

Caribou Lake Property Owners Association

Date: Thursday, May 16, 2024

Time: 5:00 pm

Location: Microsoft Teams

Attendance: Lisa Miller-Johnson, Mike Nicklow, Julie Bittinger, Sharon Hexum-Platzer, Tom Rider, Larry Mullen, Karl Karst, Charlie Austin (via phone), Fred Morris and Jeanne Anderson

The MS Teams meeting started around 5:15 pm because we experienced a few connectivity issues.

Rusty Crayfish Update: At our February zoom meeting the board authorised the hiring of Crawdaddies to harvest crayfish on Caribou Lake. The cost is \$625 per week for 6 weeks which comes out to \$3,750. This is a large portion of our fund but this invasive species is becoming an issue and the board voted to try and mitigate. There are also volunteer and NRRI efforts that will be taking place this summer.

Larry and Tom are willing to train anyone that would like to volunteer to check 10 trap locations this summer. There is a sign up on the CLPOA website. If you volunteer you will be asked to commit to 2 shifts, because of the time it will take for you to be trained. This commitment will include checking, emptying and rebating traps. For detailed instructions on this process please contact Tom or Larry. There was also discussion regarding if we have individuals that are willing to trap at the end of their docks and what the process for reporting back to Larry would be, so that we can track the number of crayfish and where they are being trapped. Larry will work on a system of reporting for individuals that would like to trap from their docks.

The possibility of increasing the SSD will be discussed at the next meeting.

Wake Surfing Ordinance update: Fred updated the board regarding the wake surfing ordinance that the DNR and Cook County Board of Commissioners approved recently. Fred noted that there is some discrepancy in the ordinance - paragraph 4 states that a bow height wake is prohibited yet paragraph 3 states that wake surfing should be contained to a specific area of the lake but that the wake surfing water craft would have to give right of way (or stop surfing) if there are other watercraft in the area that the wake boat would disturb. Fred will check with Molly Hicken for clarification and update the board when he has information. After this clarification we can hopefully get signage that will be placed at the boat landing. Enforcement of the ordinance will be the County's responsibility - according to the DNR. But in Cook County does this mean reporting should go to the Conservation officer's or the Sheriff's department? We need clarification on this as well.

Sveinven Variance update: Sharon spoke with Brad Sillman and gave us an update on how that discussion went. Brad would have liked someone from our group to have talked to him and/or the property owner's about the variance before we submitted our response. This gave our group an opportunity to discuss "process" and what that should look like. Seems like we should talk with Planning and Zoning to see what the best process would be for our group to address variance concerns or questions that we may have. Typically we do not have a very long timeframe to respond to a variance request. The intention of CLPOA is to ask questions that affect the health of the lake, not to oppose property owners from improving their properties. What is the best way for CLPOA to do this? We don't want to be viewed as an obstacle for property owner's wanting/needing a variance. Sharon offered to take this on.

Fall speaker: Karl provided the board with an extensive list of possible speakers. The board discussed and would like Karl and Mike to go ahead and select a speaker. All board members agreed. Karl indicated that he would like the speaker to be of interest to All property owners (seasonal and year round).

Website: Larry updated our website to include Fred's email regarding Wake Surfing Ordnance and Jeanne's spruce budworm contact information list that she got from Cook County Higher Ed.

Potential Zoom meeting schedule: Tom suggested that the CLPOA board meet via Zoom one week prior to the spring meeting, one week prior to the fall meeting and whenever the need arises. All board members agreed that this was a good plan.

A few agenda items were not covered due to lack of time.

Meeting Adjourned at 6:00 pm