

CLA ANNUAL MEETING AGENDA
Saturday, August 8, 2015

REGISTRATION AND EXHIBITS -- 8:30 to 9:00 a.m.

BUSINESS MEETING -- 9:00 to 10:30 a.m.

Call to order/Welcome President Ann Beaver
Master Gardener Presentation Jackie Froemming, Dorothy
Johnson, JoAnn Weaver
What Does Clean Water Mean to You – Pine River Watershed -- DVD
Panel discussion and question and answer session

Approval of 2014 Annual Meeting minutes

Treasurer’s report Charlie Boudrye

Approval of agenda

Nominating Committee report Rich Johnson

Election of Board Members

Approval of 2016 budget Paul Beilfuss

Vote of support for revised Lake Management Plan. Ann Beaver

Additions to the agenda, if any

Membership discussion of concerns and issues

Adjournment

Board members meet briefly to elect officers for 2015-2016 following the meeting

CULLEN LAKES ASSOCIATION 2014 ANNUAL MEETING MINUTES
August 9, 2014 – Nisswa American Legion

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

Special presentation: Gene Reed shared a few of her memories of what she calls Paradise – life on Middle Cullen Lake. Gene’s husband’s father, Robert Finley Reed, purchased the land in the 1930s. Gene married her husband, Bob, in 1940 and was soon immersed in vacationing at and enjoying the Cullen lakes – fishing, boating, and swimming. She noted many changes over the years – fewer birds, bigger boats, not as many canoes but more kayaks and more vegetation in the lakes. Many thanks to Gene and to daughter Nancy, who helped prepare the presentation and assemble the photographs.

Approval of minutes of 2013 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: Charlie Boudrye highlighted the balance sheet and noted the net of just over \$106,000. He reviewed the summary of income and expenses, noting the increasing cost of treating curly-leaf pondweed (CLP) on the lakes. He thanked all the members who donate extra along with their dues payments to help cover the costs. It was moved, seconded and carried to approve the treasurer’s report.

Approval of agenda: Ann asked the membership to review the agenda for the Annual Meeting. The agenda was adopted as printed.

President’s comments: Ann noted the death of Board member Bruce Helland in July due to prostate cancer. She noted his willingness to step in and help where needed – attending meetings and reporting back and working with Dan Hurley to establish a new CLA merchandise program. The CLA items are available at the meeting and via email order all year. Jim Burrell has agreed to manage the program moving forward.

Election of Board Members: Paul Beilfuss presented the slate of candidates for the Board:

Ann Beaver (incumbent)	Lower Cullen
Rich Johnson (incumbent)	Lower Cullen
John MacGibbon (incumbent)	Lower Cullen
Jack McNamara (incumbent)	Lower Cullen
Denny Opsahl (incumbent)	Upper Cullen

Ann asked for any nominations from the floor; none were offered. A motion was made, seconded and carried to cast a unanimous ballot for the slate of candidates as presented.

Approval of 2015 Budgets: Paul Beilfuss presented the proposed 2015 budgets as printed in the meeting booklets, highlighting the addition of funding for the member survey that drives the Lake Management Plan, which outlines the work of the organization. He also noted the transfer of funds from the CLP account into the operating budget to cover costs anticipated for

2015 treatments. These funds are being depleted as we continue to treat CLP and, though we have received grant funding from the DNR, there is no guarantee that these funds will continue to be available, which might trigger the need for additional fund raising. He was asked about any costs for the annual audit; this is being done pro bono by Mallory MacGibbon Thomas, daughter of Board member John MacGibbon. It was moved, seconded and carried to approve the budgets as presented.

Website preview: Dan Meixner presented the new website, showing organization of the sections and the photo gallery highlighting work from former Board member John Szafranski. He reminded everyone to add information on bird and animal sightings by sending an email to him. There is a section on CLA merchandise and Dan will add photos after the meeting.

Membership discussion:

- Charlie Boudrye noted an item for the website – sighting of a coyote.
- Fall road clean-up is August 30. Organizer Ann Kostreba asked volunteers to meet at 8:30 a.m. at Wilderness Ridge Road. Coffee and goodies will be available.
- Questions were raised about the progress of the 371 widening project. One resident has received information on how much of her property is affected. There are rumors of a possible bridge span and core samples being taken. Ann offered to contact local officials to determine progress and milestones. Information will be reported in the newsletter and on the website.
- Mary Ryan thanked the Board for all their hard work.
- Ann gave a report on work at Wilderness Resort Villas. They have been approved to change to a two-story lodge and reduce the number of units being built. A question was raised about a possible restaurant; no one has seen that in any plans, but there is a convenience store that could be expanded. Ann noted that the CLA would like to see the boat docks extended past the bulrushes so the rushes won't be disturbed. She also heard that the existing beach is being expanded and the boat ramp location will be moved from the east side of the beach to the west side.

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

TREASURER'S REPORT

Charlie Boudrye, treasurer

As of August 1, 2015 we had the following balances in our accounts.

Cash and Bank Accounts	
Operating Checking Account	\$10,065.60
Project Savings Account	\$545.64
Operating Savings Account	\$357.01
Sub Total	\$10,968.25
Certificates of Deposit	
Projects 403520 Matures 1/26/15	\$15,000.00
CLP 403787 Matures 10/23/15	\$60,000.00
Sub Total	\$75,000.00
Total Assets	\$85,968.25

The Association had total assets of \$106,459 as of July 27, 2014. The decrease in available funds is primarily due to the cost of CLP treatments.

Our future projects will be focused on CLP and other invasive species control. The income accounts display the money received for CLP control, member dues and other donations. The pro-forma revenues and expenses are summarized below:

Income	\$
CLP Donations	7,290
DNR Grants (3 lakes)	9,100
Support Donations	2,310
Member Dues	6,025
Cap Sales	15
Interest	3
CD Interest	13
Total Income	\$24,756

Expenses	\$
Administration	578
Education	1301
Water Quality	252
Miscellaneous Expenses	39
Invasive Species Control	
Legal Fees/Permits	0
Postage & Printing	0
Services – Clarke Aquatic	40,166
Membership	433
Total Expense	42,769
Deficit	(18,013)

NOMINATING COMMITTEE REPORT

Rich Johnson, chair

The CLA Board currently has 13 members. Of those, eight terms are ending as of the 2015 Annual Meeting. Of these eight, seven have agreed to run for re-election; Kathy Kriewald has opted not to run. No new candidates have been identified prior to this meeting.

The slate of candidates is as follows:

Paul Beilfuss, Lower Cullen
Charles Boudrye, Middle Cullen
Jim Burrell, Lower Cullen
Dan Hurley, Lower Cullen
Jim Kostreba, Lower Cullen
Carol Lindahl, Lower Cullen
Dan Meixner, Middle Cullen

If the slate is approved, there will be nine Board members from Lower, two members from Middle and one from Upper Cullen. There is an obvious need for more representation from Middle, in particular, and Upper. There are approximately 130 sites on Middle and only two Board members, while there are approximately 120 sites on Lower with nine Board members.

Ann Beaver, president; John MacGibbon, vice president; Carol Lindahl, secretary, and Charlie Boudrye, treasurer, have agreed to serve another term.

PROPOSED 2016 OPERATING BUDGET

Paul Beilfuss, budget and finance committee chair

INCOME

Membership Dues	\$6000
Donations (General)	2000
Donations (Curly-leaf Pondweed)	6000
Department of Natural Resources Grant	<u>TBD</u>
(\$9100 DNR Grant for 2015)	
Total	\$14000

EXPENDITURES

<u>Administrative Committee</u>	
Annual Meeting:	
Supplies, Postage, Printing	\$250
Food	150
Board Meeting Room Donation	100
General Office Supplies	75
L.A.R.A. Membership	75
Soteropolos Scholarship	<u>250</u>
Total	\$900

<u>Committees</u>		
	Water Quality Monitoring	\$750
	Shoreline Awards	<u>75</u>
	Total	\$825
 <u>Education</u>		
	Guide/Map Update	\$120
	Newsletter Postage	525
	Newsletter Printing	900
	Web Site Management	<u>100</u>
	Total	\$1645
 <u>Aquatic Invasive Species</u>		
	AIS Control (Contractor)	\$41000
	Total	\$41000
 <u>Membership</u>		
	Supplies and Printing	\$250
	Postage	300
	New Owner Packets	<u>50</u>
	Total	\$600
 <u>Other</u>		
	Board Liability Insurance	\$950
	Miscellaneous	<u>100</u>
	Total	\$1050
 TOTAL EXPENDITURES		<u>\$46020</u>
 Proposed 2016 Budget (Deficiency)		(\$32020)
Estimated income less estimated expenditures		
 AVAILABLE RESOURCES		
Balances on 8-01-2015 (Treasurer's Report)		\$85968.25

Auditor's Note: No material weaknesses noted; however, concern about annual deficit due to AIS control expenditure.

ADMINISTRATION COMMITTEE

Carol Lindahl, chair

The Administration Committee organized the 2015 Annual Meeting, in conjunction with the full Board of Directors. Each year the organization strives to provide an interesting program and displays. The Committee has compiled a procedures manual for the CLA, as recommended in the Lake Management Plan's goals and objectives.

EDUCATION COMMITTEE

John MacGibbon, chair

The CLA Education Committee maintains two major sources of information about the Cullen lakes and the lakes association: Cullen Currents, published quarterly and edited by Ann Beaver, and the Cullen Lakes website: www.cullenlakesassoc.org under webmaster Dan Meixner. Both the newsletter and the website continue to provide essential information on the Cullen Lakes to all members.

ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES COMMITTEE

Rich Johnson and Jack McNamara, co-chairs

Highway pick up

Last fall's Labor Day weekend pick up had 14 volunteers and this spring's Memorial Day weekend pick up had 10 – both smaller groups than in recent years. Hopefully more people will turn out for this fall's September 5th highway pick up! Volunteers will meet at 8:30 a.m. at the unofficial parking area where Wilderness Ridge Road meets Highway 371. Our sincere thanks to all who volunteered and especially to the event organizer, Anne Kostreba!

Shoreline restoration/preservation

It has been three years since we last were able to present a Most Improved Shoreline Award and we aren't able to present one this year either. We hope it is just because people are too modest to nominate themselves and not because no one is working to improve their shoreline. Also, for the second year there will be no Lake Friendly Shoreline Award presented. Are these two awards something your board of directors should try to continue or should we drop the effort? Let us hear from you!

INVASIVE SPECIES SUBCOMMITTEE

Ann Beaver and Carol Lindahl, co-chairs

This past winter we completed DNR permit applications for our spring treatment of curly-leaf pondweed (CLP) and applied for DNR grant funding to help offset the cost. We received a DNR grant in the amount of \$9,100. Last fall, in order to keep the costs down, we entered into a three-year contract with Clarke Aquatic Services to provide pre-treatment surveys, chemical treatment of CLP with Aquathol K in April/May, post-treatment surveys, and October surveys to detect new growth of CLP. The results of this year's treatment again appear to be very good. We will continue to map known areas of CLP and we ask all lake users to notify us of

areas they discover when out on the lakes. This knowledge will help Clarke and us effectively define treatment areas in the coming years.

Local DNR personnel are no longer able to map and treat purple loosestrife on the Cullens, as they had so graciously been doing for us, because they have their hands full dealing with the aquatic invasive species in the Brainerd Lakes area. So, we ask you to monitor your own shoreline and either pull out/dig up or poison any loosestrife you find. One mature plant can produce up to 2.7 million seeds annually, so if this invasive species is not dealt with our shorelines can be taken over by it. Please refer to the summer newsletter for methods of control. *If it's on your shoreline, it is your responsibility to get rid of it.*

WATER QUALITY SUBCOMMITTEE

Ann Beaver, chair

This report changes very little from year to year, which is a good thing. The results of our water sampling since the last annual meeting continue to show the water quality of the lakes falls within the normal range for lakes in our ecoregion. Monthly results vary some from year to year, due to weather conditions, but the overall condition of our lakes remains fairly consistent. A more detailed report will be included in the winter, 2016 newsletter. We continue to update the CLA Lake Water Quality Plan for each lake at the end of the testing season so they may be included in our applications for DNR grants for the treatment of curly-leaf pondweed.

LAKE MANAGEMENT PLANNING COMMITTEE

Ann Beaver, chair

In early February we mailed the 2015 Property Owners' Survey to one owner of each Cullen Lakes property. Of the 268 surveys mailed, 168 were completed and returned – a 63% return rate, which is excellent. The results were tallied and shared with all CLA Board members prior to the Board's May 9 meeting. At that meeting Board members discussed the results and made suggestions as to how the information gathered might be used to guide the association's future endeavors. Committee members have since made revisions to the existing Lake Management Plan (LMP) to reflect what was learned from the survey as well as from changing conditions in and around the lakes. The revised LMP was adopted by the Board of Directors at its July 25 meeting and you are being asked at this Annual Meeting for a vote of support for the Plan. This fall all the Plan's supporting documents will be updated and the entire LMP booklet will be burned to CDs and shared with appropriate government agencies.

LAND DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

Ann Beaver, chair

Committee members continue to attend meetings of the Pequot Lakes Planning Commission to represent the lake association's concerns regarding redevelopment aspects of Wilderness Resort Villas. CLA has a representative on the Pequot Lakes City Council/Planning Commission committee that monitors the continuing development of the resort, especially the

removal of trees in the structure setback from the lake. There have been no land use applications before the Crow Wing County or the Nisswa Planning Commission/Board of Adjustment that have required our attention, so this past year has been a relatively quiet one for the committee.

MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE

Charlie Boudrye, chair

Dues paying members in the Cullen Lakes Association number 240. A total of 15 members have not yet paid their dues for 2015. There are 13 complimentary members (new property owners on the lakes) compared to six last year.

We have 18 Associate Members, meaning they are former lakeshore property owners, a property owner in the lakes' watershed, or a family member of a lakeshore property owner.

FISH MANAGEMENT

Dan Meixner, chair

Fish surveys were conducted on all three lakes in July by the Minnesota DNR. For photos and more information, visit the Cullen Lakes website.

Upper Cullen was completed July 10. Ron Opsahl was able to travel along with the DNR personnel one day and Ron Kriewald another day. They observed and learned about the DNR fish counting process, which involves sorting the fish by size as determined by the opening size in the various nets used. The largest walleye turned out to be a 28" fish that was successfully released back into the lake. The walleyes captured are aged by removing the otolith bone in the head. It is then able to be inspected for growth lines similar to the growth rings of a tree.

Numerous species were sampled on Upper Cullen including northerns, largemouth bass, crappies, various types of sunfish, perch and some rough fish including tullibeas, dogfish, bullheads, rock bass, and carp.

Middle Cullen was completed July 17. Ron Kriewald was able to ride along for three days. Due to the wind storm Sunday night, July 12, the DNR gill nets and live traps were set Tuesday, July 14. For the three days the gill nets were checked (7/15-7/17) the fish count was: 147 tullibeas, 47 northerns, 9 walleyes, 3 bullheads, 1 smallmouth bass, 1 rock bass, 2 crappies, 2 perch, and 3 bluegills. Scale samples were taken from all the fish caught in the gill nets except the tullibeas and bullheads. The live traps contained mostly small bluegills and one trap had seven crappies; all fish were released alive.

Lower Cullen was completed July 24. Once all the survey data are compiled by the DNR and added to their website, the links on the CLA Fisheries webpage will take you to each lake's results. This will probably not occur until early or even spring 2016.