

CULLEN LAKES ASSOCIATION
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
9:00 a.m., October 12, 2019, Lutheran Church of the Cross

Present: Ann Beaver, Paul Beilfuss, Dan Hurley, Patty Hicks, Joel Knutson, Anne Kostreba, Mike Lawrow (arrived 9:52), Carol Lindahl, Debi Oliverius

Absent: C.B. Bylander, John MacGibbon, John Maguire, Denny Opsahl

1. President Beaver called this year's regular final meeting to order at 9:02.
2. The September 14, 2019 meeting minutes were approved on a voice vote with the following corrections: Patty Hicks' first name is spelled with a y, not i; Mike Lawrow's surname is spelled with an a, not an o; and, Joel Knutson was absent on September 14.
3. Carol Lindahl presented the treasurer's report, and Carol stated that we are in good position at the end of the fiscal year just completed. Carol stated that our expenses were close to matching the line item budgeted amounts, with a couple of minor adjustments. We have a balance of nearly \$186,000 in all accounts (checking and two money market accounts).
4. President Beaver adopted the meeting agenda without additions to the agenda.
5. a. Anne Kostreba commented that she will act soon to reserve the church meeting room for next year's annual meeting, scheduled for Saturday, August 8, 2020. Anne indicated that she would also prepare the Board's meeting calendar for 2020, with the first regular meeting scheduled for the third Saturday in May 2020, with others scheduled for the second Saturday of the month. A special meeting is also typically scheduled for the fourth Saturday in July to prepare for the annual meeting. Anne will also contact Carol Lindahl for information about our liability carrier for the church's records. There was a general discussion about a keynote presentation for next year's annual meeting. After considerable discussion and suggestions, it was agreed that Joel Knutson would follow up with a recommendation he made for a presentation on birds. Joel will contact Anne Kostreba with information about the presentation he recently observed. The Board agreed to the topic of birds for the annual meeting keynote presentation.

In addition, Ann Beaver said she would contact our contractor, Clarke, and request Clarke to prepare a brief overview of their work with respect to treating aquatic invasive species on our lakes, primarily curly leaf pondweed.

b. Paul Beilfuss reported that he will schedule a meeting with Karl Samp, Brainerd Lakes Area Community Foundation executive, so the Budget and Finance Committee can prepare a recommendation to the Board for future investments. Paul was pleased with the Treasurer's report regarding budget to actual expenditures. He agreed to update and prepare an annual letter to the membership requesting continued donations (\$250) to support invasive species' treatment.

c. Ann Beaver reported that the upcoming newsletter is eight pages, and that it currently resides with a printer. She anticipates that it will be distributed Tuesday, October 15, 2019. The newsletter includes information from the annual meeting, as well as an article from a DNR Forester regarding buckthorn, invasive vegetation, at the request of Margaret Hasse, property owner.

d. Patty Hicks stated that she and others are cleaning up trail areas around Middle Cullen due to logging and clearing activities.

e. No report.

f. Ann Beaver reminded Board members that she distributed a summary of a meeting she and Carol Lindahl attended with Tim Plude, DNR invasive species specialist, regarding unsuccessful past CLP treatments. Ann said that this item would be on the front page of this fall's newsletter. In addition, there was discussion regarding utilizing granular versus liquid forms of herbicide to treat CLP. Ann Beaver said she would check with our contractor, Clarke, to gather information about the advantages/disadvantages of both forms, including cost, and whether Clarke can apply both forms. Ann stated that she believes that there will be grant funding available for 2020 for AIS treatment, and we will apply if it is available. In addition, Ann stated that a \$250 education grant about AIS should be available, and she said she would contact C.B. Bylander about this possible grant. Ann requested suggestions for the grant's use, and it was generally agreed upon that better signage regarding AIS at public accesses would be beneficial. It was reported that more zebra mussels have been found in Lower Cullen; however, no Middle Cullen reports about zebra mussels have been received. Ann encouraged all to inform lake users

to wear water shoes (and gloves) in Lower Cullen. We should also be able to use our contractor's CLP "polygons" for our permit application next spring according to Tim Plude, DNR invasive species specialist.

g. Ann Beaver initiated a discussion about the Lake Management Plan and related property owner (member) survey. Ann distributed the most recent (2015) survey and results to Board members via email. She requested Board members to forward survey question or format suggestions to her. After discussing the advantages and disadvantages of a paper survey versus an electronic survey of members, it was decided that we would use a paper survey in 2020; however, we would include a question or two about using an electronic survey in the future. We would also include demographic information on the survey. We agreed to send a summary of the survey to the membership. The Board will review the results and modify the LMP accordingly. The Board approves the LMP and requests support from the membership at the annual meeting.

h. Dan Hurley asked if anyone was aware of a variance request from a property owner on Lower Cullen; however, no one knew about a request at this time.

i. One new member has joined since the last report.

j. Ann Beaver distributed the most recent water quality report. Debi Oliverius, Middle Cullen, collected the Lower Cullen samples; however, Ann reported that the Whitsons will do Lower Cullen testing next year. Ann Beaver also commented that the extremely high phosphorous August reading for Lower Cullen has decreased appreciably, and it is hoped that the extraordinarily high August reading was due to heavy rains or a contaminated sample. All sample readings were basically back to their normal ranges according to the most recent results. The next water quality samples will be collected in the third week of May 2020.

6. There were no old business items.

7. There were no planned new business items. Mike Lawrow, new Board member, joined the meeting late due to inclement weather affecting his travel. Mike is concerned about the Wilderness Resort on Middle Cullen, and there was a lively discussion about the resort and its future plans among Board members before adjournment.

8. President Beaver adjourned the meeting at 10:14 a.m.

