

MEETING MINUTES: CCCoLA JULY 7, 2023 . UPDATED 8.15.2023 COOK COUNTY COMMUNITY CENTER

PRESENT: KATHY BOGEN, BARB AND JOHN BOTTGER, GERRY CAPLE, BIZ CLARK, DAVE COLEMAN, PATTY CRADDOCK, AL FLIEDER, CARRIE FRAMSTED, GAIL GIESEKE, KATE KELNBERGER, RORY AND PETE LAIHO, GARY MACIEJEWSKI, IRENE MULLEN, PETE RAUEN, ANN SULLIVAN

Item	Discussion	Action
Welcome and Introductions (10-10:05)	Ann Sullivan, District 4 Cook County Commissioner and County Board Chair joined the meeting as guest presenter.	
Engagement with County on AIS & Water Management (10:05-10:35)	Ann shared a wealth of information about Cook County’s work on issues of water and shoreland protection and preservation. She mentioned that the County is pleased that CCCoLA is actively engaged in these issues and suggested several ways in which CCCoLA could engage in meaningful ways with County Commissioners, planners, and departments.	Recommendations from Ann for CCCoLA members/ representatives: .
	Ann sits on the Planning Commission and hears the requests for variances. She encourages CCCoLA members to monitor these requests and communicate with Neva Maxwell when concerns arise.	Reach out to Neva Maxwell and Tim Nelson from Land Services to monitor development that may have a deleterious effect on the environment.
	The Cook County Commissioners have been working closely with State and Federal Legislators on issues that require policy and funding from these levels of government. An example of this is the work done with State and Federal Representatives and Senators to allocate funds for 2 Coast Guard boats and staff, one in Grand Marais and another in Grand Portage to patrol the coastal waters of Lake Superior in this area and respond to emergencies.	When the State Legislators come to Cook County, there is an opportunity for groups such as CCCoLA to make a 15-minute presentation about top priorities.
	Spruce Budworm is an important Firewise issue as the insect is infesting conifers, thus creating a need to cut these trees down and remove them to reduce fuel for wildfires. Firewise is seeking funding to address the spruce budworm problem. Ann emphasized that it is important to create diversity in the forests to keep them healthy, including species that re resistant to spruce	There will be a seminar offered by the Minnesota Extension Service on August 22 nd from 12:30-2 p.m. at the Cook County Higher Education Center. It is necessary to register for this and registration is limited. Information on this will be sent along with

	<p>budworm such as White Pine, Red Pine, Jack Pine, Cedar, Oak. These species are also important for providing shade. Diversification is also important in light of a warming climate which will change the character of the Cook County forests. Spraying for Spruce Budworm is only effective in the Spring when the worm is in its larval stage. It is now in its moth stage and can be seen flying among the pines.</p>	<p>the minutes.</p>
	<p>Monitoring of Development Projects: Cook County does both a pre-and post-inspection of projects and is restrictive on development density. The County would have no objection to projects being reviewed by Fish and Wildlife for compliance for this reason. She also spoke to the issue of planning for increased population over the next 50 years, and therefore need for increased housing and infrastructure in Cook County.</p>	<p>Ann recommends that representative CCCoLA members get a seat at the table on planning groups so they will have input early on into Development projects. She will keep us in the loop about when planning groups are being set up. She will e-mail Kathy Bogen who will in turn email members to request someone represent CCCoLA on these planning groups.</p>
	<p>Cook County Commissioners are waiting to hear back from the DNR about the Wake Boat restrictions requested by the Caribou Lake Lake Association. There is a 120-day waiting period.</p>	<p>Ann will notify CCCoLA as soon as a determination on the wake boat restrictions is received.</p>
	<p>Ann also noted that the watershed meetings are held on Fridays, so we may need to consider re-scheduling our meetings in order to include her, Ilena Hensel, and others who involved in these meetings.</p>	<p>The CCCoLA may need to consider moving meeting days in the future.</p>
	<p>A question came up about septic regulation and where the County is in terms of inspections as outlined in the 2014-2024 Water Plan. How extensive are the inspections? How do we know if inspections have been completed on each of the lakes? Getting an appointment for septic service is becoming more difficult with increased demand. Some Lake Associations work together to have G & G come and pump out multiple septics on the lake on the same day.</p>	<p>In discussing this issue, it seems we should be looking ahead to build the capacity of septic services in the County to keep up with increases in demand.</p>
<p>Approval June 2, 2023</p>	<p>Minutes were sent out electronically.</p>	<p>Gary M. made a motion to approve the</p>

CCCoLA Minutes (10:35-10:40)		minutes from the June 2, 2023 meeting. Irene M. seconded Motion passed unanimously.
Treasurers Report (10:40-10:45)	Gary Maciejewski provided a breakdown of CCCoLA's finances. Currently, the balance is \$1110.45	AI made a motion to accept the Treasurers' report. Irene M. seconded. Motion passed unanimously.
Tait Lake area KGM project update and request for letter (10:45-10:55)	Gary Maciejewski provided a report on the work of the Tait Lake area residents to oppose development of a gravel pit and asphalt plant by KGM. This project is currently in the stage of having its Environmental Assessment Worksheet being reviewed. Gary provided a detailed account of the deleterious impact this project would have upon the environment. Gerry Caple also spoke to the problems of air, land, and water contamination. Gary noted that the Lutsen Fire Chief is opposed to the project as it could pose a fire hazard resulting in wildfire. Gary is requesting that CCCoLA write a letter to the Cook County Land Services Department voicing opposition to the project.	Carrie Framsted made a motion that CCCoLA submit a letter in opposition to the KGM project to Cook County Land Services. Irene M. seconded the motion. Motion approved unanimously. Gary M. and Gerry C. will work together to draft the letter and send out to the membership for review. It will then be submitted in a timely manner.
Get the Lead Out updates (10:55-11:05)	Biz has ordered extra GLO kits for us to use for the Fisherman's Picnic and to distribute to other sites that are interested in collecting lead tackle in exchange for the non-lead sample kits. A good collection method is to affix the <u>Lead Tackle Drop Off</u> label to a covered 5 gallon bucket thereby containing the lead. Buck's Hardware has agreed to serve as a lead tackle drop-off site and to exchange it for the non-lead sample packets. During Fisherman's Picnic, we can encourage anglers to drop off their lead tackle at Buck's. There is a rebate program in place for non-lead tackle vendors to receive up to 30% of the cost of the tackle. Instructions for this is in the kits.	Members are encouraged to approach resort owners and others that would be logical locations for anglers to drop off their lead tackle and receive the sample non-lead kits. We should continue collecting at least through Labor Day as some Lake Associations haven't met yet and this will allow time for a more thorough collection. Carrie will include this information in her article for the Cook County Journal and on WTIP.
Expanding base of Lake Association and MLR Members (11:05-11:15)	To strengthen efforts for preserving and protecting the waters and shorelands in Cook County and Statewide, it is important that we expand the number of actively engaged citizens. This includes encouraging membership in Minnesota Lakes and Rivers to provide	Carrie will get literature from MLR for the Fisherman's Picnic table and those who are staffing the table can encourage people to join. She will also include this information

	<p>support for their organizing, educational, and lobbying efforts and building membership in CCCoLA. MLR provides resources for organizing Lake Associations. Contact person is Lily. Rory Laiho also suggested having a clear message on the CCCoLA web page about how and why to join CCCoLA as an individual and as a Lake Association. She also mentioned the contact information should result in someone responding quickly to request for information.</p>	<p>in her article for the Cook County Journal and on WTIP.</p> <p>Kathy will write up a message to post on the CCCoLA website and work with Larry Mullen to make sure the email link goes to Kathy to respond to inquiries.</p>
<p>CCCoLA Table at Fisherman's Picnic (11:15-11:20)</p>	<p>For Fisherman's Picnic, we will have some AIS maps available, GLO information and encouragement to drop off lead tackle at Buck's, and a sign-up for people interested in follow-up from CCCoLA or MLR. Good to bring a waterproof chair.</p>	<p>Barb and John Bottger will fill the Friday 3-6 slot and Al will fill the Sunday 12-3 slot. Then, we have the shifts all covered!</p>
<p>New Business and announcements</p>	<p>Gerry is stepping down from his role on CAG and Joel Halvorson will take his place.</p> <p>Gerry brought up concerns about development on the Canadian side of Gunflint Lake (large developments, cars driving on beaches, etc.) Canadians have expressed that development isn't well-regulated on the U.S. side (lawns down to lakeshore, density of development)</p> <p>Carrie suggested that we focus on getting signage posted at AIS-infested lakes to make boaters aware of the importance of cleaning their boats and equipment after being in the lake.</p> <p>Kylen Hill will be doing boat inspections on Caribou Lake.</p> <p>The video of Jeff Forester's presentation turned out well and we are all encouraged to share it with our Lake Association members and others.</p>	<p>A topic for further research and strategy.</p> <p>Explore this with Amanda Weberg. Perhaps a good project for AIS grant funds.</p>
<p>Call for Substitute Chair and Secretary (11:20-</p>	<p>Kathy B. plans to be available to chair and take minutes at most CCCoLA meetings but it would be good to plan for a substitute</p>	<p>Carrie agreed to serve as substitute Chair and Barb Bottger will serve as substitute</p>

11:25)	Chair and Secretary in the event she is not able to fill these roles at a specific meeting. This may happen at the August meeting.	Secretary. Kathy will notify them in the event of an expected absence.
Closing Reflection (11:25-11:30)	Good, positive meeting. Exciting. Nice to see active engagement. Ann Sullivan's presence and presentation made this meeting really special! Impressive leadership. Touched the tip of the iceberg together in all that we're dealing with.	
Adjournment		Meeting adjourned at 11:45 a.m.
Next meeting	The next CCCoLA meeting will be held on Friday, August 11, 10-11:30 a.m. in the Schaap Community Center Mid-Trail	