

HUBBARD COUNTY COALITION OF LAKE ASSOCIATIONS

Committee Reports and Announcements

August 29, 2013

www.hubbardcolamn.org

LEADERSHIP COMMITTEE

Strategic Actions 1, 2 and 3

By Dan Kittilson

1. **Executive Committee**

- a. COLA's annual meeting will be our August 29, 2013 meeting. Agenda items relating to our annual meeting will be the election of officers including President and President-Elect. Lynn Goodrich has agreed to put his name forward as President-Elect for one year and then be nominated as President at the annual meeting in 2014. We will also make appointments for Treasurer, Secretary and our COLA Vice Presidents at the August 29, 2013 meeting. John Weber informed the executive committee that, after 16 years, he will resign his Treasurer's position as close to October 31, 2013 as feasible. **Thanks John for your tremendous service to Hubbard COLA. You will be greatly missed. But you will be more than welcome to continue your participation in COLA.**
- b. At the next several COLA meetings, the COLA committees and lake associations will be reporting on their review of the finding and recommendations of the IU Capstone project and any action items that they have selected to implement. **All COLA Reps, Lake Presidents and COLA Committee members are encouraged to attend our August 29th COLA meeting to learn more about the Indiana University, Capstone Project.**
- c. COLA is in need of a Treasurer and Secretary. If you have an interest in one of these positions and have the necessary skills for Treasurer and/or Secretary or know of someone who has those skills and are lakeshore property owners, please contact us at hccolamn@gmail.com
- d. Check out the new website at www.hubbardcolamn.org and click on the COLA Blog to comment on the website. Jeff Mosner will be discussing the new website at the August 29th meeting.
- e. Heavenly Seven lakes responsible for the September 26th COLA meeting social gathering include Middle Crow Wing, Portage, South Island and Spider. Each group is responsible for setting up the Northwood's Bank Community Room, providing and preparing the refreshments and treats, and doing the tear down and clean up after the meeting. You also need to pick up the key at the Bank a day or two before the COLA meeting. **Until COLA has a Secretary, the Heavenly Seven Lakes are responsible for taking minutes at the COLA meeting.**
- f. Watch for COLA's Ad and Enhanced Business listing in the 2014 Park Rapids Lakes Area Discovery Guide. COLA's participation in the Discovery Guide helps us get our message out to tourists that come to the Park Rapids Lakes area to vacation and enjoy our clean lakes. It fits with our public relations strategy by giving us a vehicle for sharing our values, expands our partnering with local businesses in supporting the Park Rapids area and affirms our commitment to work together with others to protect our lakes.
- g. **COLA partners with the Stony Lake Beavers 4-H Club in Nevis** to provide financial support for the 4-H Club to place a sign announcing that the 4-H Club maintains and cleans the public beach on the north side of Stony Lake. The sign will include our COLA Logo and the Stop Aquatic Hitchhiker Logo. Thanks to

five members from the executive committee that have made a financial commitment to COLA to defray COLA's costs to pay for the sign.

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

- a. Mark your calendar and save the date.....Attend the next COLA board meeting on September 26, 2013; social gathering at 6:30 p.m. and meeting at 7:00 p.m. at the Northwood's Bank Community Room.
- b. COLA Reps that are unable to attend our COLA meetings have expressed an interest in "Teleconferencing" during the COLA meetings. Please let me know if you would be interested in connecting to our COLA meeting via teleconferencing.
- c. **What's happening on your lake?** Please provide updated contact information for your COLA reps, presidents and e-mail coordinators so we can keep our contact lists up-to-date. Lake associations are encouraged to send newsletters to John Hastings at johnhhastings@live.com and Dan Kittilson at drkittil@q.com
- d. Hubbard COLA's e-mail address: Correspondence and questions can be sent to hccolamn@gmail.com

Improve Internal Communications

Strategic Action #4

By Larry Roberts

1. New website up and running. Looks really good. Check it out at: www.hubbardcolamn.org. Jeff Mosner is doing a great job. There are several new headings you will want to explore.
2. Also check out Hubbard County COLA on Facebook. Jeff has changed the photo and we are starting to get "likes" on it, along with a few comments. It is your page, so please use it.

Lakeshore Education Committee

Strategic Action 5

By Sharon Natzel

The University of MN Extension will offer a complimentary program entitled Septic System Care: Septic System Homeowner Operation and Maintenance Education. This course will be held on Saturday, October 5th from 9 to 11 AM at the Northwoods Bank Community Room. Please call 218-732-3391 UMN Ext to Register for this UMN Program. This program will be advertised too.

The Belle Taine Lake site for a Rain Garden was visited by Eleanor Burkett, UMN on Friday July 26th. Eleanor will do the educational portion of the program during the 2014 season.

The hands-on planting portion of the Wildflower Seminar made possible through the Kabekona Lake Association was held on July 30, 2013 at 9 AM near a home on County 37. Participants were notified of the details by KLA and many attended to help with the planting.

Began exploration of the 4-H Program water-related offerings & other potential opportunities with Mari Jo Lohmeier, 4-H Program Coordinator for University of Minnesota Extension. More to follow at a later date.

Following up with Peter Pierson, Freelance Writer / Communications Graduate Fellow-Prescott College. After he attended the 7/25 COLA Meeting where committees presented follow-ups to

the Capstone Study, he indicated he had potential ideas for radio & other media related to HC COLA Education.

Manage Public Image Committee

Strategic action #6

By Larry Roberts

1. Continuing to review recommendations from Capstone study regarding public image.
2. Communications committee has moved forward with proposal for first action plan and is proceeding (website and Facebook).
3. Other recommendations are under review and will be prioritized for implementation.
4. Also working on recruiting new member for the Committee after 3 previous members advised they were unable to commit again.
5. Table set up at Taste of Dorset and Legends and Logging. Displayed COLA and AIS materials. Sold sponges only at Dorset. Sold wild rice, sponges and gave away items at Legends and Logging, plus heard many positive responses to what COLA is doing towards AIS and protecting our waters. Thanks to all COLA members who helped at both locations and thanks to John Hastings for buying a pop up tent for our use at outdoor events. Total sales at both events: \$108, plus additional \$160 in wild rice sales.
6. Welcomed Peter Pierson, Big Sand Lake to the Communications Committee. He will be working on improving our communications with local media (newspaper, radio, PBS).

Membership Committee Report

Strategic action #7

By Hillary Stoltz

August 12, 2013 Committee Meeting for Aug 29 Meeting

Members Present: Janine Weideman, Deb Rogers, Mary Ann Erpelding, **Chairperson:** Hillary Stoltz,

Guest: Lynn Goodrich

A. COLA REPORT:

1. Twenty-two (22) Lake Associations were represented at the July COLA Meeting.
2. New representatives and newly elected Presidents need to inform Deb Rogers so that can be added to the COLA Master Lists, have Badges made up, and obtain their Handbooks (if the previous representative did not pass theirs on to the new representative).

It has been agreed that the updated documents for the Handbooks will be made available on the Hubbard COLA Website and that the Representatives from each lake shall be responsible for printing them and adding them to the Handbook. In the event Reps need help in doing this, there will be assistance from the Membership Committee

3. Mark your calendars for Wednesday, September 11, 2013 for the annual COLA social gathering at Zorbaz.

B. COLA Committees

1. Assignment of COLA Members and New Representatives shall be an ongoing effort of the Membership Committee. NEW REPRESENTATIVE SHOULD NOTIFY MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE MEMBER OF THEIR PREFERENCES, AREAS OF INTEREST AND/OR EXPERTISE.

C. Volunteer Recognition. There are several concepts for recognition of the tremendous help that COLA receives from its Volunteers. Lake Assn Water Monitors, Officers of COLA, etc. to name a few. Thank-you notes are sent out, but perhaps there can be an event to honor these volunteers.

D. MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE “CAPSTONE STUDY” PROJECTS

1. Lake Associations, as well as COLA, benefit when Memberships increase. The Membership Committee would like to compile “Success Stories” from the COLA Reps and Association Presidents as a part of producing a “Best Practices” document.

2. Social events and fund-raisers to broaden local interest, organizing and supporting events that may appeal to younger residents and the creation of leaders, and lake-related restoration/volunteer projects will continue as a focus of the Membership Committee.

3. Action Plan Project 1. August-September 2013 (and on-going):

Attractive and useful Bookmarks that will recognize “COLA” and “Local Volunteerism” will be designed, printed and distributed around the Park Rapid commu

Finance Committee:

Strategic action #8

By Lynn Goodrich

1. I am pleased to announce that the final payment has been made to the legal firm of Fredrikson and Byron, P. A. Hubbard COLA can now devote all its time, talent and funds to the many challenges to our lakes and rivers. I would like to once again thank the law firm of Fredrikson & Byron, Mr. Brian McCool and particularly Mr. Chuck Diessner for their expertise and generosity while guiding Hubbard COLA through the legal process.
2. The finance committee has begun the process of developing a budget for the 2014 fiscal year. We are requesting that all committee chairs develop and submit a proposal of their 2014 financial needs to Lynn Goodrich (tripplake1@mac.com) for consideration in this budget process.
3. The finance committee is in the process of preparing to take over special fund raising projects. We hope to complete this by Jan 1, 2014 and will have a complete report on them by years end.
4. The finance committee, with the assistance and cooperation of others, is planning a 2014 “Back to the Lakes” event next spring to include a fund raising activities, (i.e. lake garage sale, silent auction, raffle, etc. (donations would be appreciated), food friends and fun. Lets all pray for an early ice out.

Impact Political Action Committee

Strategic action #9

By Chuck Diessner

5. IPA is looking for people that are interested in joining the committee. Please contact Chuck Diessner, Bill Cowman, Ed Mutsch or Janine Weideman to learn more.
6. The attached Summary of Changes to Section 513 of the Ordinance relating to Geo-thermal heating and cooling systems was send to Eric at ESO for his consideration in proposing changes to the section. There will be a public hearing on what Eric proposes.
7. The County Board passed a resolution on 8/20th for Eric to draft proposed amended ordinances for the merger of the Planning Commission and Board of

Adjustment with the following general terms: same 5 members for each board (1 from each district), potential right of Co. Board to appoint a chair for each meeting to just run the meetings and with no voting rights, continue the lot viewals, the lot viewals and meetings held during same week, each board would meet on the same day in the evening (BOA meet first then adjourn and the PC meets) and an open and promoted application process with board interviews. We need to follow this process that will go back to the Co.Board so we are prepared to comment, if necessary. The County Board wants to get the PC and BOA ordinances amended and the selection process completed so the new board can be appointed at the December meeting and start work in Jan, 2014.

8. Please provide Dan, Ken or me with any suggested candidates for the new merged board

Civic Service Committee

By Peter Tuomisto

1. Veliger Testing Samples can still be sent in to RMB labs. Clean results so far in those lakes being tested.
2. Water Monitoring The last sample date weekend is September 15,16. Please return the sampler with the sample to Charlie's Sept. 16.
3. Restore the Shore order forms and payments are due to your lake coordinator Sept. 16. Make the checks payable to your lake association.

Thank you for your volunteer efforts in the testing and monitoring.

REMEMBER: When pulling in your docks and boat lifts, look closely for zebra mussels.

AIS Task Force Report

Strategic Action #10

By Ken Grob

1. County-wide watercraft inspection program continues to progress well for the summer. We are continuing to line up more inspection support for 2014. Presentations made to Farden Township, South Island Lake, and Lower Crow Wing lake Association. See Julie Kingsley's report for all the details.
2. Almost all the Resort information folders have been distributed for this year, with a small survey on what the resort owners can do to help prevent AIS. Survey forms need to be returned to Ken Grob by mid-September at the latest.
3. Work to develop a County-wide AIS Rapid Response Plan continues. Bob Berdahl is leading this project. Targeting end of year to have it completed.
4. We are working with Beltrami County and Lake Bemidji lake association to help them gain funding for watercraft inspectors next year. We will be talking to Frohn Township (Grace and Wolf Lakes) on September 17. Their proximity to Hubbard County makes it important that they are doing their best at AIS prevention with inspections.
5. Julie Kingsley and Ken will be presenting a status report on our AIS programs to the County Commissioners on Sept 3 and to the Association of Hubbard County Townships on September 16.
6. State AIS Advisory Committee met on Aug 22. Some key info from meeting:
 - √¹ Hubbard County Inspection Results to date were reported. Lots of interest in our data.
 - √¹ DNR is receiving USFWS funds (\$425k) for AIS. About half for watercraft inspections. Expected to be incremental to current state funds.

- √¹ Committee toured Lake Minnetonka this summer. We now know what “large” boats are and how hard they are to clean.
- √¹ Legislative sub-committee is moving slow. Lots of discussion on Lessard-Sams OHF funding, as well as LCCMR and Water Quality Legacy Funds. Sub-Committee needs a more aggressive action plan for the legislative session in 2014. Especially regarding LGU funding.
- √¹ Communications sub-committee has developed a very comprehensive plan. Focus is on a comprehensive message that is consistent to all citizens and LGU’s.
- √¹ Volunteer Watercraft Inspection Program is being completely “reformatted”. Future Press releases will outline the changes. Changes are significant.
- √¹ WAPOA Lake Association has requested time with committee to discuss issues with their water shed.
- √¹ Committee has sent letter to Lessard-Sams OHF Committee in support of the MN COLA Collaborative initiative to fund LGU’s.