

Comfort Lakes Association Board Meeting
February 4, 2021 6:30 pm
Via Zoom

Minutes

Meeting was called to order at 6:40 pm by President Jeanine Hansen

Members present:

Jeanine Hansen
Mike Motzko
Sharon Sill
Dick Berglund
Bill Keilty
Dave Freemore
Mike Crepeau

Members Absent:

None

Guests:

Jackie Anderson
Chris Roche
Tom Hobday

Approval of Agenda

The agenda had been emailed to members prior to the meeting. Bill moved to accept the agenda; Mike M. seconded; Agenda was approved.

Secretary's Report

There was no January meeting. Minutes from the December 3, 2020 meeting had been emailed to Board members prior to the meeting. Bill moved to accept the minutes; Mike M. seconded; Minutes were approved.

Treasure's Report

Dick presented the Treasurer's report. There is minimal change from December; the change represents zoom-meeting fees of \$32.18.

Balance in accounts as of 2/4/2021 are: General Fund \$ 1860.45; Walleye Stocking Program \$ 0; Milfoil Treatment Program \$ 656.49. Total Balance: \$2,516.94.

Bill moved to accept the treasurer's report; Mike M. seconded; Treasurer's report was accepted.

- **Introduction of New Board Candidates.** The candidates for Board membership are:
Jackie Anderson
Chris Roche
Tom Hobday

Each of the candidates for Board membership gave a brief introduction of themselves and their history with Comfort Lake.

Mike M. moved to accept all the candidates for Board membership; Dave seconded; the motion passed unanimously.

- **Update: EWM Treatment Project (2021)**

Jeanine has talked with the DNR regarding our 2021 application to treat for EWM on Comfort. The permit will be based on maps provided the DNR from Blue Water Science, which were paid for by the CLFLWD to map out milfoil on the lake. Based on those maps the Association was approved to get nearly 15 acres treated without applying for a variance. We have three options for treatment.

1. Probably the best herbicide to use is ProcellaCOR. This herbicide is newer. It has the least toxicity therefore comes with no restrictions on swimming etc. after its use; it does not kill water lilies; it works quickly, i.e. within approximately 24-48 hours after application; and there is a guarantee to be no regrowth for 3 to four years. A licensed commercial vendor must apply it. Lake Management is one of two vendors in MN authorized to apply. Jeanine has already requested an estimate to apply ProcellaCOR from that company. It is our understanding the cost is approximately \$ 800 -\$900 per acre. Only one treatment is needed. The DNR restricts ProcellaCOR being used on only 8 acres of the lake in any given year without a variance.

2. A second option was Fluridone Herbicide, which also needs to be applied by a licensed vendor. This requires two treatments. After discussion it did not seem to be a good option, due to cost and impact on the lake.

3. The third option is Aquathol K, which we used in May 2020 with good results. It has to be applied by the end of May. We are able to apply this ourselves with "Colonel Comfort" our pontoon outfitted for application.

Based on the map provided by Blue Science we have delineated areas 1,2, 3,4,5 and 6 comprising approximately 15 acres of the lake to be treated in 2021. We agreed it made sense

to treat areas 1 and 2 with ProcellaCOR in 2021 and areas 3,4,5 and 6 with Aquathol K. Hopefully areas 1 and 2 will not need treatment in 2022, so we will rotate to different areas to treat with ProcellaCOR in 2022 and do whatever else we need with Aquathol K, etc. reassessing each year.

After discussion it was decided to get a second estimate from the other ProcellaCOR distributor (based in Shakopee).

Jackie reported there is now a hybrid milfoil present in Comfort Lake, which is resistant to 24D.

- **Conservation Partners Legacy Grant – Update**

Our grant application is in and we hope to hear any day. The amount of money we receive, if any, will determine how much we need to ask from the membership to contribute to EWM treatment. We applied for \$ 8,000.

- **DNR Aquatic Invasive Species Grant – Update**

The two-week application period had not opened up yet as of February 4, 2021. The grants range in amounts up to a maximum of \$ 5,000. Those grants are awarded via lottery.

- **Membership Letter for 2021**

After discussion we realized dues had not been raised for approximately 15 years. Board members felt that given lake owners' commitment to the lake, raising dues would not impact membership and would significantly help with EWM management.

Dick moved to make the annual membership dues \$100. Dave seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

Jackie, Jeanine and Sharon will work on drafting the new membership letter in the near future. The goal will be to have it mailed to members within 2-3 weeks.

Mike moved to adjourn. Dick seconded. Motion passed. Meeting adjourned at 8:05.

Next Board Meeting is March 4, 2021, at 6:30 pm. via zoom