

Cedar Lake Association

Meeting Minutes

12/5/19

I. Call to order

Theresa Payea called to order the regular meeting of the Cedar Lake Association at 7:00PM on Dec 5, 2019 at Monkton Methodist Church.

II. Roll call

Theresa Payea; Roll call; Lee Kauppila, Melody Daigle, Tim Bouton, Barb Torian, Kevin Corrigan, Theresa Payea

III. Approval of minutes from last meeting

Theresa Payea; no minutes to report first meeting

- a) For future meeting

IV. New Business – Key discussions were milfoil infestation and rising waters due to lack of beaver dam control. Association needed to free up shore and channels from infestations and to clear up the mass of invasive species.

A) Key topic of Milfoil.

Discussed a milfoil removal device to clear shore; Lee has a tool with a central hand held stem and two blades that extend out. Metal on the piece will cut off milfoil and weeds at the root level. Lee offered to share it as well. It is legal to pull by motorboat without a permit to clear weeds. The most effective is a swimming float with a pump, like a trash pump – that is 3 or 4 inch diameter. This pulls out the milfoil from the mud and deposits into a cage onto another float. This is in commercial use on Lake Champlain now and is a viable option, we need a permit only if it has a motor. Once the process is motorized like a pump it puts you in a different category.

The weevil is a good solution, weevils are released and they eat the milfoil. They worked well but the program was abandoned as they will go down about 10 feet and our pond is 12 to 15 feet in areas so they don't get it all. There is no risk of introducing an invasive species with weevils. We can purchase a trash pump on a raft that works well. People also hire barges for use. Kevin Corrigan and Tim Bouton have volunteered to seek options for milfoil management. Pond water level control would go hand in hand with weevil option.

B) Key topic of Beaver Dam Control – This has been noted as an emergent situation.

Water levels are currently 18 – 24 inches higher than normal. The beaver dam control device controlled the water level. Lee investigated the outflow via canoe and saw how in recent years the lily pads have congested the outflow stream. Lee got in and looked at the status of the beaver control device and the north end of the pond. North east end of the pond is where the beaver device is. The North end wet land is where the stream travels through. Upon Lee's arrival he found the cage and there is a flexible conduit on top of the dam that is plugged up with mud. The conduit was pulled out of the cage and broke in half with an open end and it appears it has not been working for a couple of years. Over the past couple of years someone went in and cleaned up the dam a bit. Some cases it is necessary for the beaver dam to be blown up in 4 or 5 places every two or three years to keep up.

VT Fish and Wildlife put in beaver control device and will no longer maintain it. The Fish and Wildlife did confirm they would no longer upkeep the device since it was not a manmade pond and the beavers continued to dismantle it. It will be up to the lake owners to do so. We need to mount an effort to consult the appropriate people to control and repair the device regularly. Lee was provided with two references from Fish and Wildlife to seek help with the dam build up and the beaver dam control device. It is one solution to contact the beaver control consultants and have them implement the control device again. We need to get a quote. Another option is to bring in a beaver expert and establish a spring time work day to reinstall the control device. The danger to the shoreline is immediate and the camp fronts are at risk. We may have access over the ice as well.

C) Cedar Lake Association reboot/action items

- A) Fun fact. The pond was built on remnants of a bog. Search Monkton Pond on google and you will come up with a chapter to an old biology book, scanned from Middlebury library. It shows Geologists mapping out the pond with plans to mine it and spread it as fertilizer as it was so high in calcium.
- B) We are setting up a group e mail chain. Secretary reached out on Front Porch forum and Monkton facebook for e-mail addresses to add to the chain soliciting new and old members..
- C) Association may have about \$10,000.00 available. We need to contact the previous treasurer and find out how to release some of the funds for a beaver consultant. Bill Fisk was the treasurer in the past.
- D) Need to research bylaws and what is involved in a relaunch of the association. Theresa and Barb will follow up on association details. Lee and Melody will follow up on beaver control device options. Kevin and Tim to seek and research milfoil control options.

Posted to community Front Porch Forum and Monkton facebook page.

Cedar Lake Association Meeting Update

Meeting was held on Thursday night and we discussed the relaunch of the association. We would like to request that if you are interested in being part of the association please PM me with your e-mail address and we will include you on the detailed notes. We had a great start. Immediate tasks we have assigned to the attendees are:

1. Retrieval of information such as bylaws, officer positions, permits and becoming familiar with the history of the association as well as resources that are available for a relaunch. Learning from our predecessors is key.
2. To seek and research Milfoil control options - mainly the Weevil at this time.
3. Status and repair of the Beaver Control Device, we considered this a priority at this time.

V. Adjournment

Theresa Payea adjourned the meeting at 8:00pm.

Minutes submitted by: Name

Minutes approved by: Name