

Portage-Crooked Lake Improvement Association (PCLIA) Meeting

Saturday, October 9, 2021 Bay Lake Township Hall

In attendance:

Kris Picken	Scott Maghan	Tom Kaufhold
Ron Petrussen	Julie Maghan	Kari Bunkers by cell phone
Susan Hitchens	Diane Lund	Marjorie Safaie by cell phone
Ed Geysler	Chuck Lund	Mike Stuber

Excused :

Lynn Bremer, Jill Mertes, Pat and Rick Wimmer

Meeting called to order by Kris Picken at 9:02

Kris Introduced new members Tom Kaufhold and Mike Stuber and thanked outgoing members Ed Geysler, Rick and Sue Wimmer for their many years of service and contributions to the board.

Secretary's Report

Change to August 7, 2021 minutes: Minutes reflect that Kris would obtain quotes from agencies for insurance for liability and board of directors and bring to the next meeting for review. The motion was for Kris to acquire the insurance if less than \$2,000. Kris purchased a policy for \$1,825.00. Details of the insurance policy will be discussed later on the agenda. Kris will see that the change is made in the minutes from August 7, 2021. Andy/Chuck MMSC to approve minutes with change.

Treasurers' Report: Joy reported a balance of \$39,848.74 in the checking account, with \$5,462.74 in Expenses and \$1,598.72 in revenue. Ed Geysler questioned the \$9,081.66 in the Aquatic Invasive Species Fund. Due to inability to pull up records (Quicken file not available at meeting) MMSC Ed/Chuck to have the treasurers' report distributed and approved via email.

Committee Reports:

Healthy Lakes

DNR-Boat Landing

Andy reported we had 136 contracted hours, which cost \$1,371.20. Also reported that zebra mussels have been found in South Long Lake. Crow Wing County is hosting a water quality meeting on either October 20th or October 27 (conflicting dates given) via Microsoft Teams, which he is planning to attend. If anyone else would like to attend the meeting, contact Andy and he will forward the link to the meeting.

Eurasian Water Milfoil: Scott: Procellacor treatment was very effective, including eradication of weeds not contracted for due to drifting. We will have to monitor the treat areas as the company has a three

year warranty. The warranty language will need to be reviewed. The DASH may be needed in the future if we have patches that rise up where treatment wasn't applied.

Water sampling: Jill can't do Portage water quality testing; We will have to find someone to do the water sampling. Marjorie stated via email she would be interested in assisting.

Spiny Water Flea-The county does microscopic examination of samples to detect Spiny Water Fleas. Andy attempted to purchase the special net needed to collect specimens, but due to the pandemic was unable to get the net for testing this year. Andy will research a different supplier and order the net for next spring.

Portage channel; Kris reported that the channel dig, while a success, the benefits didn't last long due to low water levels, individuals playing in channel area within one hour of the dig, and bricks anchoring buoys being stolen, Water level was an advantage and a disadvantage. Due to low water level, we were able to remove more sand from the channel, but with lower water, the flow through the channel is diminished. Ed stated Some mitigation including planting bulrushes/and placement of logs have been tried. Kris said there isn't a permanent solution to the problem now so we should continue to monitor the issue. The question was raised about navigable waters and the county's interest in having access to the lake through the channel. Kris stated the county has other ways to get onto Portage Lake and they would not be interested in helping fund the channel excavation. The answer is to continue to educate lake users of the detriment caused by mooring boats and playing by the channel and also to call the sheriff regarding trespassing on the private land adjoining the channel.

Navigation: Scott reported he replaced buoys/chains this past year. He stated he needs to step down from navigation. George Jukish puts out and takes in the buoys each season. Someone is needed to monitor during the year and care for buoys (broken chains) Chuck volunteered to take over navigation.

Crooked Narrows Update: Sheriff is not going to recommend any type of NWZ due to the traffic during their assessment didn't warrant the establishment of a no wake zone. Andy will do an article for newsletter and continued to stress that if people see violations or safety issues, to call sheriff's department, videotape get the license number and a picture of the driver.

Andy reported that exploring the establishment of a no wake zone had positive ramifications in building a good relationship/rapport with CWC Boat and Water and now Crooked Lake is on the sheriff's department radar. The board agreed we should we put the Sheriff's supplemental report on Facebook page.

Fish Management: Scott has the permit from Lynn; Scott will work with Kyle Jukish to stock the lake. Spent the fund \$3,500.00. A question was raised about the size of walleye we stock. Kris explained that we will never be able to purchase the larger walleye as they are spoken for by the larger lakes in the Twin Cities. Ron stated the fisheries management supervisor stated because of predation, it is a waste of money to stock the smaller fingerlings. Scott said large perch would be an ideal fish to put in which would also help with the stunted sunfish population. However, we have association members who will only donate to the fish stocking fund if we purchase walleye. Kris stated 2 year old Walleyes are \$5/ piece compared to perch which are 45 cents each. Discussed also the option to do both, as we can only stock walleye every other year. The board questioned whether we need to see how successful stocking of walleye has been by having people give feedback on the amount of walleyes caught. Scott will write

an educational article for the November. Instead of calling it fish stocking, we should refer to it as our Walley Program”

Social:

Decided to have the Welcome Back to the Lakes and Fall Dinner at Rocky Bottom/Y Club. Kris will call to reserve

Dates for next year’s events

- PCLIA Board Meetings 2022: April 2, May 7, August 6, October 8
- Welcome Back to Lakes: Aiming for April 30, 2022: Rocky Bottom/Y Club
- June 18, 2022, Summer Picnic at the Larson’s.
- July 3, 2022 (Saturday): Pontoon and Boat Parade:
- Family Fun Event- July 4, 2022
- Fall Dinner: September 10, 2022 Rocky Bottom/Y C

The board decided due to limited participation and relatively few Northerns taken out of the lake to discontinue the fishing contest. We’ve run it for 3 years and it seems to be the same people participating and not as effective as we had hoped. We will continue to try to educate people to take smaller northerns out of the lake to help our walleye/sunfish populations grow.

Membership: With Pat not in attendance, we don’t have the current number of members available. Julie Maghan will be taking over membership.

Budget: The board went over the 2021 budget and MMSC Scott/Chuck to approve the 2022 budget. (See budget document)

Some of the discussion during budget review included:

To alleviate some expenses, the board discussed the option of association members receiving their newsletter by email vs. printing and mailing the newsletter. Julie will research with Lakes Printing the costs/feasibility of mailing smaller quantities of newsletters if a large proportion of people opt to get the newsletter electronically.

The electronic option choice will be printed in the November newsletter dues form.

Kris reported that Doug has volunteered to update the association’s directory as it hasn’t been done in 5 years. In the past, the cost was about \$5/ each, which the association paid. Budgeted \$1,500 for the directory with a plan to have it completed by the Welcome Back to the Lakes event to distribute there, to cut down on postage costs. Kris will do an article for the November newsletter about the directory.

Tom asked why the association wasn’t set up as a 501 (c) 3 corporation. Doing so would allow members to deduct their annual dues and make us eligible for Amazon smiles program. Ed stated the association tried and was advised we could not due to the IRS. Tom and Andy will work together to explore whether we can get a 501 (C) 3 designation.

Newsletter: The following articles will be written and emailed to Pat Wimmer before 10/31/2021

Fish Stocking: Walleye v perch	Scott
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Sheriff's NWZ Report	Andy
Dash	Ron
Directory	Kris
Picnic/Family Fun Event	Andy
Membership Promotion	Mike
Channel	Kris
Procellacor Success/ EWM mitigation	Scott
Directory: Opt out option	Kris

Facebook Page/Webpage Doug Picken volunteered to keep Facebook/Webpage current.

Apparel orders: Deadline approaching. Because Jill wasn't in attendance, we don't know the number of items ordered. Many were wanting to order for Christmas gifts.

Insurance: Previously our insurance was a liability policy only and didn't cover litigation against board members. The directors and officer policy purchased through Northridge Insurance Agency provides \$2 Million Directors/Officers coverage, a general liability policy with \$3 Million aggregate/\$1 Million occurrence coverage. Also purchased a \$1 M umbrella policy.

Meeting was adjourned MMSC Scott/Andy at 10:26 am

Joy Larson

Secretary