

**MINUTES
ENVIRONMENTAL COMMITTEE
CITY OF LAKE SHORE
CITY HALL
JUNE 16, 2014
10:00 AM**

Ron called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m. Ron Faust, Melinda Re, Rosemary Goff and Arla Johnson; Council Liaison Doug Miller were present. City Administrator Teri Hastings was also in attendance. Robert Eliason and Kevin Egan were absent.

The committee noted the minutes of the previous meeting/presentation for the record.

Ron brought an article that was in the 'For the Love of the Lakes' insert to the Brainerd Dispatch and Echo about the GCOLA shoreline habitat program to share with the committee.

GCOLA had habitat night on June 12th and it was well attended at the Yacht Club with about 75 enthusiastic people talking about creating habitat and restoring shorelines.

Ron also had a story from the Echo that said Pequot Lakes was getting rid of its recycling bins and will be replaced with curb side recycling from Waste Management. Ron has checked into curb side recycling and found out that it would have to be mandatory of all residents and the only company he found that provides the service is Waste Management. Nisswa is also removing their recycling bins; there was some discussion as to the reasons why, including price. Cass County residents pay \$66 (solid waste) per household on their tax statement which helps offset their cost of the 29 locations they have placed recycling bins. Doug Miller asked if there have been complaints about what is put in the Lake Shore bins. The main complaint is there are always non-recyclable items in the bin. We will continue to put something in the newsletter to educate people about recycling.

The committee will plan a White Goods pick up next year. The clerk explained the process of past white goods pick up project.

ROSEMARY GOFF MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE A WHITE GOODS PICK UP PROJECT FOR 2015. ARLA JOHNSON SECONDED THE MOTION. MOTION PASSED.

Ron said it has been over a year since the committee started the discussion of people feeding the deer. He said the deer population in Lake Shore is out of control and the city council has agreed. The council directed Jim Thomes to inquire with different cities that allowed a special hunt and since that time he has resigned from the City of Lake Shore. Doug Miller said the council hasn't acted on any special hunt plans so far. Ron knows there are avid bow hunters in the city and suggested that someone contact them to see if they would take over the project. The Mayor is also a good contact person to help with the project. Ron raised the question of changing the ordinance to ban feeding deer; it didn't pass with the last attempt. Doug commented that it is a touchy subject and could be considered over legislating. Ron talked about the effects of the deer ticks; there have been quite a few people treated for Lyme disease. There is an increased incident of deer vs. car crashes when people feed the deer along the 77 corridor. Doug will ask the council to revisit the deer problem again. Arla said even if people aren't feeding the deer they are prevalent in the area. It would be a benefit if there was a way to thin the herd.

Ron said that Robert Eliason put together a fact sheet with the advantages and disadvantages of Riprap and a vegetative shoreline. Ron supplied diagrams from the DNR website of shoreline alterations with riprap and another using vegetation to stabilize the shoreline. He also referred to the book 'Lakescaping' for wildlife and water quality for shoreline restoration. There is a table in the book showing the cost for shoreline protection – Rock riprap installed is \$50 to \$90 per lineal foot; DIY is \$25 to \$35 per lineal foot, which is far more than using native species vegetation for shoreline restoration. Arla said that it looks like the DNR promotes riprap and there isn't anything mentioned about alternative restoration. Ron sent a letter to Heather Baird at the MN DNR and she also wishes that more alternatives were used. He suggested that the committee put together a brochure of pictures showing alternative shoreline restoration compared to riprap. Doug commented on his shoreline and suggested that vegetative shoreline restoration may not have worked. Ron only wants to offer alternatives. Doug suggested including a brochure in the newsletter. The committee discussed different ways to reach the shoreline residents. Ron will bring the committee's thoughts to the next GCOLA meeting and ask for their suggestions. Doug commented on how well the restoration project at Bar Harbor is holding up.

ROSEMARY GOFF MADE A MOTION TO ADJOURN THE ENVIRONMENTAL COMMITTEE MEETING OF JUNE 16, 2014. ARLA JOHNSON SECONDED THE MOTION. MOTION PASSED.

Transcribed by Patti McDonald
Lake Shore City Clerk