

NORTH CHAIN LAKE ASSOCIATION

Minutes

Saturday, September 17, 2022
Promedica Conference Center, Coldwater

The meeting of the North Chain Lake Association was called to order by President Terry Reen at 9:59 am at the Promedica Conference Center, Coldwater, MI.

NCLA Board Members included:

President:	Terry Reen	present
Vice-President:	Dennis Dirschell	present
Secretary:	Carolyn Morrison	present
Treasurer:	Colleen Humphrey	present
Director:	Tom Duff, Jr.	present
Director:	Mike Reen	present
Director:	Carl Murdock	present

Quorum: According to the Treasurer, Colleen Humphrey a quorum WAS present for conducting business.

Acceptance of Previous Meeting Minutes (May 14, 2022): Dwight Woodman made a motion, seconded by Mike Reen to accept the minutes. The motion passed. Minutes on file.

Acceptance of Treasurer's Report:

The Treasurer's report was presented by Treasurer, Colleen Humphrey.

Beginning Balance:		\$7,899.23
Income Collected	:	\$ 810.00
Expenses:		\$ 268.94
Ending Balance:		\$8,440.29

Mike Reen made a motion, seconded by Dwight Woodman to accept the Treasurer's report. The motion passed. Complete report on file.

OLD BUSINESS: none

NEW BUSINESS: the North Chain Lake Association is celebrating its 25th Anniversary this year.

Boat Flags: Terry shared the idea of having NCLA flags with our logo on them at a cost of \$25-\$30. A poll will be taken on Facebook.

SPECIAL REPORTS:

Drain Commissioner, Mike Hard shared that his department administrates the weed control program on the North Chain of Lakes. If you have any questions, call him. Progressive Engineering is the firm that surveys the lakes and hires the harvesters and sprayers. They have developed their own this year and many lake owners expressed what a good job they did this year. The maps show the GPS coordinates for spraying/harvesting. Again, if you have any questions, call Mike, (517) 279-4310. This office also controls the lake levels which are court ordered. Typically, the chain is a foot lower in the winter to allow for snow melting and spring rains.

Marine Patrol, Mike Spencer:

- Thank you for all the past donations.
- Two more boats are ordered and will be received this fall. They will be outfitted and put into service in 2023.
- Boater Safety classes: So far, 146 students have completed the classes. The last class will be October 15th at the Coldwater Lake Association building. A non-certified CPR class will also be taught. The main purpose of the boater safety education course is for the Branch County Marine Patrol Deputies to train knowledgeable, safe, and responsible boaters. Topics covered include general boating and water safety, navigational rules, causes and prevention of crashes, operation and fueling techniques, environmental concerns, and reporting responsibility. These classes will be a traditional classroom

setting, with a written exam requiring a 75% or better to pass. There's no age requirement, however, those under 12 years of age will need to be accompanied by an adult. Any motorized boat operator born after June 30, 1996, is required by law to pass an approved boater safety course and to carry a boater safety certificate. In addition, boater education is also required for all PWC operators born after December 31, 1978. Free lunch will be provided courtesy of Coldwater Lake Association.

It is possible to go online for the Boaters Education class. The website is www.boat-ed.com/Michigan. There is a fee for this online class. It is encouraged those taking a boater safety class to do so through the class offered by the Sheriff's Office, this allows for questions and interaction with other students, and the Marine Patrol Deputies. REGISTER ONLINE.

- The Marine Patrol stopped 288 boaters this year on Branch County lakes. Citations for Branch County lakes were issued to 28 boaters including one OWI with 266 warnings given. There were 5 accidents in 2022. Boaters are stopped if children under the age of six have a non-compliant life jacket on. They are offered the correct one on loan. Most stops are for incorrect navigating on a lake; it must be counterclockwise and to check registration. Two misdemeanors were issued for violating the no wake law.
- Buoys are permitted by the DNR, then the Marine Patrol puts them in the water. The buoys now have solar lights on them to make them visible at night. Concern was expressed about a need for a buoy on the Narrows sunken islands. Request was made to the DNR by the NCLA and denied. It was suggested the NCLA send a letter to the Sheriff, and he would request it from the DNR.
- Lights are required at night on all boats. Kayaks should use at least a white flashlight. Stronger, white lights are available at local Marinas.
- It was suggested by NCLA members that cameras and signs be put up on the no wake channels. This will be investigated.

Boat Wash, Tom Humphrey stated a new permanent boat wash can cost \$60-70 thousand dollars. There are three EGLE grants available.

1. Will not fund permanent Boat washes.
2. Invasive species grant requires 25% matching grant of \$9500 (NCLA has almost this amount), an audit (we don't have) and a measurable evaluation (none are available).
3. \$600,000 will fund a permanent boat wash. Tom will apply for this. A new permanent boat wash can cost \$37,000++. Tom continues to explore every possible means to get a boat wash on the North Chain possibly located at the Rotary Park launch. Boats spread aquatic invasive species from lake to lake.

Adjournment 10:49am, motion made by Bernie Hastings, seconded by Tom Duff, approved unanimously.

Next Meeting Dates: Saturday, May 13, 2023. Promedica Conference Center
Saturday, September 16, 2023. Tentative

Respectfully submitted,

Carolyn Morrison, Secretary
Facebook Group: North Chain Lake Association
Email address: Northchainlake@gmail.com
Website: www.NorthChain.com