of the Cross**

submitted by Ann Beaver, acting secretary