

CEDAR LAKE RECREATION ASSOC.

Spring 2024 MEETING

6/8/24 | Porter Township Hall

Meeting called by Cedar Lake Recreation Association Board

Type of meeting Spring Meeting

Note taker Laura Cornish

Board Attendees Laura Gamble, Jane Harvey, Bill Ehlebracht, Joe Weist

Resident Attendees 41

Start: 9:00am

End: 11:27am

MINUTES

- **Meeting Called to Order**

- Meeting was called to Order by Jane Harvey at 9:01am

- **Welcome and Introduction of Board Members and Area Reps**

- President Jane Harvey welcomed residents in attendance and reviewed and introduced board members and area reps.
 - Mary Chaps in Area 1
 - Mark Harwood Area 2
 - Anne and Brad Meisling, Area 3
 - Lynn Werner, Area 4
 - Kathy Dzurovsak, Area 5
 - Jean McLaughlin in Area 6
 - Mara Greenberg in Area 7
 - Debbie & Dennis Foster Area 8
 - Bill Ehlebracht, Treasurer
 - Laura (Cornish) Gamble, Secretary
 - Joe Weist, Vice President
- Jane also made a plug for CRLA Gear on the website. It may be advantageous to buy in a group, as shipping costs \$18 regardless of quantity of items ordered.
- The newsletter is very late, but should be printed by next week.

- **Recognition of Jerry Dzurovsak**

- CLRA would like to give our deep condolences to Kathy Dzurovsak on the death of her husband Jerry. He devoted a lot of time and effort to being our Area 5 rep. We miss him and thank him. We also thank Kathy for taking over that role. Jerry's Celebration of Life will be July 13th at 3pm at 91522 Becker Dr.

- **Recognize New Residents in Attendance – Diane Battaglia**

- There were no new residents in attendance.

- **Fall 2023 Meeting Minutes**

- Laura Gamble read the minutes from the Fall 2023 minutes.
- Minutes were motioned for approval, seconded, and approved without any objections.
- Laura Gamble motioned for future minutes to approve the minutes without having to read them, but having made them available on the website for more than 6 months prior to the meeting. The motion was seconded by Dane Terrill and carried by a majority vote.

- Lake website has full calendar available for residents that is kept private with resident password protection. Please sign up with your own customized password if you are a resident. Dave Fodor motioned that we put the directory on the website, password protected for residents only. The motion was seconded by Laura Gamble and carried by majority vote.
- **Treasurer's Report**
 - Bill Ehlebracht reviewed treasurers report with income and expenses.
 - GW Jones does not have an electronic version of banking available for dues payment.
 - Bill Ehlebracht will setup a venmo account and will deposit checks from the venmo.
 - There was a starting balance of \$6162.04
 - Newsletter setup, ad, water treatment, Po Box rental, Insurance
 - Deposit of 1500 from dues
 - The year-to-date balance with \$6192.82 at 6/1/24
 - Expenses included:
 - Merchandise
 - 4th of July prizes
 - Insurance
 - P.O. Box
 - Water Treatment
 - Goose Busters payment
 - Report was motioned for approval, seconded, and approved without any objections.
- **Porter Township Update**
 - Chris Oxley, Porter Township Supervisor promoted the benefits of Lake Associations.
 - Covid relief funds have gone toward rural internet expansion, upgraded cemetery facilities.
 - Agreement with Van Buren County for senior services expansion in the basement.
 - Working toward having quick responders stationed by next year at the fire hall next to the township hall.
 - Township board holds the finances of the SAD, but does not control how the funds are utilized. The execution of the SAD is controlled by the CLRA. The law is zero tolerance for chemicals in drinking water or food. The chemicals being utilized are relatively safe and disappear within 36 hours.
 - Sewer rates have increased and caused upset with many residents. Sewer authority began in 2009 and is operated by the sewer authority board. The board has seven members, with the township three supervisors required. The other four members are appointed by the supervisors. The appointed members have lengthy qualifications and/or education relevant to the management of the system. Six members are lake residents.
 - The sewer system was very overbuilt with the treatment plant being made for 100% year-round residents, but the actual year-round residents factor around 20%.
 - If Bankson lake joins LASA, their buy in would reduce future costs for current residents in the system.
 - The LASA board is also working to partner with local governments for shared resources.
 - The LASA board hopes to not have any large increases for future years; there may be a small inflation rate increase for a percentage point or two.
 - The LASA board can do an audit to ensure members are actually hooked up, not just paying the bill and utilizing a septic. If you believe someone is not hooked up you can report it anonymously by calling LASA or the township.
 - Porter Township is trying to join with Antwerp Township for the recycling location on 64th st.
 - The Township utilizes Zoning Solutions for enforcement. There is a zoning ordinance pertaining to multi-unit dwellings on a lot. One RV is leaving tomorrow. One is leaving shortly thereafter. One RV is owned by the property owner and will remain. Another RV will be remaining for a period of time in addressing a family's health concern.
 - Air BNB's and other short-term rentals must be registered with the township and have a permit. There are zoning ordinances, rules, and regulations in the law for it. You can anonymously report a short-term rental to see if they are permitted and following the regulations.
- **Goose Busters**
 - We hired Goose Busters after purchasing the goose round up permit.
 - Three nests and 13 eggs were rounded up, but many goslings had already hatched at the beginning

of April.

- The goose round up was scheduled for mid-June, during the fledging period, but with Avian Flu's presence in Michigan they cannot be rounded up and moved this year.
- President Harvey asked Goose Busters to come earlier next year and if there are no nests that we would pay for them to return.

- **Water Quality Report**

- Dane Terrill presented on our water quality.
- Our water quality report data is on the CPLM website.
- CPLM is missing our disk readings on the most recent report.
- Phosphorous and Chlorophyll has not changed significantly.
- Ice has been gone at in February, which is unsuitable for taking the early spring testing as there is not a boat in the water in mid-February. The test must be done two weeks after the ice leaves.
- Going to be doing dissolved oxygen taking in the future.

- **New Business**

- Rigerio Bio-Health Pod Systems were introduced by Dane Terrill.
 - Dane reviewed the use of microbes to improve soil quality instead of chemical usage. Dane is involved in the microbiome institute and believes that this would help the health of the lake. Dane believes the chemicals have unintended and unknown consequences.
 - RBHPS has been around since 2016 and is based out of Michigan and do a lot work in campgrounds, golf courses, some smaller lakes.
 - It is all natural and does not require aeration permitting but does require a notification to EGLE.
 - The systems are designed to eat and digest nutrients by generating microbes continually.
 - The pod is attached to a dock. The electronic pump is on the shoreline and the air hose is buried in the soil. The utility cost is approximately \$60 for a 6-month period.
 - It attacks the nutrients that allow weeds to grow so it is designed to help limit weed growth by depriving the weeds and removing muck.
 - Presented a possible solution for the Lake St. Cove with two pod units, 40 nano pods and 300 ft of air hose.
 - The company has not done a project the size of our lake.
 - Pod spacing would cover 250-300 ft of shoreline and about 150 ft from shore.
 - The bio cartridge gets replaced every 8 weeks. The nano pods last about four years.
 - Budget 10-15% year for nano pod replacement.
 - The cost per unit varies by numbers. \$5000 if you participate in membership. Individual cost is approximately \$6500, covers about 400 sq ft.
 - Recharge unit on subsequent seasons is \$650. Budget \$100/yr on nano pods. 3 bio cartridges come per year in the \$650.
 - Mark Harwood proposed we utilize \$5000 for the SAD in combination with \$5000 of private funds from Dane Terrill to do a trial of 2 units in the Lake St. Cove. Units will come be on property of Dane Terrill and Mark Harwood. The motion was seconded by Dane Terrill and approved by majority vote.
- Lake Health was reviewed by Doug McLaughlin.
 - On the website is a list of top ten items you can do to preserve lake health.
 - There is an official recommendation for wake boats from the DNR for lake health to have wake boats 500 ft from shore and 20 ft of depth.
 - Jane Harvey overviewed invasive species status in the lake. PLNM will join us in the fall for more complete discussion
 - Joe Parman stated we have no beavers in the weir. It is flowing well from Big Cedar Lake to Little Cedar Lake. The lake is currently 7.2 inches below legal lake level.
- 4th of July Parade
 - The parade will take place at 9pm on Saturday July 6, with a rain date of July 7.
 - It will begin in front of Laura Cornish's house in Area 7.
 - The theme will be Olympics.
- Cedar Lake Party and Potluck
 - The Cedar Lake party and potluck will be on Sat. August 10th at 2pm

- The party will be at Angee & Brad Bomba's cottage; 29090 Cedarama Dr.
- Resident Comments
 - There were no resident comments.
- **Adjournment**
 - Meeting was adjourned at 11:27am.

NEXT MEETING: August 24, 2024 @ 9AM, PORTER TOWNSHIP HALL

