

Crockery Lake Association Minutes
Annual Meeting
Forest Shelter, Grose Park
June 17, 2020

1. Meeting called to order 7:00 p.m. Twenty-nine people are present.
2. Speaker: Jaimee Conroy Desjardins Environment Scientist, Professional Lake Management (PLM).
Desjardins recapped what PLM had done and learned during the early May survey of Crockery Lake. There are Eurasian Watermilfoil and Curlyleaf Pondweed in the lake. She warned us against raking or cutting the Eurasian Watermilfoil because each segment can become a new plant. This year (Winter 2019-2020) more Eurasian Watermilfoil wintered over because of the relatively mild winter. The Curlyleaf Pondweed can be raked or cut, but if seed pods have formed, they will drop to the bottom and germinate in the sediment. The high water we experienced in late May brought an excess of nutrients into the lake (as seen in the brown color of the water). The turbidity promotes algae growth. The initial weed treatment was postponed due to excessive rain and the subsequent high level of water. Desjardins pointed out that while PLM has never killed grass (but grass does not do well in water logged soil), PLM does not want to treat for weeds then. The treatment scheduled for the week of June 22 through June 25 is to aggressively kill algae and to “touch up” the Eurasian Watermilfoil. The third treatment if necessary is scheduled for the week of July 20. The treatments to kill bacteria in the muck are reducing the amount of muck. To measure the effectiveness of muck reduction treatments PLM takes samples of the muck every other year. A full survey of vegetation that tracks native plants takes place at the end of the Summer season.

Audience Questions:

Covid-19: There is no evidence that fish are affected by Covid-19 or that Covid-19 goes from fish to human or human to fish.

Manual removal Eurasian Watermilfoil: Do not rake Eurasian Watermilfoil. Pull out by the roots. All pieces of the plant will regenerate.

Identifying Eurasian Watermilfoil: Eurasian Watermilfoil looks like coontail, a native plant. Desjardins said to send her a picture and she will identify the plant.

Herbicides; All herbicides used by PLM are approved by the Dept. of Agriculture, EPA, and EGLE. Swimming is not prohibited but the stirred up sediment interferes with the effectiveness of the treatment.

Water for animals: The water is safe to drink, unless the animal drinks 1000 gallons of treated water. Desjardins said there is more copper in a multivitamin than there is in the herbicide.

Lily Pads: Lily pads may show a browning on the leaf, but the leaf pads will come back.

Turbidity: Turbidity will limit native plant growth.

Dying Fish: PML found dying fish in lakes with higher than normal temperatures. That combined with the stress of spawning effected fish.

President Bob Blauwkamp thanked Desjardins for coming.

Business Meeting

1. Meeting called to order at 7: 20 p.m.

2. Roll Call of Directors

Present: Bob Blauwkamp, Pat Wolters, Susan McClure, Greg Slater, Carl Elliott, Paula Humphrey, Betsy Ludwick. Absent: Dennis Arms

3. Approval of Agenda

Greg Slater moved the Agenda be approved , Betsy Ludwick seconded. Passed.

4. Call to the Audience

Helen Dietrich introduced herself. She is running for Township Clerk. She offered to stay to answer questions after the Association meeting.

Lesha Gustin said that her daughter Nichole Gustin will again make tee shirts for the Fourth of July celebration and donate 100% of the profits to the 2021 fireworks fund.

Keith Patterson asked if the Association Board was following up on problems with drain fields. Blauwkamp said that no, the Board had not followed up on drain fields. The problem is handled at the Township level. Jody Hyde, a Chester township employee, said that if a person smells a problem, the person can call Environmental Health and report the problem anonymously. The department will send people to check the situation. Pat Wolters noted that drain field problems also come to the township's attention when a property is sold. Betsy Ludwick reminded people that Kerkstra Septic Service gives a discount to lake residents. She also noted that systems should be pumped every five years. To answer Mollie Garrin's question about pollution coming into the lake, Ludwick pointed out that the five streams coming into the lake carry sediment from surrounding farms. Paula Humphrey suggested that Patterson look at the "Score the Shore" tallies on the Crockery Lake website.

5. Thank You for the Signage Repairs at the Boat Launch

Bob Blauwkamp praised and thanked Chuck and Linda Lane, Karl Wolters, and Betsy Ludwick for "freshening" the sign at the boat landing. They restored the sign and added a marker for high water.

6. Secretary's Report

Secretary Susan McClure read aloud the Minutes of the Annual Meeting, May 2019. They were accepted as read.

7. Treasurer's Report

Treasurer Greg Slater noted that the General Fund and the Fireworks Display monies are kept in two separate funds. The General Fund balance at the end of 2019 was \$1668.99. The Fireworks Display Fund at the end of 2019 was \$5051.33. The Fireworks Display Fund will pay for the July 2020 July 3 Fireworks Display.

8. Weed Treatment

The new twenty year contract for weed control in Crockery Lake will start in 2021. Crockery Lake properties are designated as a Special Assessment District. Properties are assessed based upon water frontage. Weed treatment will be provided by Professional Lake Management.

9. Fireworks 2020 Update on Arrangements

Pat Wolters reported that all the paper work, despite delays related to the pandemic quarantine, is in place for the July 3, 2020, show. Susan McClure passed out the Crockery Lake Association Guidelines for the Boat Parade and Fireworks Display. Betsy Ludwick will publish them in the Newsletter.

10. Fireworks 2021 Outlook & Tentative Arrangements

Bob Blauwkamp reported that the 2021 fireworks display will have the same number of mortars as the 2020 show for \$5750, \$350 more than the 2020 display. Wolverine will be in charge. The

Crockery Lake Association Board Members will ask residents for contributions to cover the cost. Contributions may also be made directly via Pay Pal or by sending a check to Treasurer Greg Slater, 2500 Crockery Shores, Casnovia, MI 49318. If using Pay Pal, make two payments, one for dues and one to the Fireworks Display Fund.

11. Boat Parade Policy

Paula Humphey read “The Boat Parade Policy.” Betsy Ludwick moved, Carl Elliott seconded to approve the “The Boat Parade Policy” with the first paragraph is to read “The Crockery Lake Association will sponsor a Boat Parade prior to the Fireworks Display. All residents can enter but only participants who are members of the Crockery Lake Association will be awarded monetary awards.” Passed. The policy will be printed in the Newsletter.

12. Ring of Fire Policy

Bob Blauwkamp read the “Ring of Fire” policy. Pat Wolters moved to accept, Betsy Ludwick seconded. Passed. It will be printed in the Newsletter.

13. Crockery Lake Featured in the Michigan Riparian.

Pat Wolters recommended people read Linda Lane’s article about the history of Crockery Lake on the Crockery Lake website. It was first published in the Michigan Riparian magazine, Summer 2019.

14. Election of Officers

Pat Wolters and Susan McClure were nominated and re-elected to the Crockery Lake Association Board. Mollie Gaggin was nominated and elected. Each will serve a three year term ending in 2023.

Meeting adjourned
8:15 p.m.