

RALALA Board Meeting

Friday, July 28, 2017 9 a.m.

Present: Bob Lee, John Rowell, Ann Bonnerup, Roger Brekken, Darril Weigsheid and Mikie Walker

- 1) There were no minutes from last meeting
- 2) Treasurer's Report:

John reported that the 2017 budget is looking good. We have \$215.74 in checking; \$22,587.98 in savings; \$16,921.93 in the Milfoil account, for a total of \$39,715.65

- 3) Membership

We have 185 paid memberships, plus another 5 which have not been processed.

We are 10 memberships short of this time last year.

49 members who have paid memberships in the past, but are not up to date this year

We are 50 members short of Darril's membership goal for 2017 of 250. He continues to work on that. All of our advertisers except two have paid.

Grants received year to date total \$ 11,300.00. \$ 6,300 is from the City of Emily; \$5,000 from Cass County, both to be used to treat milfoil.

Darrill states that the membership drive continues with door to door visits from board members. Communication is key to regaining and keeping members.

- 4) Milfoil

Conditions were perfect on July 10th, the day the lake was treated. Bob stated that we will probably never find and kill all of the plants in any season and that it will be a continuing problem. In addition, the DNR does not allow treatment of single plants, only beds. The plants we are finding are growing in a narrow depth zone which may increase in future years.

Roger talked about a diving bag with which to retrieve a single plant that would keep the plant from disintegrating on the way up. Ann said she thought she had two such bags in her garage and would see to it that Roger got them. He will attempt to do some retrieval with his snorkel and mask. Properties were posted with a bright colored signs where treatment took place and were to be kept in place for a certain amount of time. No one called Bob to ask not to be treated. There were a lot of calls with lots of questions, indicating that people had seen news stories and newsletter communications and were concerned.

- 5) Love our Waters event on August 5th at Luscher Park in Outing.

Bob and Gary made parts for 30-35 Z-mews for kids to assemble under a tent at the event.

Mary Kowalski acquired 24 assembled units from ACCL. If we are distributing them at this event, we would like to know if people will be using them. Darril, Ann and Gary will cover the Z-mew table

6) Raffle ticket sales

Canopy needs to be repaired. Darril is working on that. Ticket sales are going well. Table will be covered well at Grannies for the Lions Corn Feed on the 19th of August. Discussion about who would be at the Village Inn on the night of the raffle to sell tickets.

7) Lake Improvement District (LID)

Bob has done research into creating an LID for treating milfoil. It is a difficult and massive project. Cass County has no rules – two new commissioners are deciding now whether or not there should be rules. Crow Wing County has many rules – you can check their website or obtain them in hard copy. Essentially, they require signatures of a 60% supermajority of property owners – and most likely, they cannot all be from South Roosevelt. Bob is willing to meet with the 3-5 individuals who spoke up at the Annual Meeting about wanting a LID in order for all lake property owners to share the in the cost of treating the invasive species that will continue to plague our lakes. These individuals will all investigate the process, share information and get the facts from the new Water Protection Specialist who took the place of Mitch Brinks of the Land Services Department for Crow Wing County. Bob will contact these interested individuals and arrange the meeting.

8) Other Business

Darril reported on the water testing (Secchi) and says that he has 4-5 more people who have volunteered to help with the water testing. All five lakes are now covered.

Discussion took place about testing the water near the Pestello property (Pickled Loon) for e-coli.

Discussion took place concerning water clarity issues. A Secchi reading was reported at 8.5 feet on 7/14/2017 in the very deepest part of Roosevelt. This reading was about the same this time last year. We do have an algae bloom going on every summer and no one is sure why.

Cass County does not have a set schedule for septic inspection. Emily inspects septics every 5 years.

Roger made a motion that we get an estimate on costs to have water tested on North and South Roosevelt for e-coli and have a DNA test done to see if the problem at the Pickled Loon and either side of their docks are possibly from their damaged septic system. Darril seconded the motion. All were in favor.

Roger made a motion that the meeting be adjourned.

Darril seconded. Meeting adjourned.