

Comfort Lakes Association Annual Meeting
October 15, 2020 7:00 pm
Zoom Meeting

Minutes

President Jeanine Hansen called meeting to order at 7:05 pm

Board Members present:

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

Board Members Absent:

Bruce Anderson
Bill Keilty

Guests:

Garrett Miller, CLFL Watershed District Staff

Approximately 12 Association Members

Introduction of Board Members

Board members introduced themselves and their history with Comfort Lake.

Treasure's Report

Dick presented the treasurer's report. As of this date there are 49 members of the Association out of 126 homes on Big Comfort Lake.

As of 10/1/2020 we have \$ 2,412.63 in the General Account; \$ 0 in the Walleye Fund; \$ 656.49 in the Milfoil Treatment Program for a Total Balance of \$ 3,069.12.

Dick gave a power point presentation as to how these numbers are broken down.

General Account

The beginning balance on 1/1/2020 was \$ 2,076 in the General Account;

We had income of \$ 3,142.98, composed of \$ 2,696.50 (dues); \$ 383.25 (donations); \$ 63.23 (other sources).

Expenses totaled \$ 2,806.99 composed of \$ 363.03 (July 4); \$1845.00 (walleye); \$ 200.00 (MN Lakes and U of MN study); \$ 398.96 (other).

Thus the balance on 10/1/2020 in the General Account is \$ 2,412.63.

Walleye Fund

The single largest income and expenditure was for our walleye-stocking project. We raised \$2,055 through a short term (three week) fundraiser. We spent \$1,845 from the general account for a total of \$ 3,900. The entire \$ 3,900 was spent to purchase walleye fingerlings. The fund balance is \$ 0.

The beginning balance on 1/1/2020 for the Walleye Fund was \$ 0; income was \$ 2,055 (donations); \$ 1,845 (general fund contribution) for a total of \$ 3,900.

Expenses were \$ 3,900 for the walleye stocking fee.

Thus the balance on 10/1/2020 in the Walleye Fund is \$ 0.

Milfoil Treatment Program

The beginning balance on 1/1/2020 was \$ 1,994.91. Income totaled \$ 1,450.00 (donations). Expenses totaled \$2,788.42: composed of \$ 876.42 (equipment) and \$ 1,912.00 (herbicide) Current balance as of 10/1/2020 is \$ 656.49.

There were no questions for the treasurer.

Dave moved to accept the treasurer's report. Mike M. seconded.

Walleye Stocking Project (Mike M. Presented)

Over 3,000 Walleye fingerlings were put into the lake through this project. They grow at the rate of approximately 4" per year. Hopefully most of them stay in Comfort Lake; some will likely leave via the Sunrise River.

Mike expressed appreciation for all who participated in this project. It is exciting to think we will have good walleye fishing back within a couple years.

Milfoil Treatment

Jeanine presented an update on this. We received permits from the DNR to do two treatments in 2020. On May 30, 2020, we treated parts of the lake with Aquathol K and in July 2020, we treated different areas with Platoon. Aquathol K is more expensive but there are fewer ramifications to its use than Platoon. The Association did not treat homes with lakeshore currently treated by Lake Management.

We cannot get rid of milfoil, but we want to control it. We hope to maximize the number of lakeshore owners willing to participate in funding this project. We can only treat those areas the DNR allows.

4th of July Boat Parade/Root Beer Floats

Dave presented a recap of this day. We felt it was a successful day with 11 entries in the boat parade. Approximately 50-75 root beer floats were served.

Guest Speaker: Garrett Miller of the Comfort Lake Forest Lake Watershed District

Garrett presented information on various topics relevant to Comfort Lake. There were more watercraft inspections in 2020 than there have been in any other year (approximately 570 hours as of 10/15/2020 and 1197 inspections), reflecting a substantial jump in the number of boats using the lake. The Comfort Lakes Association donated \$ 500 to the inspection program. None of the inspected boats entering Comfort carried starry stonewort.

Curly leaf pondweed. There are two small patches of this Comfort, but this is not considered a big issue for the lake and thus no reason to treat.

Eurasian Milfoil. Survey maps created by Blue Water Science showing where and how concentrated Eurasian milfoil is can be found on the CLFLWD website.

Zebra mussels. Those who have plates for zebra mussels have collected quite a few. In 2017 there seemed to be a lot however Comfort doesn't have the right levels of chemicals to support their hard shells as do other lakes.

There was discussion about increased garbage in the lake. Drainage from and pending outcome of the Franta farm was also brought up. The Franta farm includes wetlands that could be part of a larger wetland restoration project by the CLFLWD if the wetland part could be purchased by the CLFLWD. This area of the Franta farm also impacts the Little Comfort Lake Phosphorus Reduction Implementation program.

Miscellaneous Information

Jeanine brought up the following:

We continue to look for more board members.

The Board plans to present quarterly communication on lakeshore preservation/education

We are awaiting scientific data – likely within the next two years – from the research project currently being conducted by the U of MN on the impact of wake boats on lakes around the country.

We are hoping for a whole lake milfoil treatment in 2021. This will involve discussions with the DNR regarding permits.

Meeting adjourned at 8:20.

Next Board Meeting will be November 5, 2020, at 6:30 pm.