PCLA MINUTES 4/23/24

The meeting was convened at 6:34 by Dave Harris, president. Mary Netzky, John Dolansky, John Brockschmidt, Gail Mary, Ron Kardosh, Marty Walker, Ana Schwab, and Ray McMullen attended. Dave reminded the board that it needs to think about goals to pursue and about succession of the presidency after this year. He is not planning to continue in that role after his third year.

Dave said he has 1000 red magnets with the lock schedule from Info Graphics and asked how many should be held back for board members and general members. He will take the bulk of them to the lock operator on the upcoming weekend. Dave suggested that 10 per board member for a total of 110 could be reserved.

There was a discussion about in-person meetings vs. Zoom. Most people supported in-person meetings in warmer months and Zoom in bad weather.

Secretary

Mary read the minutes, and John D. moved to accept the minutes. Ron seconded, and all approved.

Gail mentioned that the board still needs to fill the vacancy on the board. Dave encouraged the board to recruit new members. Gail questioned whether the board needs to endorse a prospective board member. Ana and John D. felt that it was a good policy. Dave said that if someone applies, then we can discuss him/her in our meeting. John D. said that traditionally we invite someone and then interview them. Dave said we should look among current members but should not advertise.

Treasurer

John D. reported that the winter quarter was slow in terms of transactions. One big expense was the membership mailing, which came in under budget. Our annual contribution to Tip of the Mitt is usually $1000, with an occasional extra $1000 for education. He suggested that we continue to contribute $1000 this year. Ron moved to send the money, and Gail seconded. All approved.

Communications

Gail spoke to Jule, who reported that 743 membership letters were sent out. There was good verification of mail addresses this year. All letters were personally addressed, with the mailing improving every year. She said that, in the past, Dudley would send out a letter thanking new members for joining. Gail suggested that Jule could write such a letter for future new members. She also proposed that Jule write thank you letters for donations made for memoriums and honorariums. Ana thought that we should maintain hand-written letters, with all board members taking turns. Gail felt that a form letter on the Association letterhead is still appreciated. John B. said that if there is a large donation, the letter should be personalized. Gail said that a majority of donations are small, and that the letters are short. John D. asked if Gail researches each person who is being remembered. Gail said that most are lake dwellers and long-time members, so are well-known. Dave said the board should revisit this topic in a future meeting. John D. and Gail said they would meet and discuss this outside of the meeting. John D. said that all larger donations are recognized personally.

Invasives

Marty said that there are three dates set for the possible treatment of EWM and curly leaf pondweed: 6/5, 7/17, and 8/14. The possibility for a phragmites treatment would be later. In order to assess how many beetles are needed, there must be a large area where purple loosestrife is growing. Marty has seen more purple loosestrife in other places beside county roads and ditches and wonders whether to report it. She won't order beetles for this year, but will continue the list of monitors. Marty asked if all board members will continue for this year. Ray said that the invasives are currently controlled but monitors need to be vigilant. European milfoil is being well controlled by The Windjammer Development.

Ana asked if the board sends out a newsletter at the beginning of the season to welcome and thank PCLA members for their hard work and to remind members to be mindful of invasives. She volunteered to draft such a letter and will send out a MailChimp for Memorial Day. Ray volunteered to be involved with writing the letter.

Black Hole Acquisition

John B. said that Ana sent a letter to the board about the Little Traverse Conservancy project. The letter asked if PCLA would be interested in helping support the purchase of more land. John D. said that there was about $17,000 of possible funds in the land fund and more in the general fund. He suggested a matching fund for members. Ana said that she and Oliver will keep donating to help with the purchase. Ray asked what the goal for the purchase was. Ana said that the goal was $181,000, but $121,000 has already been raised. The deadline is December 2024. John D. suggested that we wait a few months and then decide how much is needed. Ana said that she could communicate to LTC right away that PCLA will commit to help. Dave asked where the property is and what the price is. Ana said that there are 17 acres leading up to the shoreline on the edge of LTC property. John D. suggested to vote now on the amount to donate. Ana volunteered to find the needed amount. Dave suggested to wait until more donations have been received. John D. agreed, but wanted to have the board agree to donate to assure the Conservancy. Dave said to delay the vote until next month's meeting after we have more information. Ana thanked the board, and both Dave and John D. thanked Ana and John B. for bringing information to the board.

Future Business

Dave asked about ideas for the annual meeting location. He suggested that Aug. 27 at the Crooked Lake Yacht Club is possible and will ask Chuck to talk to CLYC, since he is a member.

Dave asked if we should schedule another Hot Dog Day. Gail said, yes, because it is beneficial. Dave said he thought it was helpful and fun, too. John D. said it's becoming an anticipated event. Dave and Wayne will talk and get organized. Marty suggested that we should print an informational 5 X 7 card about PCLA so folks can find out who we are. Ray suggested that we could use a mailer to hand out the information. Ana suggested that a tag could be attached to the key chain with our information. Dave said we will decide on this for the next meeting, and he and Wayne will decide on the date.

Dave said that we should decide what date for our next meeting. Marty said that we could poll members. No one objected to May 21, followed by the next meeting on June 25. There are usually no meetings in July. Mary said that she would be absent on June 25. John B. volunteered to take minutes. August is the annual member meeting.

Ana asked for volunteers for water quality monitoring. Ron Kardosh volunteered. Marty asked if anyone wanted to attend a CLYC meeting, since we are considering more involvement with them. Dave initially said he and Lisa could present the idea to CLYC about cooperation and then discuss it at the May meeting, but then said it might be better to ask Chuck to connect before August.

Dave closed the meeting at 8:04.