

Coon Lake Improvement District Board Meeting

October 14, 2015

Agenda

Attendees

Mike Bury, Al Beck, Bob Czeck, Arlan Mercil, Steven Olson
Mark Rime, Ken Johnson, Dick Jones, Eurgel Berry, Denise Berry, Leon Mager

Call To Order

Called to order at 7:04 PM by Mike Bury

Open Forum for Public Comments

Ken Johnson presented a proposal for CLID to subsidize CLIA memberships for \$11 each or approximately \$4,900, keeping it under the maximum allowed expenditure without taxpayer approval. This would reduce the need for CLIA membership drives and bring the organizations closer.

Al Beck requested the proposal be looked at by the county auditor prior to further discussion and a vote by CLID. Johnson noted this proposal was reviewed by the county board, the Anoka County administrator and the assistant county attorney and no further review should be required.

Mike Bury objected to use public funds to subsidize membership fees for a 501C3 organization. Compared it to Anoka County paying membership fees to a garden club for all Anoka County tax payers.

Bob Czeck noted 2/3 of the DNR funding for invasive species control will be cut in 2016, reducing the possibility of CLID receiving grant reimbursements. Czeck questioned what does the annual CLIA membership dues include as benefits for CLIA members? Czeck suggested CLIA offer free memberships and eliminate the two free meals each year.

Steven Olson questioned if the CLIA board members thought free or subsidized membership dues will increase participation in CLIA? Olson suggested CLIA offer a one year free membership from the CLIA budget as a trial to determine if free membership increases participation in the organization.

Beck noted perhaps subsidizing mailings that are related to CLID may be an avenue to off set CLIA costs.

Ken Johnson noted his disappointment with the CLID board sitting on so much money and not doing anything.

Olson noted disappointment with Johnson's disappointment in the board because the CLID board members were also CLIA members and were very active volunteers in the CLIA organization.

Mark Rime commented that subsidized memberships would probably not increase participation in either organization and it is a sign of the times with many organizations losing members and dissolving the organization or closing current operations.

Bury noted there are actually approximately 750 unique property PINS and any action after review by the county auditor should be left up to the voters at the 2016 annual CLID meeting. Bury noted he was not aware of the actual funding request would be close to \$5,000. Johnson apologized and said he would review his notes but thought this was in the email thread regarding the subject.

Eurgel Berry agreed that CLID members should have the opportunity to vote on the expenditure.

Rime noted Cory Olson has attempted to persuade Channel Lane neighbors to join CLIA and they do not have an interest. A side bar comment was made that was because they felt they were paying taxes to manage lake issues.

Johnson felt CLID annual letter was to "legalese" and difficult to understand so most property owners throw it away without reading it.

Bury commented that the CLID board reviews the annual letter, the legalese is required by law, and the letter is mailed to all cities and counties associated with CLID.

Bury strongly urged no vote unless the general CLID population had an opportunity to vote on the expenditure. He also noted that the CLID board had discussed reducing the annual assessment to \$10 per property in 2016 and that would be up for vote by the members of CLID. Bury reinforced that the DNR budget for 2016 is proposed to be cut by 2/3 reducing grant reimbursements, placing a larger burden on lake organizations including CLID.

Motion by Beck “Investigate with the county auditor to learn more about the guidelines for taxpayer funding to a 503C and if acceptable, present the vote to the CLID membership in July 2016.” 2nd by Bob Czeck. All in favor. None opposed. Motion carried.

Side bar discussions with Bury and Johnson and another side bar discussion with Beck and Rime.

Discussions regarding CLID subsidizing CLIA membership closed.

Approval of September 9, 2015 Meeting Minutes

Capitalize the “b” in Bury two times.

Add “...due to the increases of the CLID annual treasury balance...”

Motion to approve as revised by Czeck. 2nd by Beck. All in favor. None opposed. Motion carried.

Treasurer’s Report

Bury questioned August reimbursement.

Motion to approve by Olson. 2nd by Beck. All in favor. None opposed. Motion carried.

Old Business

Committee Reports

1. **Administration**
Treatment report reviewed.
2. **Lake Plan**
None.
3. **Finance / Fundraising**
None.
4. **Communication / Publications**
None.

New Business

None.

Adjourn

Motion to adjourn by Beck. 2nd by Mercil. All in favor. None opposed. Motion carried. Adjourned 8:12 PM

Future Meeting Dates

Board- 2nd Wednesday of each month

Nov 11th, Dec 9th, Jan 13th, Feb 10th, Mar 9th, Apr 13th, May 11th, Jun 8th, Jul 13th

Ninth Annual Meeting – July 21, 2016