

CLEAR LAKE ASSOCIATION

ANNUAL MEETING

September 3, 2022

President Chris Berke called the meeting to order at 10:08 a.m. at the Clear Lake Golf Club with 27 members present.

Roll call was taken of Board members

President – Chris Berke - present

Vice President – Ryan Miller – present

Linda Telfer – Acting Secretary for Christine Berke - present

Scott Palma – Treasurer – present

Cheryl Courtney – Member-at-Large – present

Nick Zoa – Member-at-Large – absent

Approval of Minutes

The 2021 minutes were previously emailed. Motion made by Ben Mumah, seconded by Joe Wright, to approve the minutes as submitted. Motion passed.

Treasurer's Report

Scott Palma presented the following:

Beginning Balance 9/4/21		\$3,627.66
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Income

Income paid since 9/2/21	\$	345.00
Fireworks	\$	350.00
Fish Fund	\$	325.00
Interest	\$	0.32

Total Income		\$1,020.32
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Expenses

2021 Meeting Expenses	\$	36.00
Bank Fees (new checks)	\$	93.13
Riparian (magazine)	\$	142.00
Fish Fund	\$	1,208.00
Fireworks	\$	750.00

Total Expenses		\$2,229.54
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Balance		\$2,418.44
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Accounts	<u>Fish Fund</u>	<u>Fireworks</u>
Authorized Allocation from General Fund 9/4/21	\$ 300.00	\$500.00
Beginning Balance	\$ 725.00	\$ 0.00
Member Donations	\$ 25.00	\$350.00
Lakewood Contribution	\$ 300.00	
Expenditures	-\$1,208.40	\$750.00
Transfer from General Fund	\$ 158.40	\$400.00

Chris Berke explained he had raised \$250 from personal contributions which was included in the approved amount for fireworks.

Motion made by Mark Ryan, seconded by Jim Biddlecome, to approved the Treasurer's Report as presented. Motion passed.

Old Business

Harvesting

Chris Berke explained that he felt that the current weed treatment system is working; therefore, harvesting is not needed. The members agreed that harvesting was not needed.

Weed Control Program

Chris Berke indicated that a total of 9.25 acres was treated in June and 1.25 acres were treated in July. After surveying the lake for the third time, it was determined that a treatment was not needed at that time. Eleven acres will be treated in late fall. It was noted that we were \$2400 over budget this year but there was a surplus from previous years to cover the expense.

Sean Kelly suggested that someone be with the company when surveying the lake and also be there when the lake is treated. Ryan Miller and Sean Kelly volunteered to assist with the survey. A question was asked as to why the exact same areas are continuing to be treated. The thought was that those areas are in the sun and the water is shallow there.

Discussion followed on the weevils that were used previously. Rob Reed explained that a limited amount of weevils were purchased due to limited funding. It was noted that they cannot even be purchased now.

Question was presented as to how much money that the township has from the special assessment. Scott Palma was unsure of current balance but will include that in future Treasurer's reports. Chris Berke will send a copy of the invoice for weed control to Scott in the future. The cost of for weed control is \$1625.00 quarterly (\$6500 annually).

Seawalls

Chris Berke indicated that many property owners have went to a great expense to install seawalls; hopefully the whole lake will not need this.

Downed Trees

The tree and stump in front of the Eldridge residence has been removed. The Amish and Garlicks assisted with this. The Amish gained access to the lake at the Garlick residence using horses. Discussion followed on future navigational hazards and how it could be handled. Chris Berke shared that when he checked into what could be done previously and found that there was nothing that could be done because it fell under natural causes. Karen Spalding mentioned that if a certified horticulturist certifies that a tree needs to be removed, one can force a neighbor to remove the tree to protect one's own property. Ryan Miller asked if there are other areas that need to be marked to warn boaters. It was noted that there is a tree in front of Dawn Thompson and Tracy Warner's residence which is about five feet below the water. Rob Reed indicated that he has buoys available for use. Jim Biddlecome volunteered to research possible law suits concerning this situation.

Fireworks

Chris Berke announced that the fireworks occurred in July even though it rained. Dawn Thompson and Tracy Warner decorated their boat despite the rain. Kudos to them.

Muskrats

Chris Berke announced that Mike Miller trapped 53 muskrats this past year. Discussion followed on the amount of muskrats still there and doing damage. Cheryl Courtney reminded the members that muskrats eat a large amount of weeds. The members on the east end of the lake asked if the muskrats could be trapped there due to the damage being done. Sean Kelly indicated if they obtained a nuisance permit, he would trap them.

Fish Fund

Sean Kelly shared that 700 hybrid bluegills and 100 catfish were planted this year. Walleyes could not be planted due to the fish dying on the truck twice. Another 200 bluegills and 200 walleyes for a total of \$1000 will be planted the third week in October.

New Business

Spongy Moth

Chris Berke indicated that we had two years of infestation of the spongy moths but articles indicated that they will continue to decrease in numbers. Lakewood Association sprayed their 40 acres and Berkes sprayed their 20 acres. If the Clear Lake Association had more paying members, the cost would be minimal to property owners should the need to spray arise in that the future. Scott Palma reminded those present that the Clear Lake Association is not set up so that property members have to pay dues. It was suggested that the county or the MSU Extension Office be contacted regarding spraying a non-invasive spray and if it will be needed. This was tabled until next year,

Fireworks 2023

Chris Berke asked if the Clear Lake Association would like to contribute to the 2023 fireworks. Motion made by Ben Mumah, seconded by Mike Hughes, to donate \$500 to the 2023 fireworks. Discussion followed on raising the amount contributed; however, funds are limited. Motion passed.

Annual Dues & Membership

Motion made by Cheryl Courtney, seconded by Shirley Garlick, to raise the annual dues to \$25 per year beginning this year. Discussion followed as members indicated that dues have remained the same for quite some time. Motion passed. Members were asked to encourage other property owners to join the association and attend the meetings.

Fish Fund

Sean Kelly indicated that all donations for stocking fish would be appreciated. Lakewood Association will be meeting tomorrow to discuss funding this. Motion made by Ben Mumah, seconded by Cindy Fagan, to allocate \$300 from the general fund for fish. Motion passed. Personal contributions designated to the fish fund will be added to the \$300. A survey will be sent with the minutes as to the types of fish that are being caught.

Lake Level and Clarity

Rob Reed indicated that he has a devise to measure the clarity of the lake if anyone would like to use it. Susan Salinger and Ryan Miller agreed to use this.

Ryan Miller has been tracking the lake level since he moved to the lake in 2018. Following are his statistics:

2018 - base year
2019 - 7" higher than 2018
2020 – 11" higher than 2018 (May through August 22" lower)
2021 – 10" lower than 2018 (4" lower in August than May)
2022 – 8" lower than 2018 (currently 12" lower than May)

Clear Lake is a spring fed lake so precipitation and evaporation affects the lake.

Election of Officers

The following slate of officers were unanimously approved to serve for 2022-2024.

President – Chris Berke
Vice President – Ryan Miller
Secretary – Linda Telfer
Treasurer – Scott Palma
Members-at-Large – Cheryl Courtney and Nick Zoa

Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 11:42 a.m.

Submitted by,

Linda Telfer
Secretary

Special Note: A Clear Lake Association Facebook page has been created. Information and pictures of Clear Lake from property owners are encouraged. Search for Clear Lake Association Big Rapids.