

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

Present: Ann Beaver, Charlie Boudrye, Jim Burrell, C.B. Bylander, Patty Hicks, Dan Hurley, Rich Johnson, Joel Knutson, Anne Kostreba, Carol Lindahl, Debi Oliverius, Denny Opsahl

Absent: Paul Beilfuss, John MacGibbon, Jack McNamara

1. **Ann Beaver, president, called the meeting to order.**
2. **Approval of Minutes:** A motion was made, seconded and carried to approve the July 29 and August 12 Board meeting minutes.
3. **Treasurer's report:** In Jack McNamara's absence, Ann distributed copies of the report, noting the new format. Jack has created an excel spreadsheet that shows expenses by month against the annual budget. Members agreed that the new format looks good. A motion was made, seconded and carried to approve the Treasurer's report.
4. **Review of agenda:** The agenda was adopted as presented.
5. **Draft committee assignments for 2017-2018:** Ann Beaver said the draft committee assignments she emailed to board members before the meeting contained a few changes but were essentially the same as last year. Joel Knutson was added to Fisheries committee and Patty Hicks to Environmental Issues. If anyone wants any changes in assignments, notify Ann should as soon as possible.
6. **Committee reports:**
  - a. **Administration:** Ann asked board members for feedback on the Annual Meeting. There were 48 people in attendance, including 12 board members, which is down from over 60 last year. No particular reasons were identified. Pam Perry (speaking on local birds) was suggested as a speaker for next year. Ann will contact her. Other suggestions included finding another long-time lake owner to speak –Dan and Kay Long or someone from the Hirsche clan were suggested. We also agreed to ask members to submit old photos to create a photo montage to run before the meeting. Ann will ask John MacGibbon to coordinate this. Carol Lindahl noted that she will be sending out all procedures for review and update by the authors this month, with updates to be done by the October meeting. This is a responsibility of the Administration Committee in the Lake Management Plan.
  - b. **Budget & Finances:** Ann 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 asked for newsletter articles to be sent to her by the end of September. Suggestions included an article on the Annual Meeting (Carol to do) and a reminder that we have a Facebook page. Ann asked for feedback on sending the newsletter to nonmembers, which we have been doing in order to provide educational articles to everyone. Board agree to send through this year and then put in membership renewal letter that we would be stopping this additional distribution due to cost issues. Question was raised about how Wilderness part-share owners become aware of the CLA. Ann noted we have members in that group and that she regularly checks parcel ownership in the county records and invites new owners to join the organization. Debi Oliverius suggested that we could create a pamphlet on the organization and make it available at all resorts since many families visit annually and have a "vested" interest in the lakes even though they are not owners. C.B. Bylander volunteered to do a mailing on starry stonewort if County money is available again this year for educational outreach.

**d. Environmental Issues:** Ann noted that Anne Kostreba has asked to resign from organizing the Highway road clean-up. We have one more year on our commitment and decided to check with MN Dot as to expectations on divided highways. Anne will also check with East Twin Lake (Tom Adams) to learn if they are planning to continue their commitment with the expanded highway and higher road speeds.

**e. Fisheries:** No report.

**f. Invasive Species:** Ann reported that we have nearly used up the 200 hours 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. Dan Long, by Eagle's Nest, reported that he pulled up two cement blocks that were covered with zebra mussels this fall. Debi asked what chemicals should be used to kill purple loosestrife. C.B. will follow-up and let her know.

**g. Land Development:** No report.

**h. Membership:** Ann reported that we have 256 members. Of these, 235 are property owners, 14 are family members and 7 are complimentary (first year on the lakes). We have 40 owners who are not members. Ann said that we continue to try to get joint owners of properties to all join; Carol suggested that we review the list of nonmembers and see if Board members can convince them to join.

**i. Water Quality:** Ann reported that water quality on all three lakes is the same or better than the last five years. Debi is taking over the water collection responsibility from Charlie Boudrye on Middle and Jim Burrell is taking over from Ann and Tom Beaver on Lower. Ann will continue to send the samples to the lab for analysis.

**7. Old business:** Joel Knutson opened a discussion of the need to raise more money than we have been in order to fund the continued treatment of curly-leaf pondweed (CLP) and in case we have other invasives that need attention in the future. Several ideas were brainstormed including levels of membership; more education on the effects of CLP if not treated (include pictures in the fund-raising letter that Jack McNamara writes to go with the membership renewal information); increasing dues; doing another huge fund-raising campaign. Ann reminded us that in the member survey our membership indicated a preference for annual voluntary donations instead of increasing dues or having another campaign. She will add this topic to the October agenda for further discussion in preparation for the membership mailing later this fall.

**8. New business:** None.

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

**Next meeting: 9 a.m., Saturday, October 14, 2016 at the Lutheran Church of the Cross.**

Submitted by Carol Lindahl, CLA Secretary