

GULL CHAIN OF LAKES ASSOCIATION

ANNUAL MEETING

July 16, 2016, Lutheran Church of the Cross

The 2016 annual meeting of the Gull Chain of Lakes Association was called to order by Chair Uldis Birznieks at 10:05 a.m. in the community room of the Lutheran Church of the Cross in Nisswa. Approximately thirty people were in attendance.

On motion by Kevin Egan, seconded by Bob Toborg, the minutes of the 2015 annual meeting were approved as presented.

Treasurer's Report: Rosemary Goff presented the treasurer's Report. The ending cash balance for calendar year 2015 was \$124,486.04 with total income of \$129,868.50 and expenses of \$100,904.34. For 2016, the cash balance as of June 30 was \$152,574.79 with income of \$79,070.00 and expenses of \$51,290.78. It was pointed out that \$65,000 has been set aside in an AIS Contingency Fund.

Chair Birznieks introduced the board members.

Confirmation of Directors: Chair Birznieks presented the names of the following board members for reappointment for three year terms: Uldis Birznieks, Robert Eliason, Marv Meyer and Bob Toborg.

Motion by Arla Johnson, seconded by Patience Barnes that Uldis Birznieks, Robert Eliason, Marv Meyer and Bob Toborg be reelected for three year terms. **Passed**

Sheila Johnston's name was placed in nomination for a three year term to replace Ron Faust. Sheila provided background information about herself.

Motion by Pat Maccabee, seconded by Tom Chaney that Sheila Johnston be elected to the Board for a three year term. **Passed**

News and notes: Chair Birznieks presented a Financial Summary through June, 2016. He also reported that:

1. The mission statement has been changed to reflect that individuals, families and businesses are welcome to join.
2. GCOLA has joined MNCola, a state-wide organization of lake associations.
3. There are shoreline restoration grants available to interested property owners.
4. Crow Wing and Cass Counties have provided AIS prevention funding to GCOLA from the state grants.

AIS Committee: Steve Alex reported that the AIS Committee has been prioritizing funding received from the DNR and Cass and Crow Wing Counties for AIS prevention. Funding for boat inspections has been increased. The annual aquatic vegetation survey is being conducted at 23 sites twice a year. An increase in curly leaf pondweed has been noted across the Chain. The AIS Contingency Fund is geared toward Eurasian milfoil, if it is found in the Chain.

2016 GALA: Steve Alex provided information on the upcoming GALA fundraiser.

Communications Committee: John Ingleman reported that the newsletter is sent out four times per year, with the cost covered by the ads. A GCOLA web site also is a source of information for members.

Membership Committee: Arla Johnson reported that there are currently 907 paid households, of which 106 are new this year. She asked members to help promote membership.

Environmental Committee: Robert Eliason provided information on the loon count program. The number of nesting loons is way down this year. He also talked about the End of Dock Program to measure phosphate in the Chain.

Safety and Recreation: Bob Toborg reported on the buoy system and the youth boat safety classes.

Birch Bay RV Park Development: Kevin Egan reported on the status of the proposed RV park with potentially 171 RV spots across the road from Gull Lake. GCOLA is supporting the Agate Lakes Association's efforts to get

the project scaled back.

Muskie Stocking: Uldis Birznieks gave a history of the proposal to stock Gull Lake with muskies and an update on the status of the issue. A decision by the DNR is expected by this fall.

Mary Kay Larson of the Corp of Engineers and Sgt. Travis Collette discussed high water issues and responded to questions.

On motion by Kevin Egan, seconded by Tom Chaney the meeting adjourned at 11:20 a.m.

Minutes recorded by Rosemary Goff