

Crystal Lake & Watershed Association
Annual Meeting
Saturday, July 20, 2013
Community Building, Congregational Summer Assembly
Pilgrim, MI

MINUTES

Attendance: 138 proxies submitted; 48 additional members registered in person; total of 186 eligible votes. (Additional non-members in attendance and members present in person who had previously submitted proxies were not counted).

Call to order:

President Joel Buzzell called the meeting to order at 9:35 a.m. He announced that a quorum of members (including proxies) was present. He thanked the Congregational Summer Assembly for the use of its meeting space.

Minutes:

The minutes from the 2012 annual meeting have been reviewed and have been posted on the CLWA website. The formal actions taken were the election of new board members and officers, and several technical bylaws amendments. Reading of the minutes was waived without objection, and they were approved.

President's report:

President Buzzell introduced the members of the board of directors who were present. He presented an overview of CLWA programs and the work of its standing committees, and urged all non-members present to join the organization and encourage others to do so.

He reported that Crystal Lake remains very clean, but the year has brought challenges. This spring saw unusually high lake levels: CLWA is exploring ways to better monitor and manage the lake levels. Benzie County's weekly testing for *e coli* in the lake has found occasional high levels, apparently the result of runoff after rain storms.

Swimmer's itch continues to be a major problem affecting enjoyment of the lake. CLWA's approach is two-fold: employing methods to break the parasitic cycle that causes infestation and exploring means that swimmers can use to individually protect themselves.

CLWA is working actively to prevent the introduction of invasive species into Crystal Lake. Last year it raised the funds to construct a boat washing facility at the new public Crystal Lake Boating Access Site near Mollineaux Road, and has secured passage of ordinances requiring boat washing in all townships surrounding Crystal Lake.

Treasurer's report:

Treasurer Bob Schmidt reported that the Association's finances are strong and referred to the financial statements published in the CLWA directory.

Nominating committee report and election of officer and board members:

President Buzzell expressed appreciation to the at-large board members who are retiring: Eddie Ellsworth, Roger Perry, and Phil Downs

The nominating committee, chaired by Wanda Shreiner, presented the following slate and had distributed brief résumés of the nominees.

Officer for two-year term (to 2015):

Treasurer – Bob Schmidt (for reelection)

At-large board members for three-year terms (to 2016):

Stacy L. Daniels (reelection)

Ted Fisher

Ron Green

James Hamp

John E. (Jack) Maurer

Hugh Walton (reelection)

The nominations were seconded; there were no nominations from the floor. The slate was elected.

Discussion

There was no further old business or new business. There were questions from the audience, most of them concerning swimmer's itch.

President Buzzell introduced Al Flory, who described his work last summer testing the product Swimmer's Itch Guard cream. The product did not prove to be as effective as its manufacturer claims. Flory intends to test additional products next summer.

Adjournment:

The business meeting was adjourned at 10:05 a.m.

Informational program:**Betsie River and Crystal Lake Watershed Management Plan**

Ed Hoogterp, who is overseeing a two-year project to create a management plan for the Crystal Lake and Betsie River watershed, described the work that is under way. It is funded by a grant from the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality to the Northwest Michigan Council of Governments. The CLWA is the lead group of the several taking part in this process.

The project will address the following questions: What do we have? What do we want? And how do we get from A to B? When completed the plan must be designed to maintain or improve water quality, meet standards for full-body contact recreation, protect or improve the fishery, protect navigation, and include public education. There will be broad community involvement in the entire process. Issues of ongoing concern will be nutrients in the lake, erosion, biological contamination (such as *e coli* and the cercariae that cause swimmer's itch), roads/traffic, invasive species, and water levels. The final report is expected in 2015.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Ellen Herscher". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial "E".

Ellen Herscher, Secretary

(Minutes approved July 19, 2014)