

ISLAND CHAIN OF LAKES ASSOCIATION, INC

MEETING MINUTES August 14, 2022

HAWK'S RESORT

INTRODUCTION

- I. Call to order – President Karl Nordin called the meeting to order at 10:18 a.m. and opened with the pledge of allegiance. The speaker, Nick Stadnyk, spoke prior to the start of the meeting.
- II. Karl asked for new members to identify themselves. Chris Dalan and Kristi Thoreson (Eric), all from Island Lake, identified themselves as new members.
- III. Karl advised that the secretary's report had been emailed to everyone and asked the members if there were any discrepancies found. No discrepancies were noted and Mark Schmitt motioned to accept the published minutes and Tom Frank seconded the motion. The motion was passed by a unanimous voice vote.
- IV. Treasurer John Kowalewski advised that the current ICOLA membership is 251, with 232 members and 19 associate members. He thanked Dan Borreson for auditing the ICOLA's Annual Report. He gave the treasurer's report as follows:
 - a. Unrestricted funds total – \$22,378.38
 - b. Walleye account - \$19,458.24
 - c. Land acquisition - \$15,346.89
 - d. Shoreline Restoration - \$15,002.50Ted Hakala motioned to accept the treasurer's report and Tom Meisner seconded the motion. The motion passed by a unanimous voice vote.
- V. The committee reports were as follows:
 - a. Walleye committee – Rod Steege advised that all the plans the committee had planned have been completed and the committee is planning on meeting in October to plan next year. Spring spawning had been noticed and the DNR is planning a fall survey for the lakes. Karl added that the DNR stocks the lakes every odd year, typically at ten fingerlings per acre of lake.
 - b. Invasive species committee – Tom Frank advised that he has been working with Kent and others with the main focus on the Purple Loosestrife (PL). PL is in full bloom and the look "spikey" and have a square stem, which is unique. He said PL was noted in the bay on Chain Lake and at the north end of the Island/McCann Lake channel. He said if you want to dispose of PL you should cut the bloom off the plant, put it into a black garbage bag and burn the bag. DO NOT DISPOSE of the bag any other way. He advised that PL can take over an entire area and destroy native vegetation. Tom asked for volunteers, especially younger ones, to assist with the emplacement of beetles that eat the PL. Carol asked for a round of applause to thank Tom for his efforts, which was given.
 - c. Shoreline restoration committee. Carol advised that she will be contacting Nick Stadnyk and his Chippewa County counterpart, to discuss their funding programs for shoreline restoration, with the focus on restoration and water quality. She advised she has several handouts for members interested in an ICOLA shoreline restoration grant with the only requirements being the recipient being a property owner and a member of the ICOLA.
 - d. ICOLA Facebook page. Sandy Johnson advised that the Facebook page is now active with her and Eric Thoreson being the administrators. The page is non-commercial as there are other venues for marketers. She said that members could make posts such as having a dock for sale or the like. She added that within two hours of the page being created spam had been posted to the page which was promptly removed.
 - e. ICOLA store. Karl advised that anyone who had placed an order within the past month should see Mary to get their items. Mary said she plans on opening the store next April and new items are being researched.

V. NEW BUSINESS

- VI. Don Gunderson gave a report on the condition of channel on Island Lake leading to the dam. Don and nine other property owners on the channel have agreed to pay for the channel to be cleared of the overgrowth of plants in the channel, as the channel is becoming unnavigable. He stressed that they are not considering dredging the channel as the cost for that is approximately \$30,000. Don said the property owners would like the ICOLA's support, both financially but more importantly recognition of the need for the cleanup. He said there is a meeting with the DNR and other interested parties on Friday, August 19, 2022 at 9 am at his residence on School Rd and he requested ICOLA representation at that meeting. Don estimated the project to take about three years to complete. Karl thanked Don for all his research on the concern.
- IX. Karl reminded everyone that the Back 40 Snowmobile Club had a Corn Feed today at Adventure Awaits until 4:30 pm.
- X. Deb Krahn gave an update of the new pickleball courts in Weyerhaeuser. She advised that at the Weyerhaeuser Park the old two tennis courts have been converted into six new pickleball courts. She said she and Sandy Johnson are going to be releasing a schedule as to when pickleball games are being planned so that people who have never played pickleball can do so without having to invest in any equipment. The Weyerhaeuser pickleball court does have a Facebook page.
- XI. Karl then held the elections for the positions of President, Secretary, and Lake Representatives for Island and Chain Lakes.
- a. President – Karl announced that he had nominated for the President position. He then asked three times if there were any further nominations for the position with no other persons being nominated. He was selected by a unanimous voice vote.
 - b. Secretary - Karl announced that Kristi Thoreson had been nominated for the Secretary position. Karl then asked three times if there were any further nominations for the position with no other persons being nominated. Kristi was selected by a unanimous voice vote.
 - c. Island Lake Representative - Karl announced that Rick Krahn had been nominated for the Island Lake Representative position. Karl then asked three times if there were any further nominations for the position with no other persons being nominated. Rick was selected by a unanimous voice vote.
 - d. Clear Lake Representative - Karl announced that Larry Bins had been nominated for the Clear Lake Representative position. Karl then asked three times if there were any further nominations for the position with no other persons being nominated. Larry was selected by a unanimous voice vote.

SPEAKER – NICK STADNYK (Rusk County Conservationist and Development Dept.)

Nick spoke about the importance of shoreline protection as proper shorelines enhance habitat, aesthetics, water quality and property values. He said there are many ways to do shoreline protection and some of the methods are include logs structures pinned onto the shoreline, rain gardens, rain barrels and natural plantings. Nick advised that there are several grants available to assist with the costs of these projects.

A member asked Nick if there were grants to help with the erosion on the island. He replied that there probably were some grants that would assist with that. John Kowalewski advised that the center island on Island Lake is owned by the DNR while the two islands on Chain Lake are owned by the Federal Bureau of Land Management.

Nick advised that Rusk County has a new shoreline protection grant that will pay 50% of a project up to \$1,000 being reimbursed. They prefer not to do rip-rap because rip-rap does not allow for vegetation growth and it causes the water to heat up. The preference is log structures which allows for vegetation growth over the log structures. Nick said he can help with the permit process and typically Rusk Co. will waive any county permits if funding is approved for the county shoreline grant. The Rusk county grant is only for Rusk county residents. John Kowalewski advised that he understands that any placement into the water requires a DNR permit due to the lakes are designated as ASNRI (Area of Special Natural Resource Interest). Karl Nordin pointed out that the ICOLA grant is available for both Rusk and Chippewa county shoreline property owners that are members of the ICOLA.

Nick said the shoreline protection grant program will be emplacing a log structure on Potato Lake the early part of September. The project will be video recorded and recording will be put onto their website. He said the recording could be given to the ICOLA for our website. Sandy Johnson advised that TSB has video posted to their website on a project they had done.



2023 ICOLA Membership Form

Name _____

Check here if you were a member last year and all your contact information is the same

Mailing Address _____

City, State, Zip _____

Phone _____

Lake Address (if different) _____

City, State, Zip _____

I own ICOLA waterfront property I DO NOT own ICOLA waterfront property

Circle your Lake: Clear Lake / Chain Lake / Island Lake / McCann Lake

Newsletter delivery preference:

____ E-mail Newsletter (RECOMMENDED- also receive periodic important notifications)

E-Mail address _____

Additional E-mail address _____

(Please Print)

____ U.S. Postal (Will use primary address above if USPS is selected)

I am interested in helping with: _____

YEARLY FAMILY MEMBERSHIP \$10.00

ADDITIONAL DONATION _____

Your canceled check will serve as your tax deductible receipt.

Check here if donating more than \$50 to request a receipt.

Please make checks payable to: **Island Chain of Lakes Association, Inc.**

Mail To:

John Kowalewski - Treasurer

30961 117th St

New Auburn, WI 54757