

CROW WING COUNTY LAKES AND RIVERS ALLIANCE (LARA)

Board of Directors Meeting Tuesday, June 5, 2018, 4:00 p.m. Main Street Ale House, Nisswa, MN

Board members present: Ann Beaver, Tom Beaver, Nick Bernier, Jodi Billy, Eleanor Burkett (ex-officio), Phil Hunsicker, Mike O'Brien

Board members absent: Sandy Holm, Kent Montgomery (ex-officio)

The meeting was called to order by Phil Hunsicker, co-president. A motion was made, seconded and carried to approve the minutes of the May 8, 2018 board meeting. Ann Beaver distributed her treasurer's report noting income of \$400 in dues and expenses of a \$1,000 donation for the production of an AIS video series and \$150 for MN COLA dues. A motion was made, seconded and carried to approve the treasurer's report. Ann also noted current 2018 membership is 23 associations, including one association that hadn't been a member for the last several years. She said based on past years, more dues will be coming in now that many lake association boards are having their first meeting of the year.

Website security Webmaster Sharon Herwig had recommended spending \$60 to protect the security of the LARA website. Board members whose associations have a website said they didn't believe the extra expense was necessary as most websites have security built into them and there is nothing top secret or possibly compromising on the LARA website anyway. No motion was made regarding this payment.

Recent newsletter Board members felt the newsletter was informative and well done. The article on lake accesses was especially liked. It was recommended to annually include an article in the newsletter on what LARA does and what more our members think we should do. This will likely be included in the fall newsletter this year, but in the future perhaps it should be done in the early summer edition.

Annual meeting? After a brief discussion, board members decided not to have a physical meeting again this year. At the July board meeting the Board will discuss the recommended content of an electronic "meeting" as was done in 2017.

Lake Friendly Awards Phil Hunsicker reported on the awards presented this year at the June 1 awards program. Eight projects were recognized. Phil said the program went well and LARA was recognized as a partner. As in past years, LARA will cover up to \$200 of the expenses and will receive an invoice later this month.

Other business

Earlier in the meeting an aside conversation included the possibility of LARA helping to organize a candidates' forum, a forum that has been held at times in the past, since it is an election year and there are many elections that will have a direct impact on the Brainerd lakes area. Eleanor Burkett said she will contact Pam Perry and others who have been involved in past forums to see if they are interested in setting up such a forum this year with LARA's help.

Mike O'Brien and Ann Beaver reported that according to Tim Plude, DNR Invasive Species Specialist, approximately 50% of Crow Wing County lakes will not be treated for curlyleaf pondweed (CLP) this year because the CLP growth is behind schedule and the native vegetation growth is ahead of schedule due to unusual weather conditions.

Eleanor Burkett announced the June 18 BAELEN meeting at 5:00 p.m. at the Jack Pine Brewery. It will be the final BAELEN meeting.

Donations: A motion was made, seconded and carried to donate \$1,000 to the National Loon Center in Crosslake. Mike O'Brien will present the check at the June 9 meeting at the Loon Center. A motion was made,

seconded and carried to donate \$1,000 to the Minnesota AIS Research Center at the U. of MN. Ann Beaver will mail a check to University of Minnesota Foundation for this.

Next meeting Because of the Fourth of July holiday, the next board meeting will be **Tuesday, July 10**, location to be determined.

The meeting was adjourned.

submitted by Ann Beaver, secretary