

Hubbard County Coalition of Lake Associations (HC COLA)

Draft Minutes of The Board of Director's Meeting; Thursday 2/27/2020

5:30 PM Refreshments & Social, 6 PM Meeting - Northwoods Bank Community Room

“HC COLA is the Leader in Protecting Hubbard County Lakes and Rivers” <http://www.hubbardcolamn.org/>

- 1 Meeting called to order by Sharon Natzel, President.
 - a. Thank you to meeting hosts: Long Lake, Tripp Lake and Twin Lakes
 - b. Pass the microphone introductions: 18 member lakes represented with 34 attendees.
- 2 John Weber gave a slide presentation on “Butterflies, Dragonflies and Stewardship.” He shared pictures of over 100 butterfly species and nearly 40 dragonfly species he has taken over the years. He stressed the importance of providing a variety of plants for all stages of the butterflies' lives. Not only are nectar producing flowers needed, but also a variety of trees, shrubs and other plants for the caterpillars to feed on.

A buffer zone at the lakeshore is especially important for dragonfly survival as there is over a 90% mortality rate when dragonflies emerge at the water's edge. The buffer zone provides cover and protection for the emerging insects. Not only do dragonflies feed on mosquitoes and other insects in their adult life, they also feed on mosquito larva in their underwater larval stage. Both water and terrestrial stewardship practices are needed for dragonfly survival and propagation.

The presentation can be found at <http://www.hubbardcolamn.org/presentations.html>

3. Business Meeting:
 - a. Quorum verified
 - b. Consent approval for the 10/31/2019 minutes
 - c. Motion by Wayne Swanson and seconded by Gene Hanson to approve the Treasurer's report. Passed.
 - d. A reminder was given that applications for the HC COLA Charitable Grant are due 3/1/2020. More information & the application can be found at <http://www.hubbardcolamn.org/hc-cola-charitable-fund--grant.html>
 - e. Opportunities
 - i. MN Bee and Lawns to Legumes pollinator program – An initiative by BWSR to make lawns more pollinator friendly. A class based on Metro Blooms and Blue Thumbs was held in Bemidji recently. Additional information and helpful resources can be found on the website at <http://www.hubbardcolamn.org/more-resources.html>. Lake associations are encouraged to provide the link in their newsletters.

The HC COLA website has updated links. “Score the Shore”, “Score Your Shore”, “Restore the Shore” and “Restore Your Shore” were explained and how to access on the website. Resources for shoreline improvement can be found at <http://www.hubbardcolamn.org/score--restore-your-shore.html>
 - ii. KARE 11, Summer Olympics and “Cabin Cast” Wildlife Forever – A request from Wildlife Forever was made to help finance an ad to be run on KARE 11 during their “Cabin Cast” feature on Thursday nights and during the Summer Olympics.
 - iii. Township annual meetings, Tuesday 3/10/2020 – A reminder that the meetings will be held and plans for supplemental funding for inspections should be made payable by 1/31/2021. It was noted that one additional township and the city of Laporte are providing funding for Garfield Lake inspections.
 - iv. North American Lake Managements Society (NALMS) – The 40th International Symposium of NALMS will be held in Minneapolis on November 16-20. 2020. The focus will be “Leveraging Experience to Manage Diverse Lakes, Landscapes and People” It was suggested that perhaps if a number of people are interested in attending, more sessions that are occurring at the same time during the conference could be visited and reported on for HC COLA. Possible scholarships may be determined depending on interest. More information at <https://www.nalms.org/>
 - v. Get the Lead Out Initiative – The MPCA has an initiative to reduce the lead poisoning of loons by promoting the use of lead-free fishing tackle. Additional information can be found at the

following links:

<http://www.startribune.com/money-to-prevent-lead-poisoning-of-loons-released-to-mpca/568022312/>

<https://www.pca.state.mn.us/living-green/nontoxic-tackle-lets-get-lead-out>

<https://www.allaboutbirds.org/news/lead-fishing-tackle-is-still-a-problem-for-common-loons/>

Samples of lead-free tackle were shared and members were encouraged to use. Our fair booth may want to have a display promoting “get the lead out.” A letter to the legislative committee addressing the issue was sent by the E-Team. Federal funding being held up was approved by the legislative committee.

- vi. An MLR draft letter addressing the recommendation of a mandatory watercraft operator's permit was shared. Small group discussions were held and suggestions, concerns and questions were shared. No action is needed at this time.
- f. Committee Reports – Water Monitoring: The cost of testing has been increased \$10 this coming year to \$245. Veliger and spiny waterflea composite testing will be \$118 per sample. Chloride can be tested for \$11 per sample. The date for training and pick-up of monitoring supplies is set at May 13. Dates for Starry Trek, restore your shore and other events were shared.

Additional committee reports are found at

http://www.hubbardcolumn.org/uploads/3/4/5/6/34563649/cr_2020_02_27.pdf

4 What's Happening on Your Lake?

Tripp Lake is a small lake that holds a Fourth of July flotilla each year. They celebrate Pi Day but because of muddy conditions last year, it was postponed until June.

Long Lake has been monitoring chloride the past two years. A new Master Gardner is planning on assisting some on the lake in how to provide greater stewardship of water and shoreline by different plantings. This may be a model more lake associations may want to implement, learning more from <https://itascawaters.org/shoreland-advisors> and Bemidji.

Twin Lakes had a Mardi Gras party recently. Large deer herds and flocks of turkeys have been observed. Ice fishing has been limited.

Potato Lake reports great success with the monitoring of the two accesses on the lake. Positive comments have been heard.

- 5 Next meeting will be held on March 26, 2020 with social at 5:30pm and the meeting starting at 6:00pm. Blue, Portage and Big Sand will be lake hosts. The presenter will be Steve Henry of RMB Environmental Labs speaking on “Your Lake Preservation Program.”

- 6 Motion by Lynn Goodrich and seconded by Deb Massey to adjourn. Passed

Respectively submitted
Keith Minkel, Secretary