

CLRA FALL MEETING, August 23, 2025

WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS: President Jane Harvey called the meeting to order at 9 a.m. at Porter Township Hall. About 28 people attended.

Board members and area representatives were introduced: VP Joe Weist, Secretary Laura Cornish Gamble (temporarily substituted by Barb Walters), Treasurer Bill Ehlebracht. Reps: Areas: 1; Mary Chaps, 2; Mark Harwood, 3; Anne and Brad Meisling (looking for replacement), 4; Lynne Werner, 5; Kathy Dzurovsak, 6; Open, 7; Mara Greenberg, 8; Debbie and Dennis Foster.

Jean McLaughlin has volunteered to be the new CLRA Welcome Person. She asks to be contacted at 269-350-6159 about new residents.

President Jane said a volunteer is needed to represent Area 6.

UPDATED CEDAR LAKE HISTORY BOOKS: Jim Walters reminded residents they are available for \$45 from area representatives or by contacting Jim at 269-808-2637.

TREASURER'S REPORT: Treasurer Bill reported the association has \$4,153.06 in its checking account, and \$6,231 in savings.

MINUTES: Minutes of the spring 2025 meeting were not read orally. Members were referred to the CLRA website.

SWIM CLASSES: A request to hold swimming classes on the lake for local school children was rejected because of liability concerns.

FIREWORKS: Members agreed to table until June whether the association should contribute to an Independence Day fireworks display. The discussion was generally favorable toward the idea, but members said they first wanted President Jane to discuss the issue with attorney Tonya Schuitmaker.

FUTURE MINUTES: Members voted to forego the oral reading of the minutes at future meetings because they are posted on the website.

WEED STRATEGIES: Dane Terrill reported improvements in the lake's clarity according to the most recent secchi disc readings. The August reading showed visibility to 15.5 feet deep, which in previous years has averaged about 12.5 in late summer.

Dane also reported on the ongoing Rigerio Bio-Health Pod project in Graham Cove. The two bio-pods attached to Dane and Mark Harwood's pier disperse Rigerio's proprietary bacterial inoculums with multiple goals: reduce muck, remediate Phosphorus, and lessen the need for herbicide. Over two seasons of the program, Dane said, there has been a noticeable reduction in muck, including a nine inch reduction at the end of his pier. However, he believes the measuring methodology is not as accurate as needed for future investment by the CLRA. Therefore, he is working to attain grant money to help offset the cost of gathering more scientifically-based data. Bells' brewery offers an annual Water Stewardship

Grant, but that requires a federal non-profit status which CLRA does not currently have. He suggested the CLRA board apply for that status so that the grant can be applied in May 2026.

Currently, according to President Jane, CLRA has \$67,397 in its Special Assessment District (SAD) account (held by Porter Township) for weed control. This far exceeds what it pays PLM, the weed management firm it employs for current weed monitoring and treatment.

Jim Walters suggested a two year pause in the PLM treatment, saying it appears to have reduced the presence of fish and wildlife. Several residents disagreed, and suggestion did not gain support or a motion.

DNR trucks were reported at the public landing with boat-cleaning equipment, which helps prevent the introduction of invasive plants from other lakes and streams.

President Jane suggested using biological discs to get rid of milfoil in two problem areas of the lake. The association can purchase them through PLM with an augmentation consent letter through EGLE (Michigan Department of Environment, Great Lakes and Energy). The association approved Dane's motion to use \$1,000 for the augmentation program, with Dane pointing out that weed buildup can create muck, as seen in locations such as along M-40. President Jane said she will contact PLM.

.LAKE LEVEL, NEW DRAIN WEBSITE: President Jane noted the lake level is down and that residents can check out a new website for data: Google "drain office PawPaw." On the drain website in the brown column on the left, Cedar Lake information is the 7th item from the top. She hopes to have Drain Commissioner Joe Parman at the spring meeting.

GOOSE UPDATE: Efforts to reduce the number of geese on the lake this year have eliminated eight nests and 43 eggs. Still, according to President Jane, the presence of goslings persists. She requested, and the association approved, to continue paying a licensed pest control firm, "Goose Busters."

PURPLE LOOSESTRIFE: The association voted to spend \$3,000 to buy more Galerucella beetles for release in the spring of 2026. The beetles have proven to be effective in controlling the vivid magenta-colored plant, which destroys habitat for native plants and animals and clogs waterways with its dense, rapid invasion. Doug McLaughlin is monitoring the presence of the plant, which can grow 10 feet tall.

NEW SWAG: New Cedar Lake Swag cups and Koozies are available from Tom and Lynn Werner 269-370-2103.

FOURTH OF JULY PARADE: Members suggested the 2026 parade begin at Joe Weist's place, start earlier, i.e. 8:30 p.m., move faster and include identification on boats.

POKER RUN: Wade Bent reported on another highly successful poker run, with 215 participants, \$390 in winnings, and more than \$1,000 in raffle prizes donated by local businesses.

CLRA MEETING DATES: The association voted to maintain the twice-annual dates as is after a brief discussion of suggestions to for change.

Submitted by Barb Walters, substitute secretary

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