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“Time wasted at the lake is
time well spent.”
- Unknown

CRYSTAL LAKE PERCH LAKE POA

*A helping hand, compassionate heart;
A sunny smile, each do our part;
A kindly act, or worthy deed;
A tolerant mind, a friend in need;
A prayer each day, if these things done...
We’ll keep this “The livin’est Place Under the Sun!”
-- Unknown*

PRESIDENT’S REPORT – Marty Mulloy

To begin with I would like to thank Bob Conn, Dave Vanderworp, and our Lake Foundation volunteers for their work on sustaining the purity of our lakes, while at the same time, balancing the environmental impact of using chemicals to kill invasive weeds that threaten the useful existence of our lakes. Comments received from residences at membership meetings, survey results, and letters to the Board have clearly articulated your desire that we place the utmost emphasis on protecting our lakes and the wonderful “Up- North” environment that we are so fortunate to share together. There are neighboring lakes in the Irish Hills area that would pay dearly to have our water quality, woodland environs, cost structure, and comradery that we share in our lake community.

I would also like to recognize the work of our Road Warriors – Rick Applegate, Terry Yamarino, and our distinguished Road Alumni Chuck Hopkins and Dick Johnson for continuing to share their years of experience in tackling today’s road issues. The Lakes are so beautiful that it would be a shame if our roads were unaccommodating and impassable to reach our desired destinations. We are fortunate to have such civic minded neighbors that give unselfishly of their time and expertise.

Given the circumstances, we will attempt to hold our Fall Membership Meeting scheduled for November 7th as a Zoom Call Meeting. Kevin McMaster highlights the Zoom call process in his submission below.

I encourage everyone to consider serving on the Lake Board – we have potentially a great deal of turnover and we need new people to step up. Please send me an email if you are interested (mjpmulloy@gmail.com).

Lastly, our Lake Community’s Mission statement, approved at our Summer Membership Meeting in 2018, states: “A Vibrant, Private Community Dedicated to Protecting, Maintaining and Enhancing our Natural

2020 BOARD MEMBERS

PRESIDENT

Marty Mulloy
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VICE PRESIDENT

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Judy Moskus
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LAKES

Bob Conn
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AD-HOC

Kevin McMaster
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PRESIDENT'S REPORT, continued – Marty Mulloy

Environment.” This is the objective of the Board, and we ask all our residents to strive to accomplish our shared objectives. With the single-minded purpose to protect the purity of our lakes, the Board will carry out the majority vote of our community to continue to pursue a Special Assessment District (SAD) in 2021. Judy Moskus, the leader of this initiative, will update you on the progress in working with the Township in her submission below.

Be Safe!

FALL MEETING NOTES – Kevin McMaster

Thanks to everyone who took time to fill out the Lake Survey. We would like to have more responses. We know it has been a busy end of summer and many of you may have forgotten to fill out the survey. Please take time to get this in so your voice may be heard!

Due to the current COVID issues, we have decided our next CLPL meeting on **SATURDAY NOVEMBER 7TH AT 10:00 AM** will be conducted via a Zoom Meeting which you may attend via your computer, phone, or tablet. Many of us may have participated in a Zoom meeting with family, friends and work, so we thought we could do this with our lake community.

Following are directions to attend the Fall CLPL Zoom Meeting:

- Watch your email for the invitation to join the meeting in the week preceding the event. You may either click directly on the link or log in via the unique meeting code and password included in the email.
- It will ask you to join by audio or video. Once making your selection, please ensure your audio is muted, located on the bottom of the zoom meeting screen. You may unmute when called upon if you would like to speak. *Note – please join via video if you would like to make a comment so we may see you
- Marty will open the meeting and review the agenda items with the board and lake members.
- If you wish to make a comment regarding an agenda item, please raise your hand and a board member will see your hand raised, and we will call on you to speak. At this point, you will need to unmute your audio.
- After all the business and comments have been addressed the meeting will be adjourned.

SECRETARY'S REPORT – Judy Moskus

Another Sad SAD Update – The Tale of Sisyphus

How many of you remember mythology from high school? I always thought that was the coolest class learning ancient fairytales. The story of Sisyphus came to mind while dealing with our continuing struggles to establish a special assessment district (SAD) to fund lake management. In Greek mythology, Sisyphus was the cunning king of Corinth. He was condemned to Hades by the gods and punished by repeatedly having to roll a huge stone up a hill, only to have it roll back down again as soon as he got it to the summit.



As you will recall from my last column in the summer newsletter, this process has been a long one. Just when we seem to get some momentum, we roll back “downhill.” The latest instance of the mythical boulder rolling back down the hill occurred in March when the first of the two public hearings required to establish the SAD was cancelled due to COVID-19. I have remained in regular contact with the Somerset Township Clerk, Mike Bohnet, attempting to reschedule that first hearing. That effort was next delayed due to Mike’s own contracting of the COVID virus! The next delay came about as a result of the primary election and the coming general election. The current roadblock is that the Governor’s orders do not allow the public gatherings necessary to fulfill the statutory mandates of the SAD process.

We looked at the alternative of having a virtual meeting (like Zoom), but because that type meeting can only accommodate up to 100 people at a time, it is conceivable that not all of those who want it to have a say would be able to participate. Furthermore, not everyone has access to a computer for this purpose. So we are back at the bottom of the hill waiting. As soon as the Governor’s order allowing public gatherings is lifted, Mike assures me he will get the meeting rescheduled. Fingers crossed!

In the meantime, we have to continue the voluntary contribution process that we have had for years. So if you are inclined and able to donate to the CLPL Foundation, please do so. Even assuming that the township board votes to establish the SAD after the first public hearing, the process thereafter still takes a good deal of time. As a result, any potential assessment would not likely be on our tax bills until next summer. Our primary need for funds comes in the spring and early summer for the various treatments and other programs we utilize for lake management. I will keep everyone updated as things proceed forward.

TREASURER'S REPORT – Mike King

The last fiscal year ended June 30, 2020, and I am glad to report that 122 out of 123 paid their road and administration dues. The one member that did not pay will have another lien issued on their property. Only 18 out of 28 paid the administration dues of \$25 which are for those that live on our lakes but we do not maintain their roads.

We have been asked by some what are the administration dues are needed for. Our administration dues cover property taxes on access lots, postage, property and liability insurance, rental fees for use of Township Hall and McCourtie Park, copies, state fees for maintaining nonprofit organization, summer picnic and Octoberfest food, property lien fees, website fees, legal fees, P.O. Box fees, etc.

The invoices for this year’s dues were issued in September, and I wanted to thank all of you who have already sent their checks in so quickly.

TREASURER'S REPORT, continued – Mike King

Dues Received for 2020-2021	\$ 5,655
Expenses to Date	\$ 5,135
Checking Account Balance	\$ 20,151
Savings Account Balance	\$ 41,430

Once again wanted to thank all for being current on their dues which provides the necessary funds maintain the roads and our wonderful lakes environment.

ROADS' REPORT – Rick Applegate

My co-worker Terry Yamarino and I are pleased to report that our roads are in very good shape. We have both worked hard at maintaining all aspects of road maintenance from spring through winter.

For new residents who are not familiar with our roads, we have 3.1 miles that we care for. This involves signage, spreading gravel, grading, roadside mowing, tree trimming, brush clearing, servicing and upkeep of our grader, and grounds upkeep on our three entrances and two boat launches.

Dust control and snow plowing are subcontracted out, but we are still involved with coordinating and assisting, especially during extreme weather conditions. Our dust control is applied late in April, June, and August based on road conditions and budget allowance.

This spring and summer we have noticed a lot more vehicles on our roads causing concerns with speed and safety. Please discuss with any neighbors, guests, subcontractors, and even UPS, FedEx, USPS drivers that we encourage adherence to our posted 15 mile per hour speed limit. Many of our homes are very near the roads, so please do your part and SLOW DOWN!

Snow plowing is done by Precision Lawn Care who plows when we have 2" of snow or more. They also lay salt and sand as needed. Winter can be extremely challenging with freezing and thawing, creating icy roads. Some areas do not get much sunlight making treating with salt futile, so the next best option is spreading gravel or sand. PLEASE NOTE! There are simple ways residents can help us road volunteers: take your leaves to our compost area, and avoid collecting or burning leaves by the roadside or near the lakeshore. Burning near the shores eventually pollutes our lakes. In icy conditions, you can help by throw a little play sand near your mailbox during the winter. Our very nice mail carrier has a very tough time when stopping at your mailbox along with navigating the steep hills.

For any personal plowing or lawn care the contact phone number for Precision Lawn Care is 517-900-9049.

Our compost site is for Crystal and Perch Lake residents only. Please remember to keep limb size limits to a maximum of 6" diameter. We encourage leaves and debris to be taken to the rear of site for proper disposal. Thank you in advance for your compliance.

I would like to give special thanks to Dan Stevick for allowing us to store our equipment in his pole barn and to the following volunteers for all their hard work: Chuck Hopkins, Dick Johnson, Tim Ostrosky and Tom Lieblein, your assistance when needed is greatly appreciated! We are always looking for new volunteers, so please don't hesitate to offer your time and talents.

LAKES' REPORT – Bob Conn

Dear friends, the summer has concluded and fall is upon us. This past summer was certainly one for the books: weather was great, and water quality was fantastic. Early this summer, we treated for an algae outbreak on both Crystal and Perch due to the water temperature increase and the nutrient load from all the spring runoff feeding the algae growth. Invasive weed spraying also took place with concentration at the Crystal Lake boat launch. Starry stonewort is in both lakes with Perch being hit the hardest. Managing starry stonewort will be just as expensive or possibly more than Eurasian milfoil. I heard many comments on just how clean and clear the water looked. Yes, it is very nice to have clear waters; however, sun penetration into our lakes will cause increased vegetation growth. I will continue to use as many non-chemical approaches as possible. The entrance way into Little Crystal was again worked on this year with a weed harvester removing floating debris islands in the channel. The fall water quality report has been taken. Readings for heavy metal buildup (copper sulfate) were also taken from 10 locations in each lake. I will post reports to web page when I get them.

500 walleye will be stocked in Crystal Lake in October. Please make sure to follow the ice fishing rules for inland lakes, and if you leave an ice fishing shanty out, please mark it with your lot number. Last but not least, please do all you can to keep leaves out of the lake. They are a huge source of nutrient load we do not need. Use septic safe products and eliminate all the phosphate containing products you can. Have a safe and wonderful winter.

There is still time to donate this year to the Lake foundation.

FOUNDATION

Our goal for 2020 was to raise \$19,000 to pay for lake treatment, maintenance, educational programs and fish stocking. As of September 23, our total donations were \$16,900. Although the suggested donation was \$175 the actual average donation was \$206.

We had a total of 82 donors.

30 donors gave \$200 or more

8 donors gave \$300 or more

4 donors gave \$500 or more

1 donor gave a total of \$675

The virtual auction was a great success adding an additional \$2,630 to the Foundation. That put us over the top of our 2020 goal with a total of \$19,530. I would like to give special thanks to Charli Carter, Barb Yamarino, Nancy VanDerworp, and our auctioneer Tom Lieblein for all their efforts on the auction.

THANK YOU to all of you who donated!

If anyone would like to join the Foundation, please contact Dave VanDerworp at Vanscamp@Wowway.com

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Somerset Township Special Assessment Meeting (SAD) Public Hearing – TBD – we are awaiting instructions from the Township Board

Fall Membership Meeting – November 7, 2020 from 10:00 to 12 noon – Zoom call in. Please watch your email the week before the event for log in information

Spring Membership Meeting – April 3, 2021 from 10:00 to 12 noon – tentative location of Somerset Township Meeting Room

Summer Membership Meeting – July 10, 2021 from 10:00 to 12 noon – tentative location of Somerset Township Meeting Room

Summer Picnic – July 11, 2021 from 12 noon to 5:00 – McCordie Park

Fall Membership Meeting – November 6, 2021 from 10:00 to 12 noon – tentative location of Somerset Township Meeting Room

Please refer to our website at www.crystalperchlakes.com to keep yourself up to date on all matters concerning our lake community.