**CRYSTAL LAKE- PERCH LAKE PROPERTY OWNERS ASSOCIATION**

**Spring Meeting April 8, 2017**

**TRUSTEES IN ATTENDANCE:**

x Ann Love, President; x Bob Conn, Lakes; x Marty Mulloy, Secretary

x Stan Kirkwood, Treasurer; \_ Jim Tetreault, VP; x Mary Lou Suarez, Special Events

x Chuck Hopkins, Roads

**Call to Order**: Ann Love at 10:00AM, Pledge of Allegiance.

**Introduction of New Property Owners:** Lot # 33-34C - Dave and Charli Carter

Lot # 120P – Tim and Diane Ostrosky

Lot # 64C – Susan and Fred Kellam

**Approval of Fall Minutes:** Motion toapprove the minutes -David Vanderworp; Seconded – Karl Kakaley

**PRESIDENT REPORT (Ann Love):** Welcomed everyone back together for the Meeting and pleased we had such a high level of participation as compared to past years. Nothing new since the Fall meeting to report.

**VP Report (Jim Tetreault):** Nothing new to Report since the Fall meeting.

**SECRETARY REPORT (Marty Mulloy):** Marty passed around a map of the Lakes by property lot numbers. He also passed out a list of property owners that we do not have email addresses for and asked the meeting participants if they knew anyone on the sheet to please contact their neighbor and advise them to update their email address with Marty. As we move toward electronic communications, it becomes more and more essential that we have an up to date email address for each property owner.

Marty acknowledged the great work done by Ryan Carmody and Mela Belle in developing the new crystalperchlakes.com website. All property owners were encouraged to visit the site – and send useful information to Ryan and Mela that could be posted to the web site.

**TREASURER’S REPORT (Stan Kirkwood)**: Our present checking account balance is $42,903 with an additional $45,009 approximately in savings. At the present time, 7 of 125 (6%) of the lakes members have not paid their Road Dues and 7 of 28 (25%) have not paid their Administrative Dues.

Stan has sent two reminders to the Roads Dues owners and will send one more before we lien their property.

**ROADS REPORT (Chuck Hopkins):**  Nothing significant to report since the Fall meeting – however, would like to give special thanks to Dick Johnson and Rick Applegate for their contribution in maintaining our roads.

A suggestion was made by Roxana Hopkins to establish a sub-committee to look into the storage of the Altec. Chuck Fifield and Chuck Hopkins volunteered to join Roxana on the committee. Anyone else interested in serving on the committee were invited to join.

**Lakes Foundation (Dave Vanderworp):** Dave updated the members that Foundation donations are way down. Donations for lake treatment are $4,300, individual spraying $3,000 and fish donations of $1,010. This is substantially less than prior years and just sufficient to cover this year expenses but insufficient to cover next years lake treatment.

A number of property owners said they had never received the original notice that was sent out on February 2nd and urged the Foundation to send out another notification letter. It was agreed the Foundation would:

* Re-email the original note to those that we have a good email address for but have not heard back from them yet
* Postage mail the notice to those we do not have an email address
* Accept checks at the meeting for those that never received the note

Dave said he would report back to the Board on the progress being made to improve the Foundation’s contribution level. Everyone appreciated Dave’s patience in addressing questions and his recommendations moving forward.

**LAKES REPORT (Bob Conn):** Bob noted that all the money used to manage our lakes comes from donations – it is imperative that we maximize the contribution to the Foundation to keep our lakes in excellent condition. The enjoyment of our lakes and the value of our property depend on the management of our lakes.

We spent $14,000 last year in managing the lakes -- $10,000 was allocated to weed treatment and $4,000 was spent on fish stocking.

Bob stated that we have stopped stocking Walleye -- there is a sufficient population to sustain them in the lake and we do not want to over populate the lake with them. We plan to stock the lake with 500 additional small mouth bass in Crystal Lake and stock 500 perch in Perch & Crystal lakes (250 each). Lastly, we will again stock the lakes with flathead minnows as we did last year.

Bob recognized the contribution of Rick Applegate and his Fish Subcommittee. It was discussed that gravel beds were going to be established at selected spots in the lake to enable spawning of habitats for the walleye and small mouth bass.

Copper sulfate has been used on the lake for years. Our lakes management provider uses copper sulfate as a regular course of weed management. Unfortunately, copper sulfate kills aerobic microorganisms that digest muck and keep the lake environmental balance stable. We have instructed PLM to stop using copper sulfate and we are vigorously monitoring the use of all chemicals in the lake for treating weeds.

We have a difficult balance to maintain between sustaining useful vegetation in our lake that supports aquatic life and being over run by weeds that smother the lake. For instance, lily pads are essential to the reproduction of minnow eggs and cover for small fish – pulling them indiscriminately is destructive to the lake.

Do not feed the ducks and geese – there is sufficient food to support their population. Feeding them just attracts more of them and increases the probability of swimmer’s itch.

It is very important that everyone follow the rules of displaying their lot number on their boat. It is important in case your watercraft gets disengaged from your dock and blown out on the lake as well as a way we can identify poachers that have brought unauthorized boats onto the lake. We can also avoid harassing legitimate people on the lake if the boat has a lot number displayed.

We have a beaver damn near the lake weir – we have learned not to destroy the damn, the beavers just deforest another area and begin all over again. We try to monitor the lake water level without destroying the damn.

Regarding the weir – Bob shared; Lake LeAnn dropped their water level to clean up their shoreline. They are not drawing water from our lakes to increase their water level. Bob has spoken to the Lake LeAnn Board and is convinced that nothing inappropriate is being done -- the lake weir can only be adjusted by our Board – we won a court case to establish this precedent.

Toxic chemicals and contaminants in the lake – be careful to protect the integrity of the lake. Avoid the following:

* Make sure your septic system is functioning as prescribed.
* Do not flush chemicals and medications down the drain – they flow into the septic system and eventually into the lake.
* Be careful of boats outside our lakes being launched into our lake since they may carry invasive weeds and contaminants.

Stay off the fish beds this spring – the fish are spawning and it disrupts the natural reproductive life cycle. We want successful spawning seasons to encourage natural reproduction and reduce the need to stock fish – we save money and it’s also good for the fish.

If you catch a large pike (within season) take it out – they are “eating machines” and predators to fish we are stocking.

Effective May 1st we will have a new Lakes combination lock -- an email will be sent out shortly providing the new combination number

**Special Events (Mary Lou Suarez)**: Mary Lou passed out a flier to remind everyone of the date of the Boat Parade (July 2nd Noon), Somerset Township Fireworks (July 3rd) and Summer Picnic (July 8th Noon-4PM after the summer membership meeting).

**OLD BUSINESS:** Ann noted the contribution of Ryan Carmody and Mela Belle in producing our Web Site. Ann also noted that she has had a number of complaints about unattended dogs barking incessantly – please be a responsible dog owner.

**NEW BUSINESS:** Dick Johnson reminded everyone that Memorial Day was approaching and, if history repeats itself, the police will be by checking for licenses.

**Meeting Adjourned:** Motion to adjourn by Dave Vanderworp; second by Karl Kakaley: approved. Meeting adjourned @ 11:20 PM.

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