

## Clear Lake Association Meeting Minutes

August 31, 2019

I CALL TO ORDER: 10:10 a.m.

II OFFICER ROLL CALL:

President-Chris Berke, present  
Vice President-Bob Fagan, present  
Treasurer-Scott Palma, present  
Secretary-Christine Berke, present  
Members-at-large: Cheryl Courtney, present; Nick Zoa, present

III READING OF LAST MEETING MINUTES:

Secretary briefed minutes from September 1, 2018. Motion made to accept minutes; was seconded and passed

IV	TREASURER'S REPORT:	Balance 9/1/18	\$3, 205.87
		Dues 9/1/18	305.00
		Expenses:	
		-2018 meeting	43.37
		-Bank Fees	106.00 (this is being addressed with the bank right now)
		-Riparian	<u>56.00</u>
		Total 8/31/2019	\$3,205.37

V OLD BUSINESS/STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS:

- Review of the plant control program:

The report from Progressive AE is encouraging. Milfoil accounts have decreased significantly. The shore along the Forest Lane residents, the point of Garlick and Snyman shore, and a few areas along the south east shore were treated this summer. PLM treated twice this summer. As a result of decreased milfoil, concern was raised regarding the increase of native plants. Many options were discussed on how best to be rid of the native plants. Harvesting is very expensive and causes harm to the marine life. Plants often grow back quickly and thicker. Not a viable option for our lake.

Bob Fagan reported that as we decrease the milfoil, the native plants will, and have been, increasing in our lake. The reason we only see milfoil closer to shore is that it requires sunlight to grow. As the milfoil decreases along the shore the native plants will fill in. Chemicals that

are approved by the DNR can be used, but it is not recommended. A mat is pricey, but it is an option. Sean Kelly reported that he is currently using one and is working well.

The best and most effective way to be rid of the native plants is to use your beach, work it, pull the plants. Also, the more we use our beach, the more the muck will recede. Clear Lake has a sand bottom. All we need to do is use our beach, and it will keep the native plants down.

It was also brought up to make sure Progressive AE is on the look out for additional non-native invasive plants species.

- Future of the Eurasian milfoil program:

We have one more year under our contract with Progressive AE. We currently have a surplus of \$16,795.00 through the special assessment. The board will meet with the Township to see how we might extend the assessment at a lower rate that might also include the treatment of other invasive plant species in our lake. A motion was brought up that as we move forward to maintain a healthy lake, the board researches, and obtains, three different agencies that can monitor and treat the lake without the heavy cost of working through Progressive AE. The motion was seconded and passed.

Discussion also happened on how we might buy the boat launch owned by the state and under the care of the DNR. Ryan Miller noted that the DNR has not been trimming back the plant life around the edge of the boat launch. Vehicles and boats could be damage from scratches. Also, as the public uses the boat launch, what is it doing to help keep the invasive species out of the lake. According to Bob Fagan, in past decades, this issue has come up and three governors have denied the purchase of the boat launch to the residents.

- -Muskrats:

Carl Meissner will be trapping again this November. Places noted for muskrats is along the Forest Lane shore and in front of Spaulding's. Carl trapped 11 muskrats last year.

- Clear Lake Mid-Summer Party:

On going discussion on ideas to bring the Clear Lake community together. See discussion under New Business.

- -T-shirts:

Susan Salinger is working on a design for t-shirts. Once she gets this to Christine, the T-shirt Committee will put together some options and get information out the lake community.

- -Manuscript:

Nick Zoa and Christine Berke will meet to discuss how to move forward on the information that has been compiled to turn it into our "Clear Lake" story.

## VI NEW BUSINESS:

- July 4<sup>th</sup> Fireworks/Band at lake residence party

Ideas discussed on a Clear Lake gathering on the 4<sup>th</sup> of July include Fire Works, a band, and a golf outing. Those present enjoyed the brainstorming on bringing all of together. It was moved that the Clear Lake Association put in \$300.00 seed money toward the purchase of Fire Works and that the lake community would voluntarily donate additional funds as needed. The motion was seconded and passed.

Discussion continued to include a golf outing. Many were agreeable to this idea. A golf outing will be planned by Chris Berke, Jim Biddlecome and Ken Kuper with information coming by email for those interested to participate. A possible pig roast may be in the works, as well as a band. Look for more details in the future.

- High water level

There was much discussion regarding the increased water level and the possibility of this being a trend for a few years as the water level is high in the Great Lakes. There is concern about erosion on our beaches. It had been proposed the Clear Lake board pursue a petition with the Colfax Township to implement a temporary “No Wake” lake when the water level is high, or the possibility of restricting the hours of high speed boating. Information was shared about the board’s findings earlier this summer when the water level was at its peak. Chris Berke shared that the legal person at the DNR told him that it was not likely the DNR would place a “No Wake” zone as there is not an emergency need. It was suggested by the DNR that the lake residents shore up their property. This was the consensus from Progressive AE, as well.

It was moved that the Clear Lake board take a vote of the Clear Lake residents whether to pursue a petition with the Township, or not. The motion did not make the floor as many lake residents did not think it was in the best interest of the residents as this is an “all sports” lake. A vote was taken at that moment in the meeting to see if there was a preliminary interest in pursuing a temporary “No Wake” lake. All, but five, opposed a “No Wake” lake. This issue was closed.

We, as good neighbors, can be courteous and keep to the middle of the lake in our boats when driving fast or pulling tubers/skiers to decrease the force of the wake on our shores.

- Facebook page

This was not discussed at the meeting.

- Light pollution

A brief discussion regarding the yard lights around the lake and how the brightness glares across the lake took place. It was suggested that we share with folks that their lights are too bright so that they can lessen the wattage or redirect their lights.

- Other new business

Roger Rickey and Mark Curtis shared that their fishing ventures were not very fruitful. This is due to many factors. Roger asked if the Clear Lake Association might assist in seed money to go toward restocking the lake of a variety of fish. A motion was made that the Clear Lake Association donate \$300.00 to go toward the purchase of minnow planting, and that the residents would make a voluntary contribution toward that purchase.

It was discussed that several years ago, the lake residents voluntarily made donations toward that previous purchase. The cost at that time was a \$50.00 permit fee from the DNR that the Clear Lake residents had to detail where and when the fishing planting would take place. The cost of the blue gills was \$850.00

A committee was formed to meet and gather information to report back to the Clear Lake Association. Roger Rickey, Mark Curtis and Sean Kelly will represent this committee.

The motion on the floor was seconded and passed.

VII ANNUAL DUES: \$15 per year or \$25 for two years. Scott will accept dues at the end of the meeting.

VIII ADJOURNMENT: 12:06 p.m.