

CCCoLA Zoom meeting
June 11, 2020

Casual conversation regarding Biz and Irene communicating via emails, one covid case in Cook County, passersby in town most not wearing masks, tree felled between Cook and Lake county presumably to "prevent" movement into Cook County.

The meeting was called to order at 9:00. Present were: Irene and Larry Mullen Caribou (chair persons); Al Flieder, Aspen Lake; Peter Rauen, Poplar; Kris McPherson, Portage; Carrie Framsted and Kristin Welch, Pike; Biz Clark, Poplar; Gary Maciejewski (treasurer) Tait; Carol Berg, Leo and Mid-Trail; Amanda Weberg, AIS; Dave Coleman, Clearwater; Ilena Berg, Ck Co SWCD; Karen Evens, MPCA; Jerry Caple, Joel Halvorsen, Gunflint; Kate Kelnberger, Bearskin

Minutes approved

Treasurer's report: Gary Maciejewski

Dues collected \$320 expense from Sept. meeting for donuts: \$11.99

Total balance as of meeting: \$1428.91

(see attached report)

Amanda Weberg AIS

So far, more traffic than last year

Most expense on watercraft inspection (same 3 inspectors as last year) and advertising, Starting to consider giving citations to repeat offenders (especially locals) who show up at landing with plugs in.

Gary asked about the impact on AIS from float planes and if anything could be done about that problem

Al Flieder commented on the citations, suggested that trying to enforce would be difficult.

Suggested \$50 fine for repeat offenders

Larry Mullen mentioned that the ambassador program members need to re-certify in person this year. He is trying to work out an on-line recertification program for this year only

Lakes will be tested for calcium. Ilena said it will be the fourth year. This is done to prevent the calcium level becoming high enough for zebra mussels to invade. They require a high level of calcium.

Peter started a discussion of Poplar Lake landing AIS sign: DNR's site considered inappropriate. Amanda said she would help with sign placement as did Biz.

Gary requested a sign for Tait Lake

Al Flieder quoted Jeff Forrester that water quality is tied directly to lake property values

Peter regretted that the inspection station proposed for the beginning of the Gunflint trail was a dead issue.

See included documents from Amada

Karen Evens Lake Superior North Watershed

Depending on budget restrictions, monitoring will be conducted next on the Lake Superior shore from Silver Bay to Duluth. This part of the state can accomplish projects with less money and quicker because the water is generally less impaired than in other parts of the state. Karen gave directions for finding information about the Lake Superior South watershed on the MPCA website. Much of this information is made available through one watershed, one plan pilot project. Ilena added that there will be an opportunity for public comment this fall. It is important to protect our NE waters because they are more pristine than any other in the state. WRAPS is the acronym for Watershed Restoration and protection strategy. Irene will send additional information from Karen Evens with the minutes.

Ilena Berg , Cook Co SWCD

Ilena introduced the SWCD crew working on rain gardens. Two are in Grand Marais and possibly one more in Lutsen. The "Village Ditch" 8th ave. will be monitored for storm water abatement.

They are monitoring for E-coli in the Grand Marais harbor and have had an issue already- possibly due to geese.

SWCD is monitoring 8 inland lakes this summer.

One culvert is being replaced on Freidenberg Creek. This is one of the coldest creeks on the North Shore.

SWCD is in the second season of culvert inventories. The goal is to reduce sediment loading. Calcium testing is in the 4th season to determine which lakes will need mitigation to reduce calcium. SWCD is also mapping the Lake Superior coast.

March meeting of the Joint Commission (Canada and the Rainy Lake Watershed)

Jerry and Joel attended the meeting

Float planes are a problem in the spread of AIS and algal blooms.

Cook County lags behind other counties in education in watershed issues.

The current prime minister (Trudeau) has allocated more money for water quality than the previous prime minister.

Joel spoke about the Lake Superior and Rainy lake watershed education project with Chik Wauk and UND.

Irene has included notes from the MNCOLA meeting

Gary asked about high-powered boats on small lakes and Jerry commented.

Al said it would be a good idea for boat operators to be required to have training and a license to operate- such as is now required to snowmobiles.

Carol Berg will email a flyer regarding fund raising for the GTVFD

Border 2 Border trail was moved to Lake County. John Bottger attended the commissioners meeting last fall. Letters opposing the project were sent to each commissioner from CCCOLA.

We discussed support for Jerry Caples Moose Club project. He mentioned the seed balls that can be dropped from planes. They protect the tree seed from rodents.

Chik Waukl was proposed as a site for using Moose Club materials. Irene is open to the idea of using CCCoLA monies in support of Moose Club activities at Chik Wauk. She requested that (Jerry?) present a budget for such support at the next meeting.

Ilena suggested that kits could be assembled and sent home in a "lending library" format.

Jerry requested that CCCoLA members read his moose club materials.

Larry commented that young people need to be educated on the importance of lake quality.

Irene reiterated her mantra: What do we want our lakes to look like in two generations?

Gary also commented positively on Moose Club.

Lake updates

Carrie noticed Canada geese on Pike lake

Gary commented that an eagle took care of geese on Tait Lake- just sort of chased them away

Jerry noticed geese flying on Gunflint followed by 2 eagles.

Peter said that Poplar Lake has bear issues and bird seed should be taken in at night.

Irene said that this year will be her last as chairperson. Next spring the group will nominate a new chair. Biz, who had to leave early, was nominated and seconded.

Larry Flieder suggested that we invite Jeff Forrester to a subsequent meeting.

The Meeting was adjourned at 11:00.