

Portage Crooked Lake Improvement Association Board Meeting Minutes

05/07/2022

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, Andy Larson, Joy Larson, Tom Kaufhold, Kari Bunkers, Kris Picken, Chuck Lund, Diane Lund, Lynn Bremer, Mike Stuber

Excused: Jill Mertes, Marjorie Safie, Julie Maghan

Called to Order: Meeting called to order by President Scott Maghan at 8:57 a.m.

Review and Approval of Meeting Minutes from 4/2/2022 Andy moved/seconded Kris to approve minutes of the 4/2/2022 meeting. Approved minutes were emailed to Doug Picken for posting.

Treasurer's report: Chuck/Tom moved to approve treasurer's report with a balance of \$50,870.39. Motion carried.

Committee Reports

Boat Landing: Data from CWC boat landing inspections was forwarded to Doug for analysis. Doug discovered many boat landing recordings were incomplete. Andy spoke with Nicole at CWC, mentioning it may be an opportunity for training for the employees who staff the landings. We will check the data again in the fall to see if there is improvement. Hope to know soon what kind of coverage will be available due to the difficulty in recruiting inspectors.

Water Sampling: Jill was able to recruit a volunteer to assist in taking samples for Portage Lake. Next sampling is due to be dropped off for analysis on May 12, 12-2 at Brainerd Public Library.

Lake Management Plan

Kari reached out to University of Minnesota to inquire about LMPs and how detailed a plan needs to be. Our current plan is detailed but out of date. Kari presented what a typical LMP outline looks like. Scott will email out the past plan for board members to review. Kris reported we had Limnipro did a lake assessment of our lakes (with the exception of Sugar Bay since we were aware of AWM infestation there.) We have tested for Zebra Mussels and Spiny Water Fleas. Kris will forward the results to Kari. Kari talked about LMP with respect to other issues including surface use management, septic/sewer compliance. Andy will talk to CWC to inquire about septic system compliance. Kris will review the previous LMP and add and integrate past board actions/decisions in the past few years. Board supported the idea of putting the LMP on the website when it is complete and then assign someone to keep it up to date. The goal is to set goals and evaluate annually how we have met those goals.

Navigation (Chuck) Buoys are up near Lund's house. So far no reports of floaters/runaways.

Social (Andy and Joy)

- Summer Picnic
 - June 18
 - Time 12:00 Scott will help cook/Jill and Diane volunteered to help. Board members will bring desserts. Brats/Hamburgers/Potato Salad Cole Slaw will be provided. Volunteers encouraged to come about 10:45-11:00 to start cooking/set up.
- Pontoon Boat Parade
 - July 3 Pat Stasney runs the Boat Parade. She has all the numbers, signs, etc. Wimmer's children usually served as judges in the past. Kris will connect with Pat Stasney to see if judges have been selected and if she needs any assistance.
 -
- Family Fun Event
 - July 4
 - Time? 9:30 registration/Start at 10:00 am
 - Volunteers? Need 15 volunteers/ Come at 9:15 Chuck and Mike volunteered to help. Kris mentioned that Doug will photos again with camera and drone. Andy and Joy will provide door prize. Tom will be stationed at turnaround and will have water for runners.
- Fall Dinner Meeting
 - September 10 Rocky Bottom Scott will reach out to secure the date with Rocky Bottom.

Membership: (Julie)

- 209 paid
 - 93 not paid
 - 30 2021 members not paid
- There are about 6 properties not in the directory. Will be added to directory. Doug is spending considerable time looking at property tax records. Someone is going around door to door on Portage to get complete and accurate information. Questioned whether we should be people's phone numbers in the directory, and consensus was that we should print the numbers if people provided them to make the directory useful. Kris reported the same picture would be on the front of the directory and it was mentioned it would be nice to have the new logo printed somewhere in the directory also. We will bind the directories that will be distributed to members and then have extra ones stapled.

Communication:

Shoreline Newsletter: Print dates in April, June, August and November

- June article ideas? Goal to have Shoreline in hand by June 7. Need articles in the next week by May 16th
 - Presidents Message – (Scott)

- Picnic (Andy will write Picnic and Fun Event article)
- Boat Parade
- Fun Event RSVP by email to Andy Larson andylarson1959@hotmail.com
- Navigation/Water Safety Chuck will research and write article on Boating Rules/Definition of Buoys
 - Narrows
 - Portage Channel
 - Issues – Call Crow Wing County Sheriff 218-829-4749
- Walleye reporting reminder
- Critter Corner Bear sightings
- Notification of Milfoil Treatment Required by law to notify lake residents of Milfoil Treatment via two methods. Most lake associations do so by printing it in the newsletter. We will put it in our newsletter and then place notice on Facebook and the website to avoid having to do a mailing as we did last year.
- Others?
- Placing the Shoreline Online Consensus was to put the Shoreline on the webpage when it is disseminated to the members.
- Lakes Printing Distribution – Lessons Learned: Delays in mailing.

Directory – (Kris)

- Include Phone Numbers?
 - Some concerns were shared by members about doing this without specific consent (See above)

Communication Strategy – (Scott)

- What do we communicate? Need someone on the board to coordinate communication
- How to utilize our forms of media?
- How to keep them up to date? Tabled for now.

Website – (Kari) Kari's daughter Marianna has done website work in the past for non-profits and has volunteered to redo our website. Looked at other lake improvement associations and researched content/tabs, etc. Many lake associations have "plug ins" which allow members to pay dues online. This may increase our traffic to our page. Do we want to have dues paid online? Kari will get options for the board to consider for vendors for payment. Discussed having both electronic and conventional payment options.

Change to a 501(c)(3) Non-Profit: (Tom, Andy) moving forward on establishment of 501 (c) 3. Bylaws are now on website. The bylaws will need amendments.

- We need to document that our board is a volunteer board.
- We need a dissolution clause stating monies left upon dissolution will go to a non-profit entity.

- We need to clarify our purpose and better define “social issues” to mean recreational/social activities.

The bylaw changes need to be proposed to the membership 60 days prior to being voted on. Discussed placing the changes in the newsletter and voting at the annual meeting. Andy will draft changes to the bylaws for the board’s review.

New Business

The Dam is Leaking – (Kris)

Kris reported that a leak was discovered in our dam last fall. Pictures and videos were taken and sent to the DNR. The concrete dam is 91 years old. Kris, Doug, Julie and Scott looked at the dam last week and there is now about two feet of water going over the dam. It appeared as if silt had plugged the hole, but can’t be sure. We are not allowed to put boards on the dam any longer. DNR manages the dam and they have over 300 they need to inspect this summer. We will be keeping an eye on it (continuing agenda item.)

Andy/Chuck motioned to adjourn at 9:56. Motion carried.

Submitted by Joy Larson, Secretary