

HUBBARD COUNTY COALITION OF LAKE ASSOCIATIONS

Committee Reports and Announcements

September 27, 2012

www.minnesotawaters.org/group/hccola/welcome

LEADERSHIP COMMITTEE

Strategic Actions 1, 2 and 3

By Dan Kittilson

1. **Executive Committee**

- a. COLA Organizational Structure is complete including Chairs for each committee. The Committee Structure will be emailed to COLA Reps and Presidents and will be reviewed at the November 1, 2012 COLA meeting.
- b. COLA would like to invite all lake association presidents to attend our **"President's Round Table"** to learn about COLA and have an opportunity to address any needs or concerns you may have about your lake and the future direction of Hubbard COLA. We have scheduled a series of meetings to give you an opportunity to attend our President's Round Table. Please choose from the following dates to attend COLA's President's Round Table.
 - i. **Tuesday, October 2, 2012; 5:30 p.m.** (Pizza and Refreshments will be served)
 - ii. **Friday, October 5, 2012; 5:30 p.m.** (Pizza and Refreshments will be served)
 - iii. **Saturday, October 6, 2012; 9:00 a.m.** (Donuts and Refreshments will be served)

The Round Table Discussions will be held at Coldwell Banker, 101 Main Ave. S in Park Rapids. Please RSVP to Dan at drkittil@q.com or **218-732-5566** when you will be attending so we can plan accordingly for materials, pizza and refreshments.

c. **Indiana University Capstone Course on Lake Association Sustainability.**

- i. In cooperation with Big Mantrap Lake Association and Hubbard County Coalition of Lake Associations, Indiana University Masters Students will utilize this capstone course to study the concept of lake associations, explore ways for lake associations to become more sustainable and successful in meeting their goals.
- ii. As a formal client in this capstone course, representatives from Hubbard COLA will participate with in-depth interviews and an online survey of COLA members and leaders.
- iii. Toward the conclusion of this course, Hubbard COLA will have an opportunity to review a draft publication of "guidelines for a sustainable lake association". COLA's participation in this capstone course could make a difference in how lake association's work together to manage their lake and water shed.

2. **President's Report and Announcements**

- a. Hubbard COLA plans special meeting on September 27, 2012 to focus on MN Lakes and Rivers Advocates (formerly MSRPO) with Jeff Forester, Executive Director as the featured speaker. The meeting will start early with the social gathering at 5:30 p.m. and the program at 6:00 p.m. COLA reps, presidents and lake association members are invited to attend this informative presentation on

how we can work together with MN Lakes and Rivers Advocates at the State Capitol to protect our lakes for present and future generations.

- b. Legislative Forum 5 – Healthy Land, Clean Water, Good Neighbors: Northern Lights Casino Events Center, Friday, September 28, 1-5p.m.
- c. Darby Nelson’s article about the “Importance of Lake Associations” appeared in the “Park Rapids Enterprise” and the “Outdoor News” this past week.
- d. Big Sand Lake Association and Hubbard County SWCD work together to restore the rain garden near the Lake Emma access that was originally planted as a demonstration project by the Big Sand association in 2009. The project was completed by Shoreline Creations and features shoreline plants like Sneezeweed, Swamp Milkweed, Asters, native grasses, wildflowers and Cardinal Dogwoods. Swing by the Lake Emma access on County 40 to view the newly planted rain garden.
- e. The **League of Women Voters** have scheduled “Candidate Forum’s” for the following dates: 1) Tuesday, October 16, 6:30 p.m. at Northwood’s Bank Community Room, 2) Thursday, October 25 at 7 p.m. at Northwood’s Bank and 3) Tuesday, October 30, 6:30 p.m. at Laporte School Commons. The League of Women Voters would appreciate any help that COLA members could provide at the “Candidate Forums” such as set-up, timers, picking up questions, etc. Please contact Dan Kittilson at drkittil@q.com or 732-5566 if you like to volunteer to help with the “Candidate Forum’s”.

Improve Internal Communications

Strategic Action #4

By Larry Roberts

1. Summarize monthly meeting reports to provide bullet items for members and lake boards to review. In progress – Julie Kingsley summarized July minutes for distribution. Julie will handle summarized minutes and will compile committee reports and announcements for COLA meetings.
2. Better utilization of e-mail addresses to improve communications between COLA Board and lake association members. E-mail coordinators for member lake associations are encouraged to e-mail information as received to their membership, noting that the information came from Hubbard Coalition of Lake Associations. Appears complete. Will continue to monitor and encourage use.
3. COLA Reps and Executive Board members attend and provide updates at annual lake association meetings. Started in 2011 and continuing this year. Will need to remind all to plan for providing updates and information at 2013 meetings.
4. Engage lake boards and lake associations regarding ideas/concerns. Dan has begun legislative agenda proposed topics. Fall meeting with lake association presidents and E-Board to discuss progress of past year and to plan for 2013. Will occur this fall.
5. Recognition of members who have made significant contributions to improving lake quality on their lake and in Hubbard County. Under consideration for fall 2012.

Lakeshore Education Committee

Strategic action #5

By Rich Sederstrom

1. No report

Manage Public Image Committee

Strategic action #6

Larry Roberts

1. Increase visibility of HCOLA thru:
 - a. AIS campaign on billboards, radio and handouts – COLA active participation thru Ken G. and others. Completed for 2012.
 - b. Series of articles regarding protecting lakes and improving water quality – started by Dan with water quality report. Proposed 8-10 additional articles by other COLA members over winter to be published in Enterprise and other public records. Proceeding. Schedule may be changed.

Schedule:

Sept: Lake Country Key Questions for Legislators, Jeff Forester, et al.

Oct: Watercraft Inspection 2012 Report – Bob Berdahl, Jeff Bjorkman, et al

Oct. or Later: Advocacy for Policy and Legislation – Dan Kittilson

Nov: Restore the Shore: Steve Hall or others

Dec: Importance of Lake Associations and COLA's to Communities: Darby Nelson

Jan/Feb: Legacy Funding: Chuck Diessner

Other articles are welcome. Please contact Dan or Larry Roberts regarding the topic and when to publish. There are space limitations in the Enterprise.

- c. Work with schools to involve students in lake issues (pending with Education Committee).
 - d. Develop process to recognize individuals, lake associations, businesses, et al for their contribution to improving lake quality. (Pending).
 - e. Develop one or two day event to celebrate our local lakes (pending with Chamber of Commerce, DNR, SWCD, etc.)
 - f. Working with Chamber to celebrate Governor's Fishing Opener -2013 in Park Rapids. Raffle ticket sales schedule pending, along with need for volunteers to sell over fall and winter.
2. Other: Established e-mail address for HCCOLA as method for community to contact COLA with questions regarding COLA and lake issues. Not intended as means to contact individual officers and members of COLA. E-mail address is: hccolamn@gmail.com.

Membership Committee Report

Strategic action #7

By Mary Ann Erpelding

1. Thank you to all who attended the social gathering at Zorbaz on September 12th. The numbers seem to increase each year. It is an excellent networking opportunity.
2. 22 member lakes were in attendance at the August COLA meeting.
3. The new pages for the rep notebooks were mailed to the eight lake reps who did not receive them at the August meeting.
4. Thank you notes were mailed to all lake monitoring volunteers.
5. A reminder to all reps to sign up for a committee and become an active member of that committee.

Finance Committee:

Strategic action #8

By Lynn Goodrich

1. No report

Impact Political Action Committee

Strategic action #9

By Chuck Diessner

1. No report

Civic Service Committee

By Peter Tuomisto

1. No report

AIS Task Force Report

By Ken Grob

NEWS HIGHLIGHTS

- **Rose Lake and Emily Mitigation Report released.** Good news so far.
- **2013 AIS Prevention planning started...**County and COLA AIS Teams.
- **Veliger monitoring** on several lakes in July & August; DNR recommends that cinder block monitoring is probably more effective. Lake residents are encouraged to check all docks and boat lifts for Zebra Mussels when they are removed this fall.
- **Hubbard County AIS Scorecard updated.**

a. Hubbard County Task Force Status

- i. All initiatives underway (Business-PRDBA, Resorts, LSP's, Watercraft inspections, etc.)
- ii. Long term Sustainable Funding (2013 focus)...SWCD Board approved AIS Coordinator position and submitted in 2013 budget to County Commissioners
- iii. Budget committee has outlined plan for 2013
- iv. Meeting on October 3 to start planning 2013

b. COLA AIS Committee

- i. Billboards, PSA's, Restaurant Placemats, Flyers, and AIS ID Cards complete
- ii. Flyers provided to lake associations as requested...2300 plus resorts to date. A few to still distribute.

- iii. AIS Committee met on September 18 to plan 2013. Good meeting; Lots of actions.
- iv. Need to meet with AIS coordinators to energize action for next year. Key supplement to LGU Program

c. LGU Watercraft Inspections

- i. Inspections nearly complete for 2012. Reports in progress.
- ii. Good cooperation by public

d. Resort Folder Distribution

- i. Folders distributed ...63 to date
- ii. Need completed paper work returned.
- iii. EMPHASIZED INSPECTION AT RESORT LAUNCH SITES!!
- iv. Good cooperation and support...and inspections by resort owners

e. DNR Video

- i. Excellent (1, 10, 25 minute version).
- ii. COLA has a copy for each lake association...Most have received their copy. Contact Ken Grob if you haven't received your copy.

f. Awareness Presentations and Materials

- i. Awareness booth at Crow Wing Watershed Seminar on Sept 13
- ii. Awareness booth at HD 100/ Art Leap Celebration on September 21&22
- iii. Awareness booth at Walker Legislative Forum on September 28
- iv.

Governor's Fishing Opener

By Larry Roberts

1. Volunteer list being developed to assist in selling raffle tickets for boat and fish house, list of potential fishing guides and other volunteers to help with all aspects of the Opener as part of Hubbard Coalition of Lake Associations.
2. COLA volunteers for ticket sales:
 - John Hastings
 - Richard & Carol Sederstrom
 - Paul Jensen
 - Jeff Mosner
 - Hilary Stoltz

Mary Jo Groehler
Larry & Barb Roberts

3. Participation to date:
 - Taste of Dorset: 1 Volunteer – tickets sold: 470
 - Legends and Logging Days: 6 Volunteers over two days – tickets sold: 410
 - Coborn’s Customer Appreciation Day: 2 volunteers – tickets sold: 46
 - Nevis Uff-Da Day: 4 volunteers – tickets sold: 183
 - Dorset Garage Sale: 1 volunteer – tickets sold: 56
 - Headwaters 100 feed: 1 volunteer – tickets sold: 38
 - Jokela Consignment Auction: 2 volunteers – tickets sold: 25

4. Thanks to the volunteers who have helped so far. We need more volunteers for sales this fall and to transport the boat and ice fishing house to various locations. If you can help, please sign the volunteer sheet. Sign up information also is posted on the Park Rapids Chamber of Commerce website: www.parkrapids.com Questions, please call Larry Roberts @ 732-0118 or e-mail: lrobertsmn@gmail.com.