

Clitherall Lake Association
Board of Directors Meeting Minutes
September 26, 2024
Approved

President Scott Early called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM.

Board members present were Scott Early, Alan Storry, Chris Deitz, Steve Adams, Harley Anderson, Eric Pierskalla, Mike Lipke, Beth Franklin, Bret Sorensen, Jeff Lindholm. Member Tom Frank was absent.

Scott Early noted that the minutes from the 8/22/2024 meeting had already been approved via emails and posted to the website.

REPORTS:

Treasurer:

Alan Storry reported that total receipts for the month were \$1342.98. Most of this came from membership dues and donations, including a generous donation to the fish stocking fund.

The total number of memberships to date, including 2 that were received at the meeting, is 189, which is 2 fewer than the same time in 2023. To date this year the average amount of voluntary donations above and beyond membership dues is \$49.

He noted that there is an adequate balance in the Fish Stocking and General Funds to pay for walleye stocking this fall.

A 15-month certificate of deposit will mature in January. It was decided we would reassess the renewal of the CD as we got closer to that date and had a better understanding of the interest rates available at that time, and whether we would want to renew the entire amount or only a portion of it. We would communicate this info to the board via email.

Mike Lipke made a motion to approve the Treasurer's Report, Eric Pierskalla seconded, motion carried.

Environmental:

Chris Deitz, who has taken over the position of Environmental Director, said that he had discussed Secchi disk reading and water sample gathering with Jeff Stabnow, who has been doing this for the last several years.

Fisheries:

Tom Frank was not present but had reported to Scott that the lake association has DNR approval to stock 500 lbs. of walleye fingerlings this fall. Klug's Fish Farm will be performing the stocking sometime in October.

Membership/Public Relations:

Allan distributed the results of an effort to contact CLA members who did not renew their membership this year. Of the 57 members who board members attempted to contact, 20 have now renewed their membership for 2024.

Eric said that he plans to make changes and updates to the website over the winter. He asked that if anyone has suggestions or recommendations to let him know about those.

Fundraising:

Beth Franklin has been in contact with Lakeshirts regarding ordering product to sell next year. She will be meeting with them after January 1 to look at the new designs that will be available then.

In the meantime, the pros and cons of doing an online store this fall were discussed. Harley Anderson made a motion to further pursue this possibility. Chris seconded the motion. Motion carried.

OLD BUSINESS:

Swimmer's Itch:

Chris recapped the Zoom meeting of September 16 between board members and Dr. Curtis L. Blankespoor of Swimmer's Itch Solutions. The meeting was informative, but the costs to implement a plan were prohibitive, even if we could collaborate with other local lake associations.

Scott said that he had brought up the issue of swimmer's itch with members of MN COLA and Minnesota Lakes and Rivers and they did not seem interested in addressing it at this time.

Membership:

This was covered during the membership/public relations report.

Fish Stocking:

This was covered during the fisheries report.

Buoys:

Mike Lipke reported that of the 10 new post mounted buoys that he has constructed, 6 or 7 will be used on Thompson Point and 2 on Scenic Point, leaving 1 or 2 spares. In order to

place 2 floater buoys on Bonnie Beach Point, as well as 1 or 2 floaters at the rocks on the east side of Thompson Point, we will likely need to do some refurbishing or replacement of those buoys before next year. This last week he repaired a floater that had broken away. That buoy has not been placed back in the lake.

NEW BUSINESS:

MN COLA Update:

Scott reported on the September 17 MN COLA Membership Zoom meeting. He said that the top concerns of members seemed to be AIS, wake boats, and shoreline degradation. Septic system compliance and maintenance was at the bottom of their list, even though it was one of the top 3 items on the meeting docket.

Another docket item was issues related to the rise of vacation home rentals in lake country. There was discussion about the Vacation Home Rental ordinance that went into effect in Otter Tail County on July 1 of this year.

Committee Assignment:

Chris has agreed to take over the Environmental Director position.

Insurance:

Scott reported that at least one local lake association has purchased liability insurance for their board members, at a cost of \$3500. He said that the Otter Tail County Attorney stated that the Clitherall Lake Association is not liable for any incidents related to buoy placement, or lack thereof.

Jeff Lindholm made a motion to adjourn, Steve seconded. Motion carried. The meeting adjourned at 8:54.

Submitted by Eric Pierskalla