

Portage Crooked Lake Improvement Association Board Meeting Agenda

04/02/2022

The purpose of the PCLIA is to preserve and improve the condition and quality of our lakes and the surrounding area. We strive to create a spirit of cooperation with all property owners on the chain of lakes.

Attending: Scott Maghan, Julie Maghan, Andy Larson, Joy Larson, Tom Kaufhold, Kari Bunkers, Jill Mertes, Kris Picken (phone), Chuck and Diane Lund

Excused: Mike Stuber, Lynn Bremer, Marjorie Safaie

Call to Order: Scott called the meeting to order at 9:00 am

Review and Approval of Meeting Minutes from October 9, 2021 Andy/Chuck moved to accept minutes. Motion carried.

Treasurer's Report

Treasurer's report does not include the interest from January 1 to March 31, 2022. Balance \$50,173.69. Discussion involving definitions of the various funds. Merging AIS and Healthy Lakes Fund categories since AIS is a subset of Healthy Lakes. In addition, Dues and General Fund categories will be combined. We are implementing a reimbursement form and anyone seeking reimbursement will need to complete it, including the funds from which the expense is to be taken. Joy motioned, Tom seconded to accept Treasurer's report. Motion carried.

Committee Reports

Scott encouraged board members to volunteer for the various committees based on their interest. (Names noted behind each subcommittee due to past involvement.)

Healthy Lakes (Kris, Scott, Kari)

Boat Landing (Andy) We have in the past purchased additional inspection hours above and beyond what the county covers. We have had our coverage from CWC cut and will no longer include Fridays. Coverage will be Saturday/Sundays of Memorial Day weekend through Labor Day, starting at 9 am. (Earlier hours will not be supported) Proposing purchasing additional coverage starting on Fishing opening (all three days of weekend) through Memorial Day. Then after Memorial Day through Labor Day we would purchase Friday coverage. After Labor Day, we would purchase coverage for weekends, including Fridays through the end of September. Cost estimate is \$4,800 compared to last year's cost of \$2,400.00. Inspectors have been given additional duties including checking landing area for AIS and are paid \$17.60 per hour. County is having difficulty recruiting inspectors. Suggested advertising in newsletter for people to serve as inspectors. Question regarding usage at landing. County has the data about usage but files are huge and data needs to be extrapolated. Kris Picken asked Andy to check on the type of file this is in and she would volunteer to look at the data. Joy moved,

Julie seconded to amend budget up to \$4,800.00 for additional landing inspection coverage. Newsletter to solicit donations for Boat Landing expenses. Motion carried.

Eurasian Water Milfoil (Scott)

- We should be able to see milfoil growth, if any, by June. Scott reported the ProCella Core affects hormones in milfoil plant and also takes out northern milfoil. Scott reported that mechanical and chemical permits have been renewed. County/DNR gives small grant for AIS. This year it is \$2,500. We are a designated lake we and we need to spend the money to get reimbursed.

Water Sampling (Andy/Jill/Ken)

- Jill sampled Portage last year but can't currently get through the channel. She reported she is still willing to do Portage if she can get through, but encouraged association to look for anyone else who lives on Portage who would be willing to do the sampling. Ken (we do not know his last name) reportedly has been doing Crooked Lake but we can't verify that it is being done since the website has been redone and now the information is now password protected. Scott may have password. Jill will try to determine if Ken is taking samples.

Shoreline Restoration Projects (Scott)

- Received email from Shelly Larson. There are currently two shoreline restoration projects (Portage Miller/Lease property and one on Crooked.) Shelly made inquiry if anyone would like to learn the process and volunteer in the projects. We can put an email out advertising great place to learn, help neighbors. Property owners/Shelly should coordinate volunteers. Scott will reach out to Shelly and willing to support through communication, but PCLIA won't be involved in the coordination of volunteers.

Lake Management Plan (Kari)

- We don't currently have a lake management plan. We are members of CWC Lakes and Rivers Association and they may have template or examples we could use. Kari will also reach out to a university professor to see if some examples are available. Kari and Kris will work together to possibly have samples to review for our May meeting

Navigation (Chuck)

- George Jukish puts the buoys out and Chuck monitors them throughout the year. Buoys were being hit by snowmobiles and need to be placed further off the channel so not being hit by snowmobiles.

Fish Management (Lynn)

- On November 15th, 2021 the walleye stocking was completed. Loons were gone so we

didn't lose the fingerlings. The distribution was:

Crooked – 95lbs @ 12 fish/pound = 1,140 fingerlings

Portage – 62lbs @ 12 fish/pound = 744 fingerlings

Hanks – 38lbs @ 12 fish/pound = 456 fingerlings

- The next stocking cannot occur until 2023

Social (Andy and Joy)

- Welcome Back to the Lakes (Scott) Usually get 60-70 people/ Rolls/Coffee
 - April 30, 2022 9:00 AM at Rocky Bottom in Garrison
 - The National Loon Center will be presenting information on loons
 - Would like to see as many Board members there as possible
- Summer Picnic
 - June 18 Brats and Hotdogs
- Pontoon Boat Parade
 - July 3
 - Question as to who has the numbers/details regarding Pontoon Boat Parade. Diane will reach out to Patti Stasney, who is believed to have the numbers. We will need to iron out details of the parade (judges), etc.
- Family Fun Event
 - July 4 Same as last year. Many indicated they liked the informal nature of the event without registration.
 - Andy indicated he needs 10-15 volunteers
- Fall Dinner Meeting
 - September 10

Membership: (Julie)

- 195 paid/106 not paid
- 42 - 2021 members not paid – reminders sent Newsletter
- Delivery Method
 - Electronic Only – 57 (29%)
 - Both – 13 (7%)
 - Paper Only – 125 (64%)

Communication:

- Shoreline Newsletter: Print dates in April, June, August and November
 - April articles
 - Presidents Message – (Scott)
 - Welcome Back to the Lakes (Scott)
 - Boat Landing
 - Navigation/Water Safety Narrows
 - Portage Channel

- Issues – Call Crow Wing County Sheriff 218-829-4749
 - Walleye reporting reminder (Lake name/ # and Size of Walleye)
 - Others?
- Directory
 - Doug Picken has been working on the directory. Of the 200 people who responded back information has been updated. We have budgeted \$5 per directory. Kris and Doug will oversee format/printing at Lakes Printing. Determined we would verify member data at the Welcome Back to the Lakes. Joy, Julie and Diane will do the verifying of data. Julie will note in newsletter that we need up to date information. The directory will be printed for distribution at the Summer Picnic to association members.
 - Communication
 - Newsletter looks good; checking on costs of color printing. (Electronic version will be in color) Andy will do a newsletter article regarding the landing/increased staffing. Volunteers-Shelly. Nature corner: "Critter Corner" We will invite readers to share stories of nature sightings. Jill will follow up with other local newsletters (Wild and Free Trumpeter) for articles for publishing. Tom will look at other lakes' newsletters and share so we can get ideas for our newsletter.
 - Website – Big thanks to Doug Picken for website work and directory.
 - Communication Strategy (Kari) How do we keep all messaging the same (Facebook/Website/Shoreline/Email) Keep on agenda for future discussion. Kari indicated a desire to work on this.
 - Recurring news articles (yearly) How do we determine what communication goes where? Large number of people are not on Facebook. The webpage was previously being done by Pat and Rick's daughter. Doug has the website up to date.
 - Previously only the fall newsletter was put on the website, as it was hoped it would be a draw for membership. Consensus was that probably isn't the case and we should be putting the newsletters/minutes on Facebook and the website.

Change to a 501(c)(3) Tax exempt.: (Tom, Andy)

- Plan to communicate in next newsletter the proposed change to a 501 (c) 3 organization.
- Tom has done extensive research regarding change from a 501 (c) (4) to a (c) 3 designation:
- Why: Tax issue. If we are a 501 (c) 3 organization, dues and contributions are deductible. In addition, some grants are only available for non-profits. If the change is approved, we would need minor bylaw changes and an IRS filing. Cost is approximately \$600 and IRS approval takes from two to six months. The change will be presented to the membership at the annual meeting. Andy and Tom will put together a proposal for bylaw language change and draft form.

New Business

No new business. Chuck/Tom motioned to adjourn at approximately 10:45.

Submitted by Joy Larson, Recording Secretary