

MINUTES

CLWA Annual General Meeting

Sunday, August 11, 2019 @ Arm Lake Recreation Center 2:00 pm

1. Attendance (attached)

2. Intro of CLWA Executive/Directors

Present: Rene Rajotte (Pres), Chris Pfisterer (Vice Pres), Laurie Fuller (Sec), Directors: Donna James, Doug Jackson, Wayne Mercier, Rob Sawyer, Bob Bishop, Bruce McCluskey, Stuart Warriner.

3. Presentation by Brad Peter, Executive Director of ALMS (Alberta Lake Management Society):

Review of the 2018 Lake Watch Report

- In general, Clear Lake's results are very positive, an improvement over the 2013 tests. Reasons for this may include a cooler weather last summer, and other weather related factors, but shows that the lake's parameters show its health. Clear Lake rates favorable compared to the 30 other lakes that ALMS monitors. Brad cautioned, however that Clear Lake is quite small and could quickly be affected by warmer temperatures, and other factors (following) Cabin owners have a responsibility to try to minimize run-off from their lots, completely refrain from any use of fertilizers, and properly dispose of sewage, as these are all contributors to the increase of phosphorous in the lake, increasing the ability for Blue/Green Algae to bloom. Brad spoke of the importance of vigilance regarding two invasive species, the zebra mussel and Eastern Milfoil. Information on invasive species, and copies of the Lake Watch report were made available at the meeting for cabin owners to pick up, and also on the ALMS website – alms.com

Question and answer session for 10 minutes

Brad was thanked and given a gift with our appreciation for driving from Edmonton and doing the presentation for us.

4. Financial Report (attached)

- Rene gave an explanation of why the CLSS became the CLWA; Due to a communication/ mailing address error, reports for CLSS were not filed from 2009 – 2013. In 2013, the Society was struck by Alberta Registries. Darlene Baughan discovered this in October 2018, while trying to change signing authority at the bank. She refiled all the necessary paperwork, and re-established the society, but a name change was required. We are now officially registered as the Clear Lake Watershed Association. Bev Brilz moved to accept the financial report as read. Bruce McCluskey 2nd. Carried.

5. Old Business

I. Boating Safety

– during his spring meeting with the MD, Rene requested some policing of the lake due to complaints about boat noise, irresponsible operation. To date, the RCMP patrolled Clear Lake twice, and their presence was noted. We will continue to request and support periodic checks from the RCMP, as well as encourage best practices with education.

II. MD response to 2018 concerns

– Rene and Doug asked Ted Wilkensen of the MD, to drive around the lake with them to look at and discuss concerns and solutions to the large amount of runoff that enters the lake during rain events and snow melt. Doug reported that the three worst areas were walked. These are the Boat Launch, the NE corner, (below the Herbert farm land, including the driveways of the two new acreages), and the Public Beach. Noted was the gravel washed into culverts, the very apparent paths that the water cuts into the roadways. The MD is looking into using larger gravel that won't be pushed by rain, berms to slow the water, and working with the NE farm to slow/hold the runoff.

Rene reminded cabin owners that they may request gravel for their access roads every three years, and suggested that they request larger gravel, and ensure that it isn't mostly dirt that will easily get pushed into the lake. It was suggested that cabin owners that use mutual roads work together to schedule deliveries.

Rene feels that the MD realizes how vital the lake's water quality is, and wants to work with cabin owners to achieve this. He reminded the MD about the importance of holding tanks for sewage, and not importing sand for cabin lots, as per the Area Structure Plan. Rene would like to see a package with best practices, information about the lake and Area Structure Plan to be given to each new cabin owner as they purchase on the lake. Area structure Plans were available for cabin owners on the back table. Kim and members of the board will review the Area Structure Plan with the goal of either reducing it to the most vital info or highlighting the same to make it less intimidating for use. The MD paid for two members of the CLSS to attend last year's ALMS conference, as well as Ted and Kim attending personally. Thanks to the MD for this as the workshop provided current and vital information regarding lake health.

III. Water Quality/Blue/Green Algae Update

– Laurie deferred to Brad's earlier report. Our lake seems extremely clear this year. 2 very small algae outbreaks were seen in June, in the NE corner. This is the fewest algae blooms noted over the past few years. Cabin owners were encouraged to report any algae outbreaks they see. Brad mentioned that samples can be taken and sent in to him (alms) for analysis. Blue/Green Algae is toxic and can only be confirmed this way. Samples should be 100ml, and they should be kept cold or frozen. Bob Bishop will construct a few mussel traps that will be installed at the boat launch so that we can self-monitor for this invasive species. Laurie brought attention to the 2015 map of the lake that the MD provided, pointing out the shallow areas. Disturbance of these spots cause the murky water and can bring the phosphorus to the surface, making it available for algae. It seems like our boat drivers know to avoid these areas – Rene stated that the wake boats have less power available in shallow areas. A large map can be purchased for \$25. 8x10 maps were provided to be taken back to cabins. These maps can be used by boat drivers to identify and avoid the shallow areas of the lake, which can be less than six feet.

IV. Alberta Lake Management Society: a) Update on 2018 ALMS conference

- Donna and Laurie attended the ALMS conference held at Buffalo Lake (near Stettler). Donna reported how interesting and valuable information at this conference was; the actions that cabin owners can take to keep the phosphorous load as low as possible on the lake are; decrease runoff, stop using all fertilizers, all sewage and grey water must be held and pumped out. Cabin owners can minimize run-off (and minerals from their lawns and surrounding areas) by planting native shrubs and changing any solid direct pathways to the lake. Pamphlets showing how to create a lake friendly shoreline were available for cabin owners to take. Donna mentioned invasive species like flowering rush which is consuming shoreline at an alberta lake at an alarming rate, and the importance of Clean, Drain, Dry any boats that leave the lake.
- She thanked the MD for sponsoring two members attendance.
- b) 2019 ALMS conference** - the MD is once again paying for two members of the CLWA to attend this year's workshop. It will be September 18 & 19 at Chestermere Lake east of Calgary. Kim and Ted will also attend. Attendees will be decided at the next CLWA meeting.

V. Membership Drive/Communication

- CLWA held a membership drive barbeque at the public beach. It was well received by everyone who attended. 21 members were signed up. Thanks to Chris and Meatco for supplying the hamburgers and hot dogs at a discount, to Co-op for the barbeque itself, and Rene and Darlene for picking up and returning all items, and to board members who helped. This leaves us well short of the members we

had last year – ideas for membership drives? More events? Canvassing? How can we get blank memberships out to cabin owners? Chris suggested a bottle drive/membership. Discussion about difficulties, but recognition about the general idea of service/involvement of the society.

- Laurie has asked about the MD providing a link to our own website where information can be posted and forms can be downloadable. Possibly the MD can include membership info with their tax notices that are mailed out. CLWA will look into both.

VI. Clear Lake Brochure

- Donna used a lake brochure from Moose Lake as a sample and asked for a quote from a local publisher. An 18 page glossy brochure will cost \$16.00/ brochure and \$45.00/hour for set up so, around \$2,500 for 135 brochures. Bev suggested we see how much the price is if we order more. Brad suggested we look into the Land Stewardship Center for a grant. Bob and another board member will research the grant. The MD might also agree to cover the cost of the brochure. Carol Snyder has offered to write the history of Clear Lake for it, and it will contain best practices for cabin owners and visitors including boat safety. Bev made a motion to pursue funding as well as use CLWA funds. Bruce 2nd. Carried.

VII. Clear Lake Signs

- During the 2018 CLSS AGM it was voted that we have 2 signs built and placed. One would be a welcome and directional sign for traffic coming from the hwy. the 2nd at the boat launch will mainly caution boat drivers about shallow areas. The MD has agreed to build and install the signs. Two samples were passed around for people to pre-view.

6. New Business

- I. **Speed limit around lake** - Rene expressed a concern about safety around the lake where there are either no clear speed limit signs, or it is 60 km. He suggested we ask the MD to reduce the speed limit to 50 around the entire lake access loop road. Chris thought that this may be difficult for the MD. Laurie said that there are blind corners for entering traffic and supported a lower speed. Carol said that while running she has had a few close calls with speeding vehicles. Doug made a motion to ask the MD about reducing the speed limit. Carol 2nd. Carried.

- II. **Election of Board Members**

- Kurt Caron and Darcy Rutledge both stepped down as directors. They are thanked for their help. Chris nominated Kerry Frissell. He accepted. Laurie nominated Bev Brilz, Rene 2nd carried. Fred Calvert made a motion to cease nominations. Everyone 2nd, Carried.
The President, Vice President, Treasurer and Secretary are all willing to have their names stand for another year. No nominations for these positions were made. Fred Calvert made a motion to close nominations. Everyone 2nd, Carried.

7. Open discussion/AOB

- More discussion regarding fund raising. Donna saw a nice “Clear Laker” hat a cabin owner was wearing. Is this something we might do? Chris suggested possibly t-shirts and hats to sell. He and Kerry Frissell will look into samples and costs and this will be presented at a board meeting.

Meeting Adjourned at 3:30 pm

Thanks were given to Lori and Len for the use of the Arm Lake rec centre back porch.