

Portage Crooked Lake Improvement Association Board Meeting Minutes

09/30/2023

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 and Julie Maghan, Andy and Joy Larson, Dean Forchas, Tom Kaufhold, Christine Lasley, Lynn Bremer, Mike Stuber, Sue Weber, Chuck, Diane Lund and Kris Picken attended via telephone.

Excused: Tim Kensock

Call to Order Called to order at 9:00.

Review and Approval of Meeting Minutes for 08/05/23 Kari/Dean moved and seconded to approve minutes. Minutes accepted.

Treasurer's Report Total receipts YTD of \$19,249.40, total expenses of \$11,655.64 Year to date gain of \$7,593.76. Available funds: \$43,820.28 Tom/Sue seconded to accept the treasurer's report. Approved.

Committee Reports

Healthy Lakes: (Kris and Scott)

- Milfoil (Kris/Scott)
 - EWM has been found in 13 locations by Limnopro
 - Patches range in size from .8 acres to .1 acre
 - Survey cost was \$1,474.24
 - The PLM estimate to treat these with ProcelaCOR is \$13,944
 - Tim Plude, MN DNR, has approved our permits
 - Total cost of AIS survey and treatment is \$15,418.24
 - Total grant funds are \$8,000
 - Our cost is \$7,418.24

Scott Maghan will contact PLM to go ahead with the treatment. Andy Larson suggested we send an email communication advising membership of the EWM and requesting donations. Andy will draft an email and send to Scott to edit.

Portage Hanks Channel: (Kris and Scott)

- Kris and Scott attended a meeting with Barb Vann and Jim Turk from Portage Lake, Charlie Rice and Tom Thoeson from Portage Pass, Jake Frie from the MN DNR, and Jethroe Carpenter from North Star Waterways www.nswaterways.com
- Barb has proposed a plan to excavate the channel to make it deeper and longer than past hand digs
- The first step was to have an assessment of the site by Crow Wing County Soil and Water to determine what steps could be taken to conserve the soil and prevent collapse
 - I asked to be involved in this when it occurred but was not invited
 - A report is being prepared and I have requested a copy

- The next steps, if this moves forward, is a site assessment by NS Waterways. This comes at a cost of \$1,000 - \$3,500.
- Cost of excavation is ballparked at \$50,000 - \$100,000
- Barb asked is the association would provide funding
 - Response:
 - PCLIA has a budget of \$300 for anything involving the channel
 - Any additional funding/fundraising by PCLIA would require approval of the Board

Barb Vann has been soliciting funds to help defray costs for a channel dig/dredging. The Board expressed interest in soliciting funds for EWM as a priority. We will wait to see the results of the CWCSW report to consider future actions by the board.

Dam News: (Kris) DNR was to look at the hole in the dam in September; Kris has sent them video and measurements. As of now, Kris has not heard anything. She will follow up. PCLIA is not allowed to fix the hole.

Newsletter: (Julie) This is the one newsletter that goes out in paper form to everyone because it has the membership enrollment included within. Articles submitted were edited/condensed by Julie/Tom. Julie had to revise the membership form because of the new membership options.

RMB Alternatives: (Andy) Andy talked to A & W Research. RMB is \$65 per sample, A & W research is \$58/per sample. RMB has our lake data for many years. If we switch, the prior data may not be accessible. A&W is more flexible with collection/drop off of samples. Andy proposed approaching A&W for negotiating a contract. Andy will explore possibility of data transfer from RMB to A&W.

Northern Waters Land Trust: (Tom) Tom met with Northern Waters Land trust which is an entity focused on preservation of water resources (through acquiring land) in northern Minnesota. Took tour of the lake and identified the highest rated property on our lakes is a 20 acre property located at the very tip of narrows. In addition, there may be some interested in common area owned by Portage Pass Association. The goal is to purchase land and preserve it so it never becomes developed. The Trust purchases land and deeds it to the DNR. Generally, NWLT will pay 90% to acquire the land and the remaining 10% paid for by an association or another party. They also provide educational resources regarding land and trust transfers. Scott will inquire about NWLT presenting at Back to the Lakes.

Fish Stocking – We can stock walleyes this year

Lynn has arranged for purchase of fingerlings @ \$20/lb. for a total of 230 lbs. (Lynn) towards the end of October or early November. The walleyes are put in the lakes in three different places (properties of George Jukish Sr, George Jukish, Jr and Kyle Jukish) and are proportionally divided based on littoral acreage of the lakes.

Budget

- Current Overruns We are going to overrun our budget on the newsletter. We had budgeted \$1,600. We have already spent approximately \$1,500 and we haven't sent out the October/November newsletter yet. Noted our budget is a guideline to attempt to follow. Discussed how to lower costs of newsletter. Determined to continue to urge people to take the newsletter electronically. Consider next year's fall mailing to include a \$4.00 per charge for those who wanted printed copies mailed.
- 2024 Diane suggested adding the \$300 budget line for postage be added to the newsletter budget line. Diane will make revisions to line items + or – 10% Scott will review the budget. Kari moved Andy seconded to accept the revised budget to be presented by the treasurer. Motion carried. Sue Weber asked whether it is a wise use of money for the \$200 for parade prizes. Julie will reach out to Stasneys to discuss the issue.

Goals for 2024

- Assess Hanks/Portage Channel options and determine what course of action, if any, PCLIA will take
- Goal: Increase number of people who attend events: Encourage people to bring a neighbor. Andy asked that we focus on the annual dinner/meeting. We will include reminders throughout the year of the date of the annual meeting. "Save the date/mark your calendar/Bring a friend." Goal is to increase annual meeting to 100 attendees.
- Christine suggested we hold a winter event. Andy, Christine and Kari will work on organizing a winter event, publicized via email/Facebook.

Key Dates for 2024

- Meetings
 - April 6th
 - May 4th
 - August 3rd
 - September 7th – Annual Meeting
 - September 28
- Events
 - Back to the Lakes – May 4th
--Scott will see if he can get Bob Karls to present on land trusts/transfer of ownership
 - Summer Picnic & Get Together – June 22nd
 - Family Fun Event – July 4th
 - Pontoon Parade – July 6th

New Business

Dean inquired about the condition of the buoys. Chuck stated we replaced four last year and he is not aware of any others that need to be replaced.

Adjourn Chuck moved, Christine seconded a motion to adjourn. Meeting adjourned at 10:23 am.