

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MINUTES

September 19, 2011

www.minnesotawaters.org/group/hccola/welcome

“COLA is the Leader in Protecting Hubbard County Lakes and Rivers”

1. **Members present:** Mary Ann Erpelding, Ken Grob, Janine Weideman, John Hastings, Lynn Goodrich, Peter Tuomisto & Dan Kittilson.
2. **COLA Committees** – Reviewed committees and members.
 - a. Executive Committee
 - i. Executive committee includes officers and committee chairs. The executive committee and members will be presented at the September COLA meeting for board approval.
 - ii. Executive committee is composed of the COLA officers including Dan Kittilson, Julie Kingsley, John Weber & Ken Grob; and committee chairs including Mary Ann Erpelding, Janine Weideman, Peter Tuomisto, Steve Hall, John Hastings, Lynn Goodrich, Chuck Diessner and Larry Roberts.
 - iii. New members include Peter Tuomisto, Lynn Goodrich and Chuck Diessner.
 - b. Standing and strategic action committees
 - i. The executive committee reviewed the participants for each committee and added unassigned members to committees. The committees and members will be reviewed at the COLA board meeting on September 29th for any additions and/or changes.
 - ii. The executive committee recommends that COLA merge the standing and strategic committees by the annual meeting in August, 2012. Finance and Public Relations are two committees that do not fit in the current standing committees. The strategic action committee will complete the strategic plan this winter and make recommendations to finalize our committee structure at the annual meeting in August, 2012.
3. **Dues/fees for sustaining members (Bylaws 3.3)**
 - a. A sustaining member is a person who does not represent an organized Hubbard County lake association, but believes in COLA’s Vision, Mission and Values. Sustaining members have no voting rights.
 - b. The executive committee recommends that COLA set the dues for sustaining members at \$25 unless waived by the executive committee.
 - c. The finance committee will study **business/sponsor memberships** and make recommendations to the executive committee and COLA board by April, 2012.
4. **Strategic actions**
 - a. The final draft of the bylaws will be distributed to the presidents and COLA reps for their notebooks. A few hard copies will be available at the COLA meeting.
 - b. Finance committee – Lynn Goodrich will organize a meeting of the finance committee.
 - c. A strategic action summary will be presented at the September 29th COLA meeting. The summary will focus on COLA’s successes/accomplishments and offer time for committee leaders who want to share additional comments.
5. **AIS**
 - a. Ken gave a brief summary on AIS and stressed that “containment” is and will be a major focus. Watercraft inspections are winding down and COLA conducted two volunteer watercraft inspection training sessions with 50 participants. Two AIS monitoring workshops were held in Park Rapids with 60 participants.

6. **COLA presentation to County Commissioners**
 - a. COLA will give a presentation to the County on October 5 @ 11:00 a.m. that will focus on the Aquatic Invasive Species and the COLA story.
7. **COLA stationery**
 - a. Shirley and John Koltes have designed COLA stationery that can be used for “thank you notes” and other special purposes. Thank you Shirley and John!
 - b. The notes cards will be used to acknowledge contributions to the legal fund.
8. **Recognition**
 - a. Shirley and John Koltes have designed “certificates” that can be used to recognize outstanding contributions toward COLA’s Mission, Vision and Values. Thanks again Shirley and John for your excellent work on this initiative.
9. **Board of Adjustment/Planning Commission**
 - a. The new Rehkamp variance request has been tabled indefinitely or after the conclusion of the lawsuit.
 - b. At the September BOA meeting, two variance requests were denied.
10. **COLA data base** – John Hastings reported no new progress on the COLA data base.
11. **Fall Newsletter**
 - a. John Hastings will again provide assistance as our “Publisher”.
 - b. COLA would entertain a volunteer to serve as the newsletter “Editor”.
 - c. Early to mid November was set as the deadline for the COLA newsletter.
12. **Restore-the-Shore** order forms and lake association checks are due at the COLA meeting on September 29th.
13. **Volunteer time and resources**
 - a. The executive committee recommends that COLA track volunteer time and resources.
 - b. It was suggested that COLA develop a tracking system that is simple and easy to accomplish.
 - c. Dan will work with the committee chairs to identify volunteer time and resources.
14. **Park Rapids Legacy week-end** – September 23-25, 2011
 - a. Don Haagenson from Long Lake will manage a COLA display at the Century School on Friday evening and Saturday morning.
 - b. The display will include AIS materials and the new Shoreland Guide.
15. **COLA meeting ideas**
 - a. Strategies to make the COLA meetings more beneficial and interesting include:
 - i. Utilize presentations/speakers to encourage attendance.
 - ii. Utilize break for networking and refreshments.
 - iii. Focus on “What’s happening on your lake”.
 - iv. Updates on website by committee chairs.
 - v. Opportunity to give suggestions for “COLA Speakers/Presentations” on website.
16. **Future speakers at COLA meetings** may include Doug Kingsley (dissolved oxygen/water temp. monitoring), Steve Maanum (loons), MN Waters new executive director, presentation on vegetation mapping.
17. **The next executive committee meeting will be held on October 31, 9:00 a.m. at the Park Rapids Chamber.**

DKK—9/27/2011