

Cokato Lake Improvement Association
Quarterly Meeting
January 15, 2022
9:00am
GRACE HILL CHURCH

Attendees:

Louis King, Scott Maki, Jim Wood, Heather Coffelt, Rick Schultz, Alan & Tammy Hayda, Danney Winkelman, Troy Noor, Jaime Chelman and Rhonda Maki.

Call to Order at 9:10am

Motion: Scott Maki

Second: Jaime Chelman

Secretary Report: Minutes from 2021 Annual Meeting were read by Heather Coffelt

Motion to approve: Rick Schultz

Second: Jim Wood

Treasurer Report: Presented by Jim Wood

Motion to approve: Rhonda Maki

Second: Rick Schultz

Cokato Lake Improvement Association Treasurer Report

January 15, 2022

Fiscal Year to date

7/1/2021	Opening Balance	\$1,121.96
	Income	
	Dues and Donations	\$2,031.00
	Expenses	
	Annual Meeting	\$283.99
1/15/2022	Ending Balance	\$2,868.97

Member Fishing Report:

A couple members reported catching large amounts of 9-10 inch walleyes, in addition to some larger walleyes. Large quantities of smaller class size walleyes are promising for

our future fish population – it's also a good indicator our fish stocking efforts are working.

Another member reported catching large quantities of perch in the 6-7 inch range.

A few members said the crappie fishing this winter has been excellent – small and large size crappies.

Old Business:

Update on 3-year plan (Louis King):

Stage 1: Commercial Fishing – Carp Removal

- Commercial Fisherman has located the carp on our lake.
- He plans to remove approximately 100,000 lbs of carp the end of January or the beginning of February if all goes as planned.
- Ice conditions are conducive for the removal this winter and the fisherman has a market to sell the carp he harvests. Win/win scenario for Cokato Lake and the fisherman.
- The fisherman will not charge the lake association for the removal of the carp.
- Carp are competing with our panfish population – carp removal will be key for our panfish development.

Stage 2: Plan to stock additional Sunfish

- We plan to increase our sunfish stocking efforts this spring.
- In 2023, we will plan to double our sunfish stocking quantity from previous years
- The intent of stocking additional sunfish is to control the population of carp – sunfish eat carp eggs.

Stage 3: Vegetation Plan

- After we depopulate the carp in the lake and increase the sunfish stocking numbers – we will implement the Vegetation Plan (likely will be a 2024 project).
- Ideas include planting long stem bullrush plants in a couple small areas in the southwest and northwest corners of the lake.
- We plan to create a barrier around the vegetation to protect the plants from fish until their roots are strong enough. Plan to use orange snow fence and metal posts with zip ties to create the barrier.

Missing Buoy:

The buoy we purchased and placed on the rock ledge on the north side of the lake went missing the end of September. It was last seen along the shoreline on the west side of the rock ledge point – it was pushed against the shore under a fallen tree. By the time our member went back to try and retrieve it – the buoy was gone.

*****If anyone has seen the buoy or know where we can find it, please contact Louis King at 612-490-0482. Thank you!*****

Update on Membership:

- We currently have 56 active paid members for the 2021/2022 fiscal year.
- We have 39 members who paid for 2020/2021 but have not renewed their membership for 2021/2022 fiscal year.
- Our fiscal year runs from July to June.
- Yearly dues are \$35/family.
- We typically collect a majority of our dues at the annual meeting. If you did not attend the annual meeting or haven't paid your dues, please consider renewing your membership.
- **Please remit payment to:**
Cokato Lake Improvement Association
Attn: Jim Wood – Treasurer
2779 Nevens Ave SW
Cokato, MN 55321
- Yearly dues are VITAL to our association to maintain our fishing stocking efforts, our annual pork chop dinner and any other projects we decide to pursue for the betterment of Cokato Lake.
- Thank you for your participation in our association!

New Business:

Carp Removal:

- Commercial Fisherman plans to harvest carp the end of January or beginning of February 2022.

Fishing Stocking Plans for 2022:

- Plan to spend \$2,500 of association funds to stock walleye fry and sunfish.
- Approximately 50,000 walleye fry and 1,500 sunfish
- Decided not to stock crappies this year since the population seems to be very good.
- We decided to increase our sunfish stocking quantity in order to curb the carp population (sunfish eat carp eggs).
- We will gladly accept donations if anyone wants to help purchase additional quantities of fish to stock the lake.
- There were a few members present at the meeting who donated to fish stocking fund – thank you!
- One member suggested stocking hybrid jumbo perch and said he would be willing to pay for stocking the perch. Louis agreed to check with Rademacher (our source for our walleye fry and sunfish stocking). Rick Schultz said he will make some calls to research jumbo perch and discuss the plan with our DNR fishery contact.
 - o *Motion to approve Fish Stocking Plan: Rick Schultz*
 - o *Second: Louis King*

Cokato Lake Improvement Association's Vision for 2022:

- No ideas were presented at this meeting

- Louis asked all members in attendance to think of a project idea (something unrelated to fish) and bring suggestions to our next quarterly meeting in April.

Next Quarterly Meeting:

April 9, 2022 at 9am

Grace Hill Church – Cokato, MN

Meeting Adjourned at 10:12am

Motion: Scott Maki

Second: Jim Wood