

CLAA General Meeting 9-5-15

*The General Meeting began at approximately 1:00 p.m. following the pot luck meal.*

*Location: Moore's garage*

*Absent were Skip Anderson, Roz Johnson and John Cucci.*

Eric made an announcement about dues to be paid at this fall meeting.

**Treasurer's Report:** read by Ann Bardwell-Ross – treasurer.

CLAA has a balance of \$1.00.

Money was added to the account to pay for brochure printing (pulled from the Money Market Acct.)

Yearly expense of \$626.00

\$213 for insurance; \$220 to Conservation Minnesota for membership and website; \$100 to MN Lakes and Rivers for membership; \$50 to BCLARA for membership

Two memorial donations: Rip Widorski and Monte Mason (\$90)

\$200 for water quality testing

If CLAA continues with the water quality testing the members need to increase dues by \$5.

Ann has completed the application for a 501 3 (c) status. The Board approved a draw from the Money Market Account for the one time filing fee.

Discussion was asked in regard to an increase in 2016 for member dues to be increased by \$5 to an amount of \$25. Motion was made to pass for an increase. The motion was seconded and carried. All present were in favor of the \$5 increase in 2016 to be paid in the fall.

**501 3 (c) Status:** Discussion continued about the topic of a 501 3 (c) status. It was mentioned to all attending the fact that most employers today have the option of “matching contributions” when donating to a 501 3 (c) organization.

Rachelle Ricke asked if there were any “cons” to achieving this status for the association. Ann Bardwell-Ross stated the only requirement for the association is that we would need to post our By-Laws online and if the association would ever dissolve in the future, the remaining money in our bank account would need to be donated to a charity. The Association would also have to amend our by-law documentation to reflect the change of status. Ann said CLAA falls on the lower end of the spectrum. Meaning we have under \$10,000 in annual revenue.

Jean Chadwick made a motion to approve; motion was seconded; all present were in favor of proceeding with the 501 3 (c) status.

Once CLAA has achieved the status an announcement will be posted on the website as well as announcing in the Dockside newsletter.

**Lady Slipper Project/Noxious Weed Removal:** Eric read a report provided by Roz Johnson in her absence.

The end of June through the first part of July the Lady Slippers were in bloom.

Roz, Carol Torgerson, and Dave Chadwick did spraying along the 3 mile stretch but were rained out before they completed. Spraying will be completed in the spring of 2016. Shortly after the spraying was done the county mowed along the stretch. Roz will coordinate with the county next year so there's more time in between the spraying and when they do their mowing.

Eric asked for additional volunteers at this time. They can contact Roz directly or anyone on the board. Eric said this project example is a perfect way members could give additional contributions in the future once we achieve our non-profit status or pick another area to give additional contributions.

**Minnesota DNR Northern Pike Proposal:** The DNR has set out with an initiative to examine the northern pike population within the state. Clearwater Lake is fine with its pike population however some areas of the state are seeing a decline in size and quantity. More information is available online if members are interested in reading more about this initiative.

**Lake Vegetation Survey:** RMB Labs did an extensive survey on Clearwater Lake. A condensed version of RMB's survey findings were posted in the Dockside Newsletter along with a link to the CLAA website for a full version of the survey findings. One copy was provided at the meeting and passed around for members to review.

**Enbridge Grant:** In 2015, 25 various organizations receive funds from Enbridge for various projects. A listing of the organizations was provided on a print out and passed around for members to review.

**A.I.S. Monitoring:** This year individuals have been at the public access during the weekends. These positions are paid through money from the DNR and then through local counties.

**Loon Project:** Two loons produced from artificial nesting coming from the platform in front of Bruce Bjerke's residence and three loons produced from natural nesting. Eric mentioned about the article in the Minneapolis newspaper about project money available for loon habitat. It was quite an extensive article. (need to research more about this article and find out additional specifics e.g. if money is available for 2016 and how to go about applying for the money)

Lake Water Quality: Two additional samples for this year still need to be done. Possible funding may be available for 2016 through either Beltrami or Clearwater counties.

Debs Parade: Eric thanked Bruce Bjerke for providing his Model A car for the parade which carried a banner on the back with the Association logo. 76 units participated in the parade this past 4<sup>th</sup> of July. It was an excellent opportunity for CLAA to get the word out the Association and the benefits it provides. Brochures were also distributed during the parade by Skip Anderson, Jean Chadwick, JoLynn Chadwick and Dave Chadwick.

CLAA Spring Meeting: Unsure about Eric hosting the spring meeting because of graduation. The community building in Debs will be rented at a cost of \$10. Date is for May 29, 2016. Board Meeting at 3:00; potluck meal at 5:00; General Meeting to follow the meal.

We will see how this works...especially from an attendance point of view. If all looks good, we'll also hold at this location in the fall.

\*\*\*\*\*

Eric stressed the importance of soliciting your neighbors to attend the meeting and also for extra donations for next year once we attain the non-profit status.

-----  
Three positions up for re-election: Roz Johnson, board; Bruce Bjerke, board; JoLynn Chadwick, secretary.

Bill Johnson nominated Roz Johnson for another term; Eric nominated Bruce Bjerke and JoLynn Chadwick for another term. Eric asked if there were any other nominations. None were received.

Bill Johnson motioned to close the nominations. Eric asked for a vote...all were in favor.

With the absence of Roz, she will be contacted to make here aware of her re-election.

All positions are for another three-year term.

Other Items of Business: Les Torgerson spoke about the project which is now ongoing with Pine Lake. Involved with this project is the Red Lake Watershed District, Red River Management Board, Minnesota DNR, and the Army Corp. of Engineers. Consideration is being made to change the lake level/management plan of the lake. There is also a proposal for an update to the structure that controls the lake level. Les brought up the point of this type of project in regard to Clearwater Lake. The dam does belong to the DNR and the boards within the dam can be adjusted. If the Association would move forward with such a project for the lake, the level of the lake could be lowered in the fall which could help to suppress of the weed growth. Les said it is not normal for a lake to remain at a constant level. It is good for the level to rise and to fall. Les suggested the Association could invite Dan Thul to come to the spring meeting and could talk to the Association about possibilities. Dan Thul is a DNR official and is

involved with water management. Another individual Les suggested was Gary Barnard from the DNR and is involved with the Fisheries Dept.

Les stated that a lower level of Clearwater Lake in the fall would help with ice dams in the winter months by not busting up the shoreline and would prevent the sluffing off of the banks. He suggested the Soil and Water Conservation Districts as a good place to start with information. Les stressed that our Lake Association treasury may be “small” in size, but our power and influence is strong.

He also suggested a project for the Association to take on would be to surround/gather data in regard to cell phone coverage which is huge issue/problem. At this point, Bill Johnson motioned for the Lake Association to support an initiative in tackling the cell phone power/reception in the area.

It was decided the gathering of information was necessary...e.g. where are present towers located; what do we need to do for added towers; where do towers need to be located for better reception.

All information gathered will be presented at the spring meeting. Bill Johnson will lead this project.

This initiative will be posted as an agenda item for spring (cell coverage) and more info can be gathered from members about their personal coverage issues as to when they get service and when they may not have coverage...who is their provider...etc.

All those in attendance were in favor of this agenda item/initiative.

Meeting was adjourned.