

**Crystal Lake Association
Spring Meeting Minutes
April 30th, 2014 7 PM
Old Crystal Lake School House**

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 7:03 pm.

SECRETARY REPORT

The secretary's report was read, motion to accept was made, second and approved.

TREASURER'S REPORT

The treasurer's report was read, motion to accept was made, seconded and approved. Copies of 2013 expenses were provided to those interested. Membership status was same as previously reported, i.e. 71 families. Reminders of meeting schedules were sent out.

It was noted that there has not been a lot of advertisement for meetings. Suggestion was made that a paragraph be put in the Ellington Connection to explain about the Crystal Lake Association and have it contain the yearly schedule of meetings.

CORRESPONDING SECRETARY

No update report was given. It was noted that there may be a Newsletter released before Memorial Day. The CLA will have a table at the green for refreshments for the Memorial Day parade. The lineup for marching will be at 8:45 and the parade starts at 9.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Water Testing Committee – Bill reported that a water sample had been taken and it's been sent to the lab to measure the lake's health. Bill indicated he had a report dated 3/28/14 and it will be moved to the website (2013 season summary).

Fund Raising Committee –It was noted that a table will be set up at West Shore Park for the Memorial Day parade. Crystal Lake t-shirts, key chains and cups will be for sale. Everyone is encouraged to bring baked goods. The table will be manned by 8 am the morning of the parade.

New Website Committee – There have been 7,500 hits on the site so far. Roger was absent but it was reported that the board is getting calls from other towns and associations for milfoil removal information. Members should feel free to contact Roger via email to add content to the website.

Milfoil Committee – Suction harvesting is proving successful. Plants appear to not return as full. Northeast Aquatic Research conducted a plant survey October 2013 and recommended:

- Monitor open water & hot spots of Northeast Cove and Aborn Cove for pond leaf and milfoil.

- Open water is priority, then Aborn and the pond.
- In the fall, conduct the survey again and plan out 2015 activity
- Need to get analysis reports so we can plan out where areas need to be cleaned out
- Use initial plan and then Bill will continue to search for additional areas, all within the budget
- Currently operating on budget for \$25,000 and expect it to be approved
- Also expect water testing to be included and approved, lumped in with the \$25,000, apx. \$5,000 of the \$25,000 will be for water testing and reports.
- We sample once a month for 6 months to produce the water sample reports. They read and measure salinity, oxygen, chemicals and temperature.

By Laws Committee – no report.

OLD BUSINESS:

Molly West Scholarship Fund – Diane will find out when the Scholarship Award ceremony is and let Mark know in case someone wants to attend.

NEW BUSINESS:

New State Law on Dam inspections – Mark contacted the State of CT to see where our priority is in relation to Dam inspections. He reported that it could be 8-10 years before it would be inspected. It's a low priority as it's not considered to be hazardous and not in imminent danger of failing. Also, it should be inspected by Stafford since it's owned by them.

The state has inspected our dam and it was determined to be low risk. State felt there is no risk of dam collapsing and the lake 'washing away'.

Connecticut Mapping – It was reported that Greg Bugbee of CT Agricultural Group was on the lake. The last survey was in 2005 and we'd be interested in another survey now that the milfoil has been addressed. The map is still being finished up. Once it's done, Bill will give Roger the link to the sight and have it put on the website.

Sand Erosion – Roger was on vacation so he has not met with the town yet to pursue this. In general discussion, Roger was going to follow up with the town to convince them to re-use sand in the water, i.e. take it out of the water and put it back on the beach where it came from. He's going to approach Tim Webb of Public Works, and explain to him the cost savings of re-using the sand from the beach. Photos show how the sand bar is growing, apx. 50 feet long and 4-5 feet deep. Photos could be used as evidence to go to the town to show how sand is coming off the beach. The town is supposed to put in catch basins on West Shore to cut back on beach erosion.

The State DOT is supposed to clean out cisterns at Aborn and Aborn Private to clean out sand and debris. If those are kept clear, it could keep the debris down in the lake.

The town needs to get funds to improve water flow around the beach. Moving sand shouldn't be a large cost. May need an engineering study to trace the water.

Boat Stickers – Boat stickers are available for motor boats. Beach Patrol didn't like the original stickers as the numbers weren't large enough. In addition, Bill will get more pamphlets to hand out educating boaters on milfoil and invasive plants.

Community Service – there was recognition that there was some community service activity done by the high school kids to clean up around the beach.

Motion to adjourn meeting at 8:04. Seconded and all approved.

The next meeting will be July 23rd @ 7pm at the Crystal Lake School House

The fall meeting will be September 17th @ 7pm at the Crystal Lake School House.

Respectfully submitted,

Diane Cristelli, Secretary
Crystal Lake Association