

# Colon Township Lake Advisory Committee—Meeting Minutes 9-9-2023

**Call to Order:** Acting Chairman Jim Crawford called meeting to order at 9:00 A.M.

**Roll Call:**

Lake Board Members Present: Jim Borgert, Ed Bell, Tom Tenney, Jim Crawford.

Advisory Committee Members: Stan Charles, Phil Camper, Don Schneider, Royal Gentz.

1. Motion was made to approve the minutes of August 12, 2023 Lake Advisory Committee meeting as presented. Crawford/Gentz/motion carried.
2. Progressive AE reported on their visits to our lakes.
  - A. They were on the lakes in May and July to perform their evaluations.
  - B. Found Eurasian Milfoil and Curlyleaf Pondweed.
  - C. During May visit they found 14 plant types, and during July visit they found 13 plant types. We probably have enough plant diversity.
  - D. Weed density was evaluated to be low density of weeds.
  - E. Water quality was evaluated. Phosphorus and Chlorophyll levels were down this season with respect to prior year measurements. It was noted that water clarity was lower than previous years which doesn't seem to align with the lower chlorophyll readings. This disparity may be attributed to a rainfall that occurred just before the samples were taken.
  - G. Found new pondweed, but no new invasive plants
  - H. No Starry Stonewort was found this year.
  - I. During the May visit they moved around the lakes near the shore looking for plants and found very low plant density. They looked for, but did not find any invasive plants. A sonar system was used to search and locate underwater plant locations. Most weeds were found in five feet of water or less.
  - J. Commented that water coming into our lakes can be filtered to some extent, but did not explain how and how much.
  - K. There may be some state grant funds available to pay landowners to setup a natural barrier zone between their property and a waterway to prevent harmful nutrients from entering the watershed.
  - L. Suggested a treatment approach to clear up the water which would enable beneficial plants to grow and get established. The goal is to establish new beneficial plant growth in rooted aquatic vegetation. These established plants would take up the available phosphorus which would be denied to the algae in the water column, and thus reduce the algae in the water column.
  - M. Optimal treatment time typically is mid-June; clear water enables sunlight to reach the bottom, which in turn enables beneficial plants to grow. It may take up to three years to get sufficient plant growth to sustain water clarity without the need for further chemical treatment for water clarity.
  - N. The question was asked if Progressive AE was familiar with the Salamander Mussel. No answer given.
  - O. The question was asked if very frequent water sampling (beyond the current sampling rate) would be of any significant additional value. Paul Hausfield should address this question.
2. Fishing report: Bluegill biting near fish cribs-Another reported good results fishing at 20 foot depth where the lake bottom depth was 40 feet.
3. It was noted that the village is responsible for operating the lake dam.
4. Lake conditions:
  - A. Water Clarity / Secci Readings: Long Lake-3.5 feet, Palmer 2.75-3.0 feet, and Lepley Lakes-No report.
  - B. Water temperatures (degrees F): 76-80 degrees F depending on location and time of day.
  - C. Stump/Log issues: None reported.
  - D. E. Coli readings: Tom Tenney presented E. Coli readings taken August 23, 2023, and they are as follows: Beach-4.1, Lake Street-17.3, Inlet LSC-60.1, Long Lake Bridge-1, BSC @ Needham Road-517.2, Decker Bridge-387.3, Hagelgans Road-517.2, Lindley Road-1413.6, Outwater Road-1046.2, M86 Bridge-248.9, and Langwell Road East of Babcock Road-980.4 .
5. Motion was made to authorize Jim Borgert to pay winter bills up to \$20,000. Crawford/Bell/motion carried.
7. Motion was made to adjourn meeting at 10:08 AM. Crawford/Bell/Motion carried.

Respectfully Submitted:  
Stan Charles, Secretary