

Friends of Clam Lake 2012 Annual Meeting (FoCL)

Saturday, August 4, 2012, 9:00 Grass River Natural Area Education Center

Board Members present: Paul Sak, Cottie Volle, Steve and Art Hoadley, Jack Gartner, and Larry Schwab. Jim Marling, Financial Committee Chair. Other members: 15.

President Paul Sak called the meeting to order promptly at 9:30 and led the pledge of allegiance to the flag. He introduced the board and thanked all the volunteers who had worked on various projects. He also stressed the need for volunteers and said opportunities would be presented later in the meeting.

The minutes from the 2012 Annual Meeting were presented. Jack Gartner moved to accept. Ken Navarre 2nd. Motion carried. It was reported that the By-Laws change presented at the 2011 meeting had been approved unanimously and that Larry Schwab had been elected as the new director.

The treasurer's report was presented by Art Hoadley. There was a question about possible legal fund uses, and Paul Sak explained there were no present issues but should future environmental issues be raised, it would be wise to have funds on hand. Jim Marling thanked his Financial Committee members Jack Gartner and Larry Schwab for their work and reported their findings that the treasurer's report accurately reflected the FoCl's finances. He said the committee would also be setting up the budget for the coming year. Jim Marling then moved to receive the treasurer's report. All Cash 2nd, Motion Carried.

Cottie Volle reported on the membership being 150 with two new members added at the meeting. This is an increase of 50 members from last year. Paul reported the membership as follows: Forest Home and Helena township members are almost even. 80% are lake property owners, 20% not. 77% Michigan residents (60% from Antrim County), 23% out of State. Membership includes 35% of Clam Lake properties. Welcome to South Shore and Northaire. He encouraged members to talk to their neighbors about joining and thanked Cottie for her work.

The Year in Review was presented by Paul. FoCl continues to work with other lake and environmental groups. They co-sponsored the Education event held June 19, Got Fish? and will do so again Aug 14 about groundwater.

Members were encouraged to come.

Fish Shelters – 80 are approved, 9 will be on Clam. Many organizations are involved. Site near Northaire Resort has all three types of shelters, tree roots with rocks, 4 x 4 cube of brushwood, and slab wood tree with cedar core. They are being monitored for effectiveness. Hope to add other sites next year. This is a five year project.

Clam Lake Watercraft Carrying Study – was done in July. Results will be posted on web.

Boating Safety Certificate and exam – held with sheriff's department. 120 people participated.

Dewitt Marine Wetlands Fill Project – worked with 3 Lakes to protect water quality. Resulted in permanent easement with Deed restriction on land there within 60 feet of Clam River.

Pristine Waters Book – only 3 left for sale. Investment has been returned and profit made on sales.

Loon Nesting Platform and Buoys – Fred Sittel does this. Nesting pair of loons, but started late and two loon chicks were lost.

Grass River Sedimentation Project – Ongoing, gathering data. Fred is involved.

Invasive Species – continuing to monitor.

ERCOL WPIT – Elk River Chain of Lakes Watershed Plan Implementation Team, keeping water quality good.

Election of Officers: Slate of officers was discussed and call for volunteers or nominations from the floor. None received, Lori Sak moved to accept slate, Jim Marling 2nd. Motion carried unanimously.

President – Paul Sak, Vice President – Fred Sittel, Secretary – Mary Frost, Treasurer – Art Hoadley, Directors at large – Cottie Volle, Larry Schwab, Jack Gartner, Bob Hockenberger, and Steve Hoadley.

New Business:

Fish Shelters: Need volunteers for construction and deployment of the structures. See Larry Schwab.

Cruise for the Cure boat parade on Clam for Pancreatic Cancer. – should we become a sponsor? Comments: Boats should go slower, **pro:** good will gesture, good case, happens on Clam Lake. **Con:** is health issue a lake cause? appropriate use of funds? negative issues with sponsors. Discussion.

AI Cash moved to donate funds, not to exceed \$350, for the Cruise for the Cure Boating Event. Art 2nd. Motion carried, 2 dissenting votes.

Webcam: Problem with current camera. Do we want to continue live website? Discussion. Thomas Frey volunteered to donate a camera. Steve and Art will try to set it up.

Member Comments:

Donors to the Grass River education building were encouraged to sign the poster.

Suggest invite Mark Stone to next meeting to speak about water levels.

There is a program about loons at the Alden Community Center Wednesday at 7.

Should there be a fee to launch boats on Clam? - Most against ramp fees.

What about plume from Clam Lake? - Three Lakes is studying this. Appears to be natural.

Thanks to Paul and the Board for all they do.

Paul thanked all for coming and encouraged them to take handout materials.

Carol moved to adjourn, Mary Ann Marling 2nd, Motion carried.