

## Minutes of the 2016 Annual Meeting of RALALA

The 2016 Annual Meeting of RALALA met on July 9, 2016 at 3:00 p.m. in the Crooked Lake Town Hall. President Bob Lee called the meeting to order.

The Treasurers Report was offered by John Rowell

Checking

Savings

Total

As of July, there were 96 members and 18 advertisers. Last year, 85 members and the year before, 127. He thanked the support of the membership in the raffle and pork roast sale. After the decision to have businesses advertise rather than be members we set a goal of 22 and will be short 2 of that quota after the receipt of 2 that are coming in. He asked the membership to let us know if they don't see an advertiser they would like to have in the newsletter.

Sandra Dee has resigned from the board due to family obligations. We are appreciative of her contributions and hope she will be back at some time. Anne Bonnerup was added to the board last year through the power of the Board. Three members of the board have offered to serve again, Denny Neill, Jackie Evans, and Linda VanStraaten. Roger Brekken offered a motion to re-elect those board members, Jan Mosman seconded. Motion carried. Bob mentioned that the Board can have 13 members and there are 2 openings and any volunteers should see him after the meeting or contact him.

There was a successful water safety class just prior to the meeting. A member of the audience commented that she had taken the class as an adult and encouraged others to do it as it can lead to reduced insurance premiums.

The DNR was presented by Roger Brekken. There will be a fall meeting with the DNR. He encouraged any questions or issues that need to be brought up to be sent to him, or sign up. He will report through the newsletter.

Membership by Darril Wegscheid. Diana Lee was at the door and can take new and renewed memberships today. John Rowell has the up to date accounts. He offered the new brochures.

Darril Wegscheid stated that the pipeline issue is not in crisis at this time. The plan at this time possibly carries two pipelines south of the fish hatchery. He demonstrated the watershed area and stated that we will be door knocking for membership as we would like membership from other lakes in the area. The rifle raffle drawing will be the Saturday of Labor Day Weekend. There is no price change for membership and he thanked everyone for their EQI donations and those which have been made through wills and donations in lieu of flowers.

Linda VanStraaten reported that the Woods Bay project is going slowly and they are hoping to sign in August. A lawyer has been hired to help the State and Linda.

Shirt orders. The price is now \$26.63, they come in white and turquoise. Go on website under merchandise or call Bob Lee to order.

Pork shoulder sale. Linda Van Straaten had a crew to do 43 pork shoulders. The last one was delivered today.

Jan Mosman reported on the Go North project. She stated that the purpose of the project is to better interest people in the area and promote the area to run a business, move here, keep out invasive species. She stated that there is \$50,000 to develop the area. A Quality of Life team picked water quality as a top pick for Little Pine, Fairview, and Emily. Crooked Lake is also involved and seasonal people are welcome.

Raffle tickets are available for sale and members were encouraged to sign up to help.

Lloyd Thyen reported that signs have been prepared for the decontamination unit. There is a big sign by the hardware store and the gas station. He commented that this AIS program was initiated by Ed Evans. There are also signs to encourage decontamination of boats. Decontamination is Friday, Saturday and Sundays, 8-6. He said that Cass County is using their money very well and have inspectors on three sites. Mr. Thyen said that Gary Langer is the Ralala representative to the Crooked Lake AIS committee and it was his idea for the big sign. When asked about compliance, he said that if the Level 1 inspector believes there has to be a decontamination of a boat he has the option of calling law enforcement. Most boat cleaning is voluntary and the volume is not high, possibly 5 or 6 a day. Jack VanStraaten asked about zmews (zebra mussel early warning system) which hang about a foot off the bottom of the lake from a dock. There was a demonstration of what a zmew looks like and Bob Lee said that he has extra pipe that can be cut for anyone that wants it. Bob Lee applied for and got a permits for public dock coverage with zmews. In addition to the hours from the county inspectors, it was hoped to fill in with DNR interns, but the DNR could not get enough, so very few additional hours were covered each month. The Cass County program designated 260 inspector hours on Roosevelt in July and 160 on Lawrence and the decontamination unit. Bob Lee stated that he has made application to the Emily Waters Committee for a grant from the \$14,000 provided to the Committee from the Emily Council. Some of those funds have been devoted to an educational campaign, which was postcards to all property owners. There have been approved grants to Ruth, Emily and Mary Lakes to fight milfoil. Ralala has applied for additional inspectors. Approval might come as early as the coming Tuesday. Darril moved for letters of appreciation to Cass County, Lloyd Thyen, and Ed Evans. Jack VanStraaten seconded and the membership approved. There is also testing of water samples for veligers and you are encouraged to call the DNR if you find them. Bob Lee will put the necessary numbers on the website. A member expressed concern about a light off at the landing.

Greg Koch reported on the Water Safety Committee. The program today had 3 adults and 11 young people. The Committee is still having difficulty getting volunteers for the water patrol. Water safety by Greg Koch 3adults and 11 kids today having trouble getting vol for water patrol. Taking the class can reduce insurance by 20%.

Bob Lee reported a contribution to Ruth Lake for their emergency treatment for zebra mussels. Art Patterson of that group said at this time they have found 0 veligers and an extensive search of the bottom of Ruth Lake by =ruth lake =we made contribution to help them with emergency trx for zebra mussels. art Paterson said found 0 veligers and extensive search of bottom of lake by 3 divers, 8 hours each, found no mussels.

Darril Wegscheid said that the lake associations cover two townships and two counties with ACCL working with the resorts. He said that he tries to stay in touch with LARA and the Pine River watershed, which we are part of. try to stay in touch with them and to meet with legislators.

Darril also spoke about the proposed pipelines which want to come through Cass County and Spire Valley to get to Lake Superior. The PUC and lawsuits have pushed the timeline back and the Courts have ordered EIS reports. Friends of the Headwaters are also campaigning on this issue. A member indicated the issue that the information given at the meeting and by the pipelines do not agree.

We are eligible for an offer Amazon, Amazon Smile, which will make a donation of 1/2%. Bob Lee will put a notice of this offer in the newsletter. Bob also asked that the membership contact board members if they have ideas for fund raisers.

Dave Johnson asked about the success of Emily treating right away. Bob Lee stated that Ruth Lake was unusual in that the mussels found were most like from a piece of equipment or the rental property and it was treated quickly.

Roger Brekken stated that beverages and pizza from the Pickled Loon, which were donated at 1/2 price were ready.

A motion was made to adjourn at 4:30 by Darril Wescheid and Peggy ? seconded.

Respectfully submitted:

Jacquelin K. Evans, Secretary