

# **Lake Quality Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes**

May 7, 2020  
ZOOM Online Meeting

## **A. Call to order**

Kimberly called the meeting to order at 10:03 a.m. (Due to a change of zoom links Janet waited on the other link until 10:10 to redirect any potential residents desiring to attend)

## **B. Attendance**

Committee Members – Kimberly Clow, Linda Flores, Rick Flores, Janet Fulks, John Glaze, Fred Hicks, Fiona Nelson, & Scott Ostrem  
Staff - Debbie Papac, Recreation Manager

**C. Approval of Agenda** – A motion to approve the new agenda was made by Fred, seconded by Kimberly, and approved by the committee.

**D. Approval of Minutes** - A motion to approve the Minutes of the April meeting was made by Kimberly, seconded by Linda, and approved by the committee.

## **E. New Items**

1. To date, over 150 phosphate samples have been collected. Fred discussed the results of the most recent testing; some areas were showing elevated levels. He suggested that future testing be done in groups of three people, once the social distancing guidelines are over. Right now, there appears to be some disparity as far as data measurements, and multiple testers would allow comparisons and averaging of the collected data. It was also suggested that morning and afternoon samples be compared for a couple of weeks, to see if there are any variations between the two (on the same day.) If there are, it might be useful to include time stamps as to when the samples were collected.

Some minor issues are being worked through with the Google Spreadsheet. It was decided that “NW” would be noted in the spreadsheet cell, if there was no water at that location. And “NA” would be noted if no water was available for collection (due to construction, etc.)

Janet reported that some of the phosphate data is changing more rapidly than she had anticipated. It appears that plants around the lake/golf course ARE helping lower the phosphate numbers, but not to “uncontaminated” levels. It won’t matter how many “Riparian Plants” we add, if nutrients continue to be added to the areas. She thinks that the loss of cattails (which were removed from the lake two years ago and which are one of the highest nitrate binding plants) might be the cause of this year’s issues. Brandon has been advised. Janet doesn’t think that any more cattails should be removed without further

assessment. Debbie recommended identifying and communicating specific areas to hold back on and advising the BVSA Board.

There was some discussion about why the CSD is having to use effluent (vs. other sources) to water the golf course, etc. Janet prefers recycling whenever possible to reuse water sources.

Fred reported that it would take approximately 238 gallons of algaecide **Citrine** (\$10K) to treat the entire 4-Island Lake, for one year. It would need to be applied before the water starts getting too warm, and can also be used to 'spot treat' areas. (The product is safe for fish and swimming.) Janet suggested that we initially treat a *limited* site (such as the drainage ditch near John's house,) before making a larger cost investment. Phosphate testing would be done before and after the application, and it would be monitored for its effectiveness. **Kimberly motioned that we purchase two gallons, John seconded, and the motion was approved.**

In the interest of transparency, the BVS Rangers will be advised of the project, and a note will be posted on the nearby signage, as well as on NextDoor, the BVSA website, the WC Facebook page, and possibly in the Bear Tracks. Fred stressed the importance of having *before* and *after* photographs, to document the effectiveness.

2. The use of "Roundup" is a concern for the entire BVS; however, the *immediate* concern is specifically with properties around 4-Island Lake. Janet has spoken to Brandon, and asked him not to use Roundup around the lake; he agreed to educate his crew. Janet will stay in contact with him regarding the topic. Fred advised that if residents are encouraged NOT to use Roundup, some alternatives should be suggested. Kimberly and Heidi have been experimenting with easily made natural weed killer with good results. (The recipe includes detergent, 30% vinegar (acetic acid) and salt. We should inform residents, near the lake and run off, about this alternative.

3. Fred reported that 2000 2-3" long Bluegill fish were delivered from Willow Creek Fisheries (WCF) a couple of weeks ago, and planted in 4-Island Lake. We were able to increase our Bluegill count by 50%, as they were sold to us at a reduced rate. When asked about improving the lake, Mike (WCF representative) suggested that adding some *structure*, such as concrete cinder blocks and PVC piping, etc...would help establish nursery areas, by creating places for the young fish to hide. (There are currently none.) He suggested the area in front of John's house would be ideal, as a grate could be installed in the culvert, preventing larger fish from entering. Mike also suggested adding Golden Shiners to the pond at Hole #7, as they would propagate rapidly there, and we would be able to transplant them to the other three lakes. Red eared Sunfish and golden shiners will probably be available in June. He suggested

holding off on procuring Bass until next year. He also suggested using Cutrine to control algae.

The Mosquito Fish are still unavailable due to the COVID19 Pandemic.

Fred spoke to Kern River Fly Fishers, who are willing to come to BVS twice a year, and will donate \$500 to the community (with the BVS Sportsman's Club support.) He will move forward with the project, although he doesn't think it's fair to ask them for the entire amount this year, as they will probably only have one opportunity to fish. Fred is waiting for the COVID19 measures to play out, before taking any money from the KRFF. He also said that the group offered manpower to help with planting and enhancing nursery areas around the lake.

4. Rick reported that the Western Goldenrods and Gumweed plants had been picked up from Mountain Gardens nursery, and planted along the 7<sup>th</sup> Fairway, near Hole #1, Jamaica Dunes, and in the BVSA Maintenance area. There were varying levels of moisture at each location. Early observation indicates that the plants are doing well.

The water lilies are due into Mountain Gardens tomorrow. We were able to get a discount on the plants, as the tags had fallen off, and they weren't sure what size or colors the lilies were. We purchased 38 (\$13+ each) for a total of \$536.25. Rick plans to pick them up, and whomever wants to can meet him at the 7<sup>th</sup> Hole pond tomorrow, at 7:00 p.m., to "plant them."

Approximately 200 plants from Central Coast Wild (Santa Cruz) are expected to be ready for pickup on May 19<sup>th</sup>. Rick is open to recommendations about alternative plant locations, as well as additional type plants to use for the pilot program. He will revisit the original list of plant suggestions, and see if there are any that we may want to reconsider (which were originally ruled out, due to other concerns.)

Fred said that he would like to see some type of berry bushes planted on one of the islands. Janet believes that, not only would they make a good bird (and other animal) habitat, but would serve as Riparian borders as well. There was discussion from Kimberly about the use of the islands and this idea was tabled with further informal discussion and research to follow.

5. Kimberly reported that the islands (at 4-Island Lake) are closed until the Thursday before Memorial Day, due to their designation as bird sanctuaries. For the sake of simplicity, they are trying to get them to choose a *specific* date, but will need to make sure there are no conflicts with Fish & Wildlife, or other agencies. Kimberly will look into the specific history of when/why the islands are closed, and the potential benefits. She will also contact the Board about the Tree Planting Project at Cub Lake.

6. Debbie said that she hasn't had a chance to do much as far as signage around the lakes, due to other priorities. However, she is planning to ask for stickers to add to the current ones, which state the changes to our (catch and release) fishing rules. They can be added or peeled off as applicable. The rangers have been advised of the new rules, in order to help educate the anglers.

7. Janet would like a sub-committee formed, that will look into developing a 5-Year Plan for the LQAC. Fred, Rick, Fiona, Debbie, and John all volunteered to serve on it. Fred has already developed a draft; he will refine it, and email it to small group members. Once they have had a chance to look it over, he will set up a Zoom meeting for discussion.

8. After discussion about adjusting the name of the LQAC (to make lake plural,) it was decided that a better idea might be to revisit the original committee goals. And, if necessary, reword them to make it clear that LQAC refers to **all** of the lakes in BVS; not just 4-Island.

9. The new Google docs folder was discussed. Fred offered to lead a tutorial on it, for those who are interested in learning more about navigating it.

#### **F. Follow-Up Items**

1. The new Hydrosonde equipment is in; Janet and Fred practiced using it yesterday.

2. All of our articles did not appear in the May issue of the Bear Tracks (as they are backlogged.) Our two articles on planting and water lilies will instead be in the upcoming issue. We may possibly submit a new article regarding the use of Roundup.

3. Report from Rec Committee – Kimberly reported

#### **Action Items:**

1. Fiona will develop an on-line educational presentation for the Children's Fishing Project
2. John & Rick will research other nurseries for cheaper water lilies
3. Fred will finalize lake mapping documents

#### **Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at 11:55 AM.

Next meeting will be held on June 4<sup>th</sup>. If we are able to meet in person, it will be held at the OTCC card room, at 8:30AM.

Minutes submitted by: Linda Flores

Minutes approved by: Janet Fulks