CLPLPOA Annual Fall Meeting Minutes

 October 8, 2022

1. **Call to Order**

President, Kevin McMaster, called the meeting to order at 10:00am and board members were introduced: Present were Kevin McMaster, Patty Maher, Thea Kirkwood, Barb Yamarino, Bob Conn, Rick Applegate, and Mike King (substituting for Diane Ostrosky).

1. **Pledge of Allegiance**

The meeting opened with the Pledge of Allegiance. There were no new members to introduce. Kevin recognized the great turn-out for the meeting.

First order of business was to approve the minutes for the July 9, 2022 Summer Meeting. Minutes were emailed to members when completed and posted to the website where they are available under the association tab. A member requested that a few copies be available at each meeting for those who don’t access email. A motion was made by Patty Maher to approve with a second by Becky Carr.

1. **President’s Report**

The eagles are back on the nest which is encouraging. Thanked the board for continuing to work for the membership and for the protection of the lake.

1. **Treasurer’s Report**

Mike spoke on behalf of Diane Ostrosky. The new format for distributing the road dues invoices seems to be working well and he thanked those who had already paid their dues. Diane emailed the newly configured invoices via an electronic format. If you are having trouble, check your spam or feel free to contact Diane Ostrosky for support. The budget for the year is $41,550 and 55% of the invoices have been paid. Our expenses have been minor so far. Checking account balance is $34,102 and Savings is $45,624. We are working toward a $50,000 contingency balance in savings per our by-laws. If the cash flow from the dues continues at the current rate, she may be able to move some to help meet that goal. The annual audit was moved to the fall (per revised by-laws) and conducted by Ann Love and Richard Barish with errors of between $5 and $6 due to a late invoice for bottled water. The detailed report is available and a graph of the budget was provided. The graph will be attached to the email blast containing draft minutes of the meeting. A second invoice for the road dues will go out in November for unpaid balances. Note: if you do submit your payment through Venmo, a fee is charged so please be aware that you add that to your invoice payment so the association does not have to cover that fee.

1. **Secretary’s Report:**

Thea reminded members to sign-in to meet our meeting obligations. The directory continues to be updated via information from Diane Ostrosky as new owners arrive. New members are contacted to indicate their preferences for contact information they wish made available through this source. Members were reminded to decal their water craft with their lot number to help return missing vessels to their owners. Rick provided additional vinyl numbers for anyone to take.

A question was asked on where the directory was available. The directory is no longer public information by request from many of the members. Having personal information distributed among such a wide group raises concerns for privacy and possible misuse. This is also part of the reason we no longer use the association blasts for personal items – rather association business or activities. Members are blind-copied for privacy.

1. **Vice President’s Report**

Patty said she has been doing internal organization with documents to support the passing of information from retiring members to new board members. She is considering updating the website with historical stories, milestones, and general information for members. She’s looking for a small committee of 3 or 4 people to assist. Also looking for any documents that might be interesting or need archiving through a digitizing process. Dick Johnson has 12-15 cases of old documents that he was going to shred but will transfer to Patty. Lots of the papers are old invoices but there are also meeting minutes, possibly directories, and more. Marty shared that the previous owner left him the original documents for his home including a signature for the land purchase from the US President, Andrew Jackson. There appears to be a wealth of information that may take quite some time to review. It will be a long-term project.

Patty or Thea will email follow-up information.

1. **Road’s Report**

Rick acknowledged all the people who help him maintain the roads. Obstructions like trees are part of what they volunteer to do to keep the roads clear. We appreciate when anyone jumps in to help during unusual weather. The north and south entrances have limited visibility, so the crew did a lot of clearing. Bob Weaver approved the cutting for the safety of our members. Rick talked with the road commission and they are going to add another road sign showing the two hidden roads around the bend. They also agreed to patrol the area to encourage people to slow down. Thank them if you see them. The sign that says 35mph is a suggested speed since it is yellow. White signs are mandated speeds. Please don’t rake your leaves into the road – use the compost lot for disposal. Also, when it snows, the plow is not responsible for clearing either your driveway or the berm that might be created from the plow. He asked if any member would consider joining the board to replace him in the road capacity since he will be leaving after the July annual meeting. If no one volunteers we will need to subcontract the service.

1. **Lakes’ Report**

Bob has been in charge of the lakes for 8 years. He updated members stating that he spoke with the drain commission because the water to the weir is becoming encapsulated. This could raise the lake level but flow needs to continue. The commission will not respond for clearing – that is not a responsibility of the Weir SAD (5 years) that is part of your taxes. We are in the second year of a 5 year SAD, after which time the assessment will be removed. CLPLPOA board members attended court hearings to protest this charge but the drain commission decided this was in keeping with other lakes.

This year was a challenging year and all of the SAD money was allocated plus $3500 from the Foundation. In order for people to use Perch Lake, it was necessary to have a milfoil spray at $7000. The Foundation money was used to have a harvester clear a path for boats on Perch. We also treated the Crystal Lake channels for egress, and stocked fathead minnows to eat algae and muck in an organic fashion. The water level was high due to increased rain. We can no longer use copper sulfate for the algae but another chemical which we cannot spray in the middle of the lake.

The board in conjunction with the foundation are considering a mapping of the ecosystems of both lakes to determine the overall health of the lake, the water quality, and watershed issues that we may not be aware of. This would create a new baseline to help guide decisions that are made for lake treatment and management. A baseline was done in 1946 and one (for which we have the data) was done in 1970. The Army Core of Engineers used Perch as a test case for the use of Sonar due to the encapsulated state of the lake in 2000. There is a recommendation that we hire a Lake Management firm to conduct extensive surveying and testing to determine existing conditions and future recommendations. We have one proposal and are awaiting the results of 2 additional firms for consideration. A question was asked about costs with Bob indicating it could be anywhere from $5000 to $16,000. We need to gather more information and data before making a decision to move forward. Suggestions were given for raising the funds such as a silent auction, money from the Foundation account, general fund over $50000 contingency etc. – not a per lot charge. We are not in favor of stripping the Foundation of all available funds. These are our backup funds for other issues on our lakes.

Bob shared the results of a similar mapping done on Lake Leann which showed they had 7 run-off points into their lake dumping chemicals and nutrients. This was different than what they had anticipated and will help them tackle these challenges. The general consensus from those who spoke at our meeting was favorable for this project. A goal would be to make a decision by spring of 2023. We will be working on this over the next few months.

Bob also indicated the reality of the greater needs that exist on Perch which may result in higher payments needed for Perch to maintain functionality on the lake particularly when the next SAD is considered. This will be a future discussion to create equity in the expenditures allocated for Crystal and Perch both from the SAD fund and fundraising.

Kevin: The lake survey project is a proactive response knowing that Bob will be leaving soon and his expertise will no longer be on the board. A question was asked about an aerial view of the lake – that is a distinct possibility. The costs will depend on whether we choose pieces of the proposal to start or the complete survey.

Question: Does PLM have an aerial map of our lake. PLM has been servicing our lake for 12 year and they have quite a bit of information but no physical map of our lakes other than perhaps older versions. Kevin and Wayne toured the lakes with PLM to gain greater understanding of our needs. PLM does a water quality check every spring and fall that we use to compare but there are no sediment measures, true aerials, or watersheds.

Bob asked people to be aware of trespassing on our lake during ice fishing. That is the time of year when people will access the lake without using the launch. We are a private lake and want to protect the fishery we are maintaining.

1. **Foundation Report**

Wayne Snyder presented for Dave VanDerworp. The Foundation has a total of $16,100 including $1,820 in the Stan Kirkwood memorial fund, and a contingency reserve of $7000. This leaves $7,285 available. Per question asked, Wayne was not aware of any of that money being targeted for fish stocking. If people send donations to the Foundation, they need to specify that it is for fish stocking. There are Shoreline Living Journals available for free on the back table with resources in the back to use. Wayne has been gathering water quality data on Crystal Lake but we need someone on Perch Lake to volunteer to do water transparency checks plus phosphorous a few times a year. The data is a double check on PLM data. You can look on our website for a link showing all the data we have collected.

1. **Special Projects**

Barb thanked members who volunteered for the annual picnic that helped to make it such a success. She also thanked Annamarie Snyder for providing a flower arrangement to raffle today. The calendars are completed and available on the back table for a cost of $20. They make great gifts and can be purchased using the form sent to all members. If they are delivered on the lake there is no cost. If you need them to be mailed, you will be charged the postage charged. There were many beautiful photos submitted for the committee to choose for this sunrise/sunset theme. The t-shirt sale only made $590 which will go to the Foundation. The last time we did this sale we made $1600. Barb donated her time and materials to create new vinyl decals of the lakes that can be placed on many items such as cars, folders, computers etc. They are available in a variety of colors. All proceeds will go to a Special Projects Fund for the annual picnic or special projects we undertake. Phil Kovach donated candles which will be included in the raffle as well.

1. **New and Old Business**

Phil showed his candles (personal hobby) that are available. He also donated $100 of his sales to the lake project.

Robert Burns discussed having a silent auction through the Foundation to use towards the lake management project. Thea will send out a blast with his contact information for donating items or services. A suggestion was made to include an opportunity to just make a monetary donation. During the last auction, members indicated they wanted to participate but preferred a straight donation. The Foundation is trying to set up a Venmo account for this purpose.

No old business.

1. **Adjourn**

Motion to adjourn was made by Gordon Gauss with a second by Denise Schlotz.

Respectfully,

Thea Kirkwood

CLPL Secretary