

CEDAR LAKE RECREATION ASSOC.

FALL 2022 MEETING

8/27/2022 | Porter Township Hall

Meeting called by Cedar Lake Recreation
Association Board

Board Attendees Laura Gamble, Jane Harvey, Chris
Onderlinde, Joe Weist

Type of meeting Fall Meeting

Resident Attendees 31

Note taker Laura Cornish

Start: 9:04am End: 11:05am

MINUTES

- **Meeting Called to Order**
 - Meeting was called to Order by Jane Harvey at 9:04am
- **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, replacing John Lyons after many years of service
 - Mark Harwood, Area 2
 - Anne and Brad Meisling, Area 3
 - Lynn Werner, Area 4
 - Jerry and Kathy Dzurovsak, Area 5
 - Jean McLaughlin in Area 6
 - Mara Greenberg in Area 7
 - Barb Walters, Area 8
 - Chris Onderlinde, 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.
- **Recognize New Residents in Attendance – Diane Battaglia**
 - There were no new residents in attendance.
- **Treasurer's Report**
 - Chris Onderlinde reviewed treasurers report with income and expenses.
 - There was a starting balance of \$6454.34 for 2022.
 - The year-to-date balance with \$4693.61
 - Income came from \$155 of merchandise and \$950 at the picnic.
 - Expenses included:
 - \$530 for beetles
 - Spring Meeting Expenses: \$44.95
 - Merchandise expenses: \$360.78
 - Picnic expenses: \$742
 - P.O. Box \$77
 - Insurance \$1111
 - Report was motioned for approval, seconded, and approved without any objections.
- **Water Quality Report**
 - Dane Terrill reported on water quality.
 - He has completed readings every two weeks.
 - Three chlorophyll readings were taken; one in May; one in June; and one in August.

- The average from 2011-2015 was 7.5
 - The chlorophyll numbers are not much worse or better than 10 years ago.
- Dane's full report will be put on the CLRA website.

- **Spring 2022 Meeting Minutes**

- Laura Gamble read the minutes from the Spring 2022 minutes.
- Minutes were motioned for approval, seconded, and approved without any objections.

- **New Business**

- Matthew Hanauer from the Dept. of Environment Great Lakes Energy presented on shoreline health.
 - Mr. Hanauer was unable to utilize the slide show he had prepared due to technology issues.
 - Michigan has the fourth highest number of lakes in the US.
 - A national lake assessment was conducted in 2012.
 - Only ten percent of lakes have issues with nutrients.
 - There are three distinct layers of shoreline vegetation, trees, shrubs, ground layer and three types of weeds: emergent plants, float plants, submerged aquatic plants
 - Shoreline plants are critical to lake ecology. They assist with slope management, slow down runoff, act as a filtration system, support habitats for animals and reptiles, reduce wave energy, and slow down erosion.
 - When native vegetation is removed from the lake there are consequences. Turf grass is not natural and is not designed to grow at lakes edge. It encourages erosion as it only has a three-inch root system.
 - Seawalls, both manmade and natural are detrimental, as they prevent animals from getting out. They also deflect wave energy, but do not allow wave energy to dissipate, and it gets reflected back into the lake bottom causing clarity issues and increases turbidity and/or deflects to neighboring shorelines.
 - Manicured lawns encourage geese populations, as they are a large grazing surface. Geese are discouraged by native plants along the shoreline.
 - Prevention is important in shoreline stabilization with native plants that have deep root systems.
 - Solutions are not one-size fits all. The higher the wave energy, the more need for native plants and a natural landscape. Site factors to consider include boat traffic and the fetch – which is the distance across the lake to the other shoreline.
 - If you are putting in rock for a shoreline, slope is important. The more level the slope the better. A 4:1 (horizontal to vertical) is ideal.
 - Visit shorelinepartnership.org for more information regarding lake health stewarding.
 - Mr. Hanauer will share the presentation with President Harvey for distribution. She will try to post it on the website.
- Barb Walters asked Jennifer Squires to present on outdoor emergency care on the lake. She is a PA, Certified Instructor and Technician for outdoor emergency care, a Ski Patrol officer, and has been a Lifeguard since she was 16.
 - Users must know the limitations of the equipment, particularly with Kayaks and Canoes, because they don't understand tipping points. It is important to understand limitations before going out.
 - With kayaks tipping, one major concern is getting trapped underwater because your leg gets stuck. Getting back in the kayak is also a problem. You have to get under the kayak to push it over, so you don't drag water into it and have it sink. There are many YouTube videos to demonstrate how to get back into a kayak. Typically, you want to get into a kayak from back or front, not the side.
 - Carry a whistle to signal others in the area if you get in trouble.
 - Utilize a floating waterproof bag, so you don't lose your phone, which would allow you to call for help.
 - Try not to panic and work on relaxing. As someone fights, they sink faster. If they relax, natural buoyancy will help them float.
 - If you find someone struggling in the water or drowning, follow "Reach, Throw, Row". Even a five-year-old latching on to you can bring another person down— including strong and/or trained swimmers.
 - Don't go into the water after them, as you can become a second victim. Reach for them with something like a paddle or throw something to them to pull them in.
 - Don't squat over them. Lie flat on your boat deck so they can't pull you in.
 - Keep as much distance from them as possible.
 - Once you get them to the boat, don't pull them into the boat until they have calmed down.
 - Once you get them in the boat, shock will likely set in, so wrap them in a blanket, towel, sweatshirt. Take them to the ER after as they may have water in the lungs.
 - If the person is unconscious, you can go after them, but be careful as they may just be semi

- out of it and not actually unconscious and your presence could make them more alert as you approach.
 - If you must go in, make sure to talk to them to calm them down before touching them, but be aware some may not be able to calm down.
 - Getting a life jacket or something in between you and the victim that allows you to be able to let go if they start to panic.
 - Goose Petition, Invasives and Environmental Committee
 - Jane Harvey relayed we are still short signatures for petitions.
 - We need 40 more signatures.
 - Jane will be coming around for additional signatures.
 - The special assessment is an insurance policy and is in place for 5 years to help with invasives if approved. It allows us to have the money in the bank to address issues. If we get rid of it or reduce it, it is more difficult to get it back or increase it as it requires more than 50% approval of riparian residents.
 - We used to use sonar, but it was more expensive, and we don't really need to treat down to 90 feet.
 - It was motioned, seconded, and approved without objection to keep the SAD at \$120.
 - Milfoil is currently treated with ProcellaCOR. We use it as it is safer than some of the other chemicals we used to utilize.
 - It takes 2 PDUs per foot to treat it with ProcellaCOR. Diquat takes two to four gallons by comparison, so ProcellaCOR uses much less chemical.
 - Jane discovered that we should be paying less for chemicals and that will be adjusted by the company in the coming year.
 - Our rep has maybe not been using quite enough ProcellaCOR. As a result, we are experiencing hybridization with the native milfoil. We will be utilizing higher amounts to treat this in the future.
 - We currently have about 10 acres total of Eurasian Milfoil, which is being spot treated.
 - We have an increased amount of Purple Loosestrife by a significant amount.
 - The beetles do appear to be working by the access and Grossa/Mauk shoreline but need a much larger quantity. It is estimated we need 20 more cups. With shipping, that amount would cost approximately \$3200, purchased from Integrated Weed Control. The SAD can be utilized to pay for this control.
 - Jane passed out maps for residents to mark where they know Purple Loosestrife to be growing.
 - We will ask PLM to take us on the airboat to distribute, as it is difficult to access far back.
 - We would be incorporating them in mid-May, shortly after being harvested from Bozeman, Montana, but is a bit dependent on Montana's weather. The beetles must be implemented very quickly from harvest time.
 - It was motioned to allow for up to \$7000 for purchasing and implementing beetles from the SAD. The motion was seconded and approved without objection.
 - Dane Terrill mentioned that a drone might be utilized for beetle distribution.
 - Mark Harwood suggested seeing if Eagle could assist and possibly obtain a grant that might assist statewide.
 - The boat wash discussion with the DNR has petered out. President Harvey will contact Melissa DiSimone to pick the discussion back up. The least expensive wash costs \$15,000 plus a yearly cost of approximately \$11,000.
 - A resident brought up that the fishing tournament users of the lake are unlikely to utilize the boat wash.
 - Dane Terrill mentioned that in the future we may see a check system implemented by the DNR like what Montana has in place; Montana's system is similar to a weigh station along the highways, but for boats. It may not be worth spending the money now, when there is a good possibility of a system being implemented by the state.
 - We have stiff arrowhead, not frog bit in the lake.
 - We also have a native emergent plant with tall white flowers that some had thought was an invasive but it is boneset, a native.
 - CLRA Picnic Review

- Mark Harwood reviewed the CLRA Picnic.
 - Tom and Cathy McCormick hosted on their property.
 - Thank you to everyone who helped.
 - We made \$200, although that was not the goal.
 - We do not have an exact count unfortunately but estimated 90 adults and 30 kids.
- Barb Walters would like to add to the Cedar Lake History Book, as we will be printing new copies.
 - Please remit stories by 12/20/22 to Barb Walters and/or Jane Harvey.
 - Our minimum order is 25. We already have 20 people requesting copies.
 - It was suggested we order extra to have some in inventory for any new residents that may wish to purchase in the future.
 - The books cost approximately \$50 each.
- Lake Level
 - President Harvey spoke with Joe Parman, the Drain Commissioner.
 - The lake level is currently 8-10 inches below the legal level.
 - The current legal level is 893.4 feet above sea level.
 - The weir boards that control the lake level were stolen. Parman will be installing a new board again. There will also be no trespassing signs.
 - The water level marker will be reset in hopefully concrete; however, the county doesn't measure from this marker. Using a survey grade GPS with sub-centimeter accuracy, they measure their readings from the top of the concrete box which contains the drain that passes under M-40 and connects Big and Little Cedar Lakes.
- Grand Marshall Joe Weist presented on the 4th of July Parade
 - There were 31 boats involved.
 - Terrill's received first place and \$100.
 - Potts received 2nd place and received \$50.
 - DeKoning's received 3rd Place and \$25.
- Joe Weist presented on the CLRA Garage Sale Results
 - Joe recognized those who assisted with the sale. Joe was sick and not able to work it.
 - We made \$591.
- Directory
 - Email Jane with any corrections and we will create an addendum.
- Resident Comments
 - Mark Harwood asked if we have negotiated a new PLM contract or if we were still exploring other vendors.
 - We explored with Aquatic Weed Control and did an assessment but have not received a quote yet. We are hoping to have it within next week and if so, Jane will put it in the newsletter.
 - PLM's contract period is only one year long.
 - The board has not been approving the PLM bills before the township pays the bill, as is supposed to happen. Jane is getting this corrected with the township. The board will approve future bills. Mark Harwood suggested that the township should give us an annual report.
 - President Harvey did discuss fall spraying for Milfoil before Labor Day with PLM. We are not seeing much in the lake currently.
 - Water-celery (*Vallisneria americana*), also called eel grass is easy to pull. It is a native plant. We can use an SAD to treat if we can get a permit from the DNR to kill it is as it is a native. Jane will discuss with PLM.
 - If someone is looking for a copy of their boater safety certificate from many years ago, it can be obtained from the DNR website or anywhere you can purchase a fishing license.
 - It has been observed by a resident that patrol is utilizing undercover patrols on the lakes.
 - Kevin Bikowski inquired about when the legal level was implemented. Joe Weist said it was in 1994. The weir now controls the lake level. It costs something like \$80,000 to get a study to reverse the 1994 decision.

- **Adjournment**

- Meeting was adjourned at 11:05am.

NEXT MEETING: June 10, 2023 @ 9AM, PORTER TOWNSHIP HALL