

**Crystal Lake Association Annual Meeting**  
**Saturday July 18, 2015-Minutes**  
**Crystal Lake Sailing Club**

**Call to order :** President Meinhardt at 10:01 am

**Roll call of officers:** Meinhardt, Hepburn, Kanitz, Manning, Engle, Eaton, Siburt, Kopchick,

**Adoption of minutes:** Motion to approve by Ray, seconded by Mason- **PASSED.**

**Intro and reports from Special Guests:** Officer Michael Williams- update on road patrol- in general very quiet- a lot of fraud –telemarketing –online fraud, started a fb page at sheriff’s office- will post information on that- there was a murder in Sydney twp.- man is charged on that case- don’t have midnight patrols at this time due to budget cuts- would like to see restored. Wants to acknowledge the marine patrol and CLA on a great partnership. Currently have had marine patrol but have not seen a bill in the last few years however now the cuts have increased by 40%- CLA will probably be receiving a bill for the service- 1998 was the first year that CLA to pay for officers not to exceed \$2500. For future the agreement still stands and is an auto annual renewal for an amount up to \$2500. There is a possibility it may be less than that due to other grant/funding monies. . **Question** posed regarding the underage of driving of golf carts which he felt was not an issue at this time. County ordinance puts golf carts under Orv. Licenses which brought about a discussion about possible changes. **Question** posed about road ends- but Williams felt that he was not the one to talk to-unless there is a criminal action and if it is civil would have to go another avenue. Suggestion by Meinhardt that this question go to the CLA township committee, **Question**-about parking signs, if no parking- does that mean in front or behind the sign, just call an officer and they will determine right or wrong; this is a decision made by the deputy’s interpretation and the final word would be an informal hearing.

Officers John Russell and Matt Ridenour- our marine patrol.- reported pretty quiet this year in regards to traffic on lake- a lot of warnings given out for expired tags etc. –noted that jet skis are a little more aggressive than other boaters but they have not been a huge problem. **Question** posed about noise ordinance around the lake and what to do if want to complain—There is a noise ordinance and just call central dispatch- The CLA as a whole gave thanks to all the officers.

Intro of Jennifer Jermalowicz-Jones- by Kanitz in regards to water quality- she thinks our lake is beautiful, and she has been on a lot of lakes in the area and very impressed with Crystal. She reported that Milkwood can take over the whole lake-it is horrible for lakes but we only have 13 acres of this plant which is treatable and it only goes to the bad plants not the good. It does take 8-12 weeks to take full effect and is a slow death for the plants. She is extremely confident that the milfoil was treated and will be abated. Jennifer also mapped a modern contour of the lake and brought copies, if not enough copies let the board know and we will make sure everyone has one. Meinhardt stated that the lake has not been contoured since 1941- very healthy lake overall and there will be an annual report around Oct-Nov that will show all the issues with an update on how everything is progressing. **Question** posed how is Milfoil introduced to the lake and it has many reasons- water fowl, boats, wind- all factors that can

bring it in- so if not treated they come to surface and then the wind and waves will transfer it to another section- or if another lake that had been treated and was clear for 4 years and did not keep up with the treatment and Milfoil came back, could be spread as reported above. That is currently the only issue that we have because anything else was knocked out by the harsh winter- there were a few things in the canal but it was treated and is now gone. Goose fecal does damage to the lake- it will be high where they land but also over the whole lake- so she is in favor of the goose roundup. **Question** posed- the type of chemicals used and the long range effect-Nothing is used that contains copper sulfate due to its long lasting. . If the needed area gets small enough could switch from herbicides to harvesting the bad weeds. **Question** –posed- does the boat washing help-? It does however you can not mandate even if you have one at your lake, therefore education is the best tool. Jennifer is from RLS- they manage the actual people that do the treatment- they are like the watchdogs and keeping the treaters honest. They find the locations and make sure the treatments are done properly and constant follow up. We received 4 bids for the treatment and chose the most qualified company. **Question** posed - what type might we see in future what species are invasive? - Most are tropical and won't survive our winters. However the Hydrilla are very hearty along with water chestnuts which are razor sharp. Currently they are only found in Penn. European frog pod- looks like a water lily- they are very small and grow into thick stalk and can take over a lake if not treated. We do not have them at this time.

**Misc items and township concerns-** Sky lanterns- one person had one land in her barn and another one had 25 land on his farm land. **Question** posed where is the money for the patrols coming from. Currently do not have money for full time position – missed the grant deadline-There are other townships that contract with the police- but needs to be done in the fall for the next summer. Some talk about partnering with MCC. **Question** posed if the mileage came in with \$40,000- is that not enough to hire a full time position so possibly look at doubling it for next year. Discussion only brought in half a mill instead of a full mill. Potential for full time position in the summer and part time in the fall/winter. Comment- last year's money not spent- so need some decision as to what is going on with it. Unhappy people that taxes were voted through and not getting what was voted for- The public dock is in bad shape so it will not put it in- discussion about what to do with the future- lots of discussion- attitude appears to be that they got along without it now – can continue to do without it- lots of discussion and unhappy about the decision at this time.

### **Report of officers**

**President-** pleased with the way the CLA has responded to everything – board agonized over how to pay for water treatment - thank you to Kanitz for fund raising ideas. Decision was made to change firework companies. CLA had flags installed around the lake- also looking into putting a sign on Sydney that will welcome people to our lake. Eaton will keep it going with flowers and keep it clean. CLA would like to place another one on the other side of the lake but waiting for cost estimates. CLA board does have openings this year to serve on this very active board.

**Vice president-** Encourage everyone to give us your email address so that we can keep in touch.. Fastest way to get to everyone- please supply- newsletters can be electronic and at least 50% are currently receiving them that way and saving CLA money. Very important topic is the quality of life on

the lake- DNR Plainwell office reported they have stocked the lake with 36,000 fingerlings at 1.5 inches.-(Walleye). they may put in 3,000- 3 inches in the lake in the fall- Kudos to wet willies for all their support of the CLA- great friend. Jay Westley from DNR took scales off the northern pike to see if we had an extensive population due to the mistake that was made years ago- we are trying to get them out of Crystal as soon as possible. When you catch them do not throw them in the lake, get rid of them and get the walleye back up to a nice population. Also if your neighbor still has a 2014 membership placard let us know so that we can reach out to them to join this year.

**Treasurer:** 262 members- \$32,813.01 income- total expenses- \$44,934.44- still need to pay for fireworks, water treatment, sign, boat motor, patrol, legal funds- leaves \$2,000 or so. We will need more money at this time. Motion by Ayres to accept- Hepburn second- **PASSED** .Did received one more membership today so up to 263. Many thanks to Siburt for putting the report together.

**Secretary-** just need emails and let her know if any changes to information.

**Fireworks-** There was applause for the fireworks, Manning reported we did switch companies- they did a great job- shopped and found Route 66. Cost of \$8,800. Which included 150 more shells than we got before- so he did a great job - the short ones on the side of the lake that you could not see on the south side of the lake were free. A lot of work to get the barges- Stone puts them in and out for us-We now use the motor rather than push, change made to have all boats stay 600 feet away, thank you to the Hepburns for helping with the shooters. Outstanding comments. –from the audience. We have lots of good things, anchors, etc. Manning does spend his whole day working to ensure the show is safe and complete. \$8800 cost - \$7056 members donated. Sky lanterns brought in \$1500, directory advertising brought in \$375.00.. \$9925 total money raised for the fireworks. **Question** posed – does the township donate money to the fireworks- answer by Ted, they are not able to donate - asked that they donate to the flags- will check to see how to donate money to the CLA Ted will check. Some negative ideas about the sky lanterns so will need ideas. Thanks to Meinhardt to help get set for the day. Thanks to the people that sell the sky lanterns. Huge Appeal to everyone to donate.

**Directory-** Kanitz, had new advertisers this year- check out the advertisers to use their services- best directory ever.

**Winterfest-** didn't have one –suggestions for the cost of the tent- possible enclosed tents

**Water quality-** still doing the testing – starting in may- (get written report from Kanitz if would like one) can look up all the ratings of the lake - be mindful of the use of the lake and if you see something wrong say something.

Money to pay for water treatment 2 kinds of costs – ongoing and onetime items. This will be an annual expense. A suggestion is to get more members- the other possibility is a special assessment that will be assigned to everyone around the lake to collect the money needed. Base on this year's costs and 500 properties it would be about \$28 – Clifford lake has a special assessment for the weed control- so that is what we are looking to do. Open to discussion- looking for something besides a Lake Board- we want an assessment committee. Just a three member person. Discussion- Not to get mixed with the drain

commissioners etc. but to have a volunteer board. - Comments about another lake that did the same treatment and the Milfoil came back so they set it up on 5 year program. That lake did vote to continue. **Question-** membership do we raise the fees- comments- that is been a very small group of people that have done all the work- so in favor of the assessment. Should be a shared expense. Showed hands and the majority went for the special assessment-

**Online-** Kopchick- Meinhardt would like to see the latest bottom map on the website- access to update the system now- can put the newsletters out on the site and pull the PDF's. also all II reports can be added. Jennifer will adapt her report to allow it to go on the website as well.

**Goose relocation-** Engle reported 51 new residents on the lake(geese) called Arron's relocation and was told that DNR cancelled goose roundup for the whole state. But it was cancelled due to finding bird flu in some cases of geese in the south end of Michigan. They didn't want to take the chance of spreading the disease. Not our call but due to this - we need to be more aggressive to do nest destroy. They have a training session in Novi- The idea is to have at least 10 people go for the training. That is a solution that needs to be looked at. We did get our \$200 permit fee back

**Public Safety-** addressed above

**Township-** Buoys were put out and the dock was not. Anti funneling issue might be brought out again after all the lawsuits are completed. so it is still ongoing so tabled for now-

**Facebook-**425 likes-continues to be a huge source of information we had 2001 hits on the fireworks alone.

**Newsletter-** issue went out this week- turn in email so that we are not spending the money and the newsletter would be in color unlike the printed page- will be another one in the fall- comment on the fireworks Hepburn loved being up close and personal with the shooters and that it is much safer this year, they do it remotely and they were 300 ft away from the barge. Thanks from Manning to Hepburns

**Membership-**need more members- by show of hands how many would like to see the dues raised, it was a majority. need to raise them.

**Report of ad hoc committes-** none

**CLA flags-** they are up and awesome- many positive comments- the photo on them is from Corey and was an award winning photo- Huge thanks to Mike Roberts and Denny Woodworth to putting them up and Casair for the boom truck.

**CLA sign-** see above

**Docks and bouys-** we were successful on the buoys – two were damaged and will be fixed. On the south side of the lake would like to mark the big rocks- we are getting a permit to put a danger buoy out there to help save boaters. Discussion about white mooring buoy is possible. We are working on it.

**Siburt-** she appreciates all that she has been through but would like to respectively resign- she has been very helpful – acceptance of resignation- **Passed**

**Nominations.** – Kanitz and Eaton to nominate Kim Morgan- Eaton to nominate John Rydbeck- close the nominations- **PASSED**

**Adjournment** Motion by A. Meinhardt and seconded by M. Anderson- **PASSED** at 11:49 am.

**THANK YOU TO ALL FOR ATTENDING.**

*Rory Eaton*  
577-202 5207