

**CLEAR LAKE ASSOCIATION  
ANNUAL MEETING  
AUGUST 31, 2024**

**CALL TO ORDER**

President Berke called the meeting to order at 10:07 a.m. with 32 people attending.

**ROLL CALL OF OFFICERS**

Roll call of officers took place with all officers being present.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Motion by Susan Salinger, seconded by Jeriel Beard, to accept the minutes from the Clear Lake Association annual meeting held on September 2, 2023. Motion passed.

**TREASURER'S REPORT**

Scott Palma reported the following and will email the complete report:

**Income**

Dues	\$1125.00
Fireworks Donations	\$ 982.50
Fish Fund	\$1157.50
Interest	\$ .26

**Expenses**

2023 Annual Meeting	\$ 54.00
2023 Picnic	\$ 243.62
Mailings	\$ 191.75
Riparian	\$ 156.00
Fish	\$ 950.00*
Fireworks	\$ 750.00**

\*The Fish Fund balance has \$497.50 which includes \$300 authorized from the association last year.

\*\*There is \$232.50 remaining from the fireworks from last year.

**Lake Treatment Update** – A total of \$10,907 was paid by Colfax Township this past year. This amounts to \$135 per lot and we are paying \$190 currently. A financial report for weed control will be secured from the township prior to next year's annual meeting. Members were reminded that the township holds these funds in a separate account and are not part of their general fund.

Motion by Cheryl Courtney, seconded by Cindy Fagan, to accept the Treasurer's Report as presented. Motion passed.

### **STANDING COMMITTEES/AD HOC COMMITTEES**

Question was raised as if consideration should be given to have Standing Committees such as the Fish Fund, July 4<sup>th</sup> Boat Parade (see below) and a Fireworks Committee. President Berke explained that the fireworks is tied to the Clear Lake Golf Course and we just contribute.

### **OLD BUSINESS**

**Fireworks** – Those in attendance thought that the fireworks were wonderful in 2024 and everyone enjoyed a good ½ hour show. Special bonus was the other people around the lake sharing their fireworks as well. President Berke reminded everyone that the more that the golf course receives for fireworks, the better show. Last year, many donations were received and the \$500 allocated for the fireworks from the association was not used.

Motion by Mike Hughes, seconded by Bob Fagan, to donate \$500 from the Association (\$1000 maximum including donations) to the 2025 fireworks. Funding received over the \$1000 will replace the funds from the Association. Motion passed.

**July 4<sup>th</sup> Boat Parade** – Ken Glazier won the Boat Parade contest. President Berke indicated that judging will be done differently in 2025 as Facebook did not work as anticipated. It would be best if a panel of judges were appointed. Discussion took place and Cheryl Courtney, Danae Langan and Mark Ryan will serve on the July 4<sup>th</sup> Boat Parade Committee to include securing judges.

**Fish Fund 2024** – Sean Kelly reported that he obtains a permit from the DNR and also asks people what they are seeing regarding the Clear Lake fish population. He explained the history of what has been purchased. Bob Fagan questioned if we could purchase perch to feed the walleye and bass. Sean noted that there are lots of large-mouth bass and they are getting larger but that the Northern Pike are not growing for some reason. Ryan Miller indicated that the Ferris State Fishing Club has indicated that the large-mouth large bass are thin and the pike are small. He also noted that the club has data on the fish in Clear Lake. Sean noted that he could contact Mark Tonello, DNR Biologist, to see if he would address the members to see what can be done. President Berke thanked Sean Kelly for securing the fish and for all his personal donations towards this. Motion by Sean Kelly, seconded by Ryan Miller, to allocate \$500 from the Association and to use the \$497 designated for the fish fund currently, to purchase perch and walleye. Total amount not to exceed \$1000. Motion passed.

**Membership Drive** – President Berke indicated that the Board got active this past year and created a newsletter. The response from property owners was good thus the increase in revenue. The Board will continue to work on membership.

**Lake Level Report** – President Berke noted that several people have expressed their concern about the current lake level. He indicated that the lake has been much lower in previous years but the level is determined by precipitation and evaporation. Many lakes have controls over their levels and have inlets. Ryan Miller explained the water level chart he provided and noted that the water level has dropped 8" from May to August this summer. Question was raised as to if a Lake Level Committee should be established. This was tabled until next year.

**Thank You** – President Berke introduced new Clear Lake neighbors Alan and Heather Krebs, Ken Glazier/Danae Langan, Jan Haarer, and Bob Eastley/Susan Labas.

### **ELECTION OF OFFICERS**

Motion by Cheryl Courtney, seconded by Bob Fagan, to elect the existing Board for the 2024-2026 year. The Board will consist of:

President – Chris Berke  
Vice President – Ryan Miller  
Secretary – Linda Telfer  
Treasurer – Scott Palma  
Member-at-Large – Cheryl Courtney

Motion by Troy Hallman, seconded by Cindy Fagan, to elect Susan Salinger, Sean Kelly and Danae Langan as Members-at-Large with the Eastleys serving the following year. Motion passed.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

**Bylaws** - President Berke thanked Linda Telfer for pushing to update the bylaws since she has been on the Board. Motion by Jeriel Beard, seconded by Russell Wallsteadt, to approve the Clear Lake Association of Mecosta County Bylaws as presented. Motion passed.

**Historian** - President Berke noted that he had previously spoken to Russell Wallsteadt as being the Historian for the Clear Lake Association. Motion by Danae Langan, seconded by Troy Hallman, to appoint Russell Wallsteadt as the Historian. Motion passed.

**Birch Trees** - Chris Berke indicated that he bought 25 birch trees last year and planted some and donated some to others on the lake. He will be purchasing more and if anyone is interested in planting some, please let Chris know.

**Electric Power Outages** –Cheryl Courtney asked if we could send a letter to Consumers Energy regarding the amount of power outages that are occurring due to trees. Troy Hallman shared that many trees on 150<sup>th</sup> are scheduled to be removed in the near future..

**Muskrats** – President Berke reported that 53 muskrats were removed from the lake last year.

**Weed Control** – President Berke indicated that three surveys and two treatments for weed control took place this year. No new milfoil was reported but some that was treated previously was still growing. The company will switch back to using the previous chemical treatment. The overall results indicate that weeds have decreased.

**Weed Control Assessment** – Motion by Sean Kelly, seconded by Jim Biddlecome, to continue the weed control assessment through the township. Motion passed.

**Facebook Page** – Sean Kelly asked if the Clear Lake Association Facebook page could be private instead of public. Linda Telfer will look into this.

**Picnic Ideas 2025** – All members present thanked the Manekes for hosting 50 people at the Clear Lake Picnic this year. President Berke asked if this should be continued and members present indicated their desire to continue this. A location for the 2025 picnic will need to be determined.

### **OTHER**

Jeriel Beard suggested that the Association seek a Parliamentary for future meetings. President Berke asked people to consider this for next year.

Mike Hughes acknowledged the Board for a great job this past year.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

Meeting adjourned 11:35 a.m.

Submitted by  
Linda Telfer  
Clear Lake Association Secretary