

PCLA MINUTES 3/28/23

Dave Harris opened the meeting at 6:40 p.m. Dave Droste, Mary Netzky, Marty Walker, John Dolansky, John Brockschmidt, and Chuck Kneese were present.

Greg Warner submitted his resignation from the board to Dave H. He did not offer information on why, but all commented on how he would be missed.

Chuck asked if Wayne had decided about burning the phragmites stand. Marty said that Ray and Wayne had checked the stand and decided there wasn't that much to burn.

Chuck moved to approve the minutes from the February meeting. Dave D. seconded, and all approved.

Treasurer's Report

John D. said that Jule submitted a bill for \$250. About 20 people had paid dues through PayPal. John will ask Wayne if he has picked up the PCLA mail. John D. will also give the financial report at the April board meeting, containing the financial statements.

Watershed Report

Marty said that Ray talked to Doug Fry, and Marty talked to Noah at Tip of the Mitt about getting four pots of beetles in July, with 300-400 beetles total. She said that the cost would be dependent on how many pots are ordered by others in the area, with an approximation of \$150. One pot will be placed on Iduna Creek, one by the west side of the locks, and two on Crooked Lake. Marty called the Army Corps of Engineers about replacing the buoy markers, which have still not been replaced. They are still waiting on a decision about price, but markers will be put in when others are replaced in Mullett Lake.

Little Traverse Conservancy

John B. said that the article about the Black Hole was printed in the Conservancy newsletter. He sent an email with a pdf to the board and suggested that PCLA should send out a MailChimp notice to the membership with the article and a brief message attached. Dave H., JohnD., and Dave D. all agreed, and John D. suggested that perhaps Gail could preview the email for her opinion. John B. will work on writing that message.

Membership

Since Gail is absent, this information will be postponed until the April meeting. Dave D. has been in touch with Jule, who has 230 photos for the website. He asked her to estimate how much time she has spent on incorporating them into the website and will follow up on this in writing.

Dave H. and Dave D. visited Personal Graphics, Inc. recently and talked to the owner, ordered lock decals, and discussed the status of the merchandise and developing a website for ordering items with the PCLA logo directly. Dave H. would like to have this operational by Memorial Day with shirts, tote bags, hats, and hoodies. The website will be sent out by MailChimp. Dave H. asked about the type of royalty that we should arrange. Dave D. said that it should be a percentage. John D. said that a percentage could be used to support the association, and that purchases are also free advertising. Dave D. said that the percentage should be designated as a donation. John B. will research how to word this idea on the web page for orders and on the receipt page. All agreed that 10% would be appropriate. Marty thought that all board members should wear merchandise with the logo. Dave H. thinks that we would be spreading recognition of PCLA. Mary asked about the availability of more stylish t-shirts. Dave H. suggested sending out a MailChimp that informs members about the decals and merchandise. Dave D. will prepare the MailChimp but would like to wait to make sure that the website is all set. He suggested that there might be several emails instead of just one.

Marty suggested that the board think about nominations to replace Greg. John D. suggested we check the by-laws for the replacement of a member in the middle of a term. John B. will ask Dudley about those that might be a replacement and how and when to recruit.

John D. suggested that we list topics that the board is working on in order to drive public interest, concern, and motivation to attend meetings. Dave D. suggested that we make it clear that members could attend board meetings as well as the annual meetings, but John D. said he was only referring to increasing attendance at annual meetings and membership. Marty suggested asking the Crooked Lake Yacht Club if they would share information about PCLA. Chuck said that the Yacht Club is growing and that maybe those members don't know about PCLA. Marty added that people using the Yacht Club may not own lake property but still use the lakes, which might also be true of the Petoskey Outboard Motor Club, another possible connection.

Dave D. went to the Crooked River Consortium, at which Rich Ginop was elected president. Data showed that in 2022, 2,262 boats passed through the Crooked River Locks compared to 2,643 in 2021, producing decreased revenue. This decrease caused the locks to be under budget by \$2300 and is projected to be as much as \$5000 under budget for 2023. If the locks are short again this year, then rates will have to be increased. The Army Corps of Engineers approved a six figure budget which includes maintenance and a new generator. They also need two extra people to operate the locks this year. Once the ice is gone, the county will raise the level of the lakes to its normal level. There are four gauges around the lakes, but some didn't work and will be replaced. The lock's staff, however, uses their own gauges. Dave H. asked for extra comments, with John D adding that he will be providing financial statements for the quarter ending March 31 at the April meeting and applauded all the new board members.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:59 p.m.