



Summer Newsletter 2015

NEXT GENERAL MEETING August 8, 2015 at 9:00 A.M.

Community Christian Church - McCardle and Main Street

Email: cgclakeassoc@gmail.com

Website: www.cgclakeassoc.org

PRESIDENT'S COMMENTS

My name is Robert Herbig, newly elected president of the Council Grove City Lake Association. It is a humbling experience to be selected to follow in the footsteps of others who took the association from its infancy to the level of success we are now beginning to enjoy. It is my goal, as president, to develop a positive and working relationship with each of you as well as the City that will lead to a "win-win" situation between the City Lake Community and the City of Council Grove.

Council Grove is quite unique! Unique in the fact that each member of the City Council has an extremely important and difficult job to do. Not only do they represent the citizens of Council Grove and their specific needs but they also represent the LAKE COMMUNITY of approximately 800-900 people with entirely different needs than those of Council Grove. It is a balancing act that requires much understanding, much planning and most all LOTS OF PATIENCE. We, as an Association, want to help make their job easier and working together feel that only good things are ahead for all!

In the City Lake we have the "GEM OF THE FLINTHILLS!" There is not a more beautiful or peaceful setting in the State of Kansas. Those of us who own homes at the City Lake have been given the privilege of living at the lake – we pay for that privilege, but it is still a privilege. With that privilege comes a great deal of responsibility – the responsibility of being good stewards of this beautiful and wonderful place. There is no one at the City Lake that takes this stewardship lightly. Just travel around the lake and see the beautiful homes both old and new, the beautiful landscaping, the boat houses, the docks and see the men and women – young and old enjoying the lake. Our goal at the Lake is to make it better! Working closely with the City, we feel this wonderful place will continue to be a place the people in Council Grove, Morris County and the Lake Community can be proud of now and far into the future.

There is an old saying, "since we're in this boat together we should be paddling in the same direction." Is there a better description of the task facing the CGCLA and the City of Council Grove? Because of the difficulty of governing two communities with different needs, the CGCLA is dedicated to helping make the job of the City leaders easier through the education not only of our permanent residents at the City Lake but also those who frequent the Lake periodically throughout the year, especially during the holidays! To that end, we pledge transparency, an open and honest dialogue and an invitation to all to enjoy the Lake as we do.

We want each of you to remember: "Why you decided to move to the City Lake?" Enjoy your time at the lake! I encourage each of you to feel free to share concerns, offers ideas and suggestions not only with me but also with other members of the Board of Directors. Together we become ONE, as one we become NONE!

Enjoy Life at the Lake,

Robert Herbig

Property Taxes for Council Grove City Lake – Gary

At the last City Council meeting, the council finally approved a Grant of Authority for 2015 to CGCLA, as has been done for 2012 – 2014, that will facilitate the property tax appeal.

Master Plan Status - Joyce

The Master Plan committee (Joyce Hutter, Larry Heyka, Tom Nurnberg) has been working diligently on getting the first draft of the Master Plan update written. They are steadily progressing and will present the first draft to the Board of Directors at the August 1st meeting. They anticipate suggested changes and modifications which will require further rewriting. The Board then hopes to have a draft ready for discussion at the September 12th meeting of the general membership, at which the public will be invited to give their input. Following that meeting, they will do the final rewrite (hopefully) and send the Master Plan to be printed.

Independence Day Celebration – Renee'

The traditional Independence Day Regatta took place Saturday July 4th.

Regatta –

1st place Regatta: Zeiglers I/35



2nd Place Regatta: Byerley B/25. They have requested that their prize money be donated back to the Lake fund.

3rd Regatta: Ziegler: R/1



LAKEFRONT

1st place Lakefront: Winters I/5 . They and their guest that participated have requested that their prize money be donated to the Annual Golf Tournament to help support our local schools.





2nd place Lakefront: Bradbury H/11



3rd place Lakefront: Forker HS/2

Kayak races

1st place Kayak: Jayden Kuzmic



2nd place Kayak: Luke Amend

3rd place Kayak: Johnathan Trumpower

Paddle boat races -



1st place Paddle boat: Lucas Detter & Carson Day



2nd place Paddle boat: Zack & Luke 1 Pequette



3rd place Paddleboat: Brekynn & Brylie Graham

City Lake Advisory Committee Report:

The City Lake Advisory Committee was held on Monday, June 29, 2015 at Council Grove City Hall. The Committee is comprised of 12 members; 3 members each from CGCLA, City Council, City Wards and Businesses. The membership consists of Dave Fritchen, Becky Catlin, and Mary Honeyman represent the CGCLA other members include Jim Autrey, Sharon Haun, Betty Hughey, Jeff Woodall, Sylvia Woodruff, Taylor Adams, Jolene Bremer, Mark Brooks, and Dennis DeLay. Dave Fritchen was elected the Chair, Councilman Mark Brooks was elected as Vice Chair and Mary Honeyman was elected as Secretary. Some City Administrators may also elected to attend, as did Larry Johnson, City Inspector; Danny Matthews, City Administrator; Steve Shepard, Mayor.

The City Lake Advisory Committee was required by the lease. The purpose of the Committee is to provide a 12 member forum to address various City Lake Park issues prior to the City Council taking action without input. The CGCLA reps represent the leaseholders to the City in matters pertaining to the City Lake Park.

Some of the issues addressed at the June 29 meeting included the following:

- Chemical Class - City Administrator Matthews reported the city is working with Kansas State University Extension Office on creating an online course for CGCLA members and other leaseholders to complete for certification to use chemicals on their lake lots. This would be similar to the process to get the ANS Certificate from KWPT.
- Platting of Lots - City Inspector Larry Johnson gave an update on progress of platting at the City Lake. The city is furnishing one two-man team per day to flag sites; to date they have flagged 223 sites with the surveyors following behind them to survey the lots after they are flagged. Sections A-G have been flagged with Sections A-D surveyed.
- Lease Clarification - Matthews and Mayor Shepard pointed out there is some confusion about the new lake lease in terms of the portion addressing the review of the lease every 3 years. (Ref Lease: Article 5 RENT, (b)). The CGCLA Board of Directors and the CGCLA Reps to the Lake Advisory Committee contend that according to the lease the City must give the leaseholders 180 notice prior to the end of the current 3 year lease. Therefore, effective Jan 1, 2015 a new 3 year period went into effect. The City must notify the leaseholders by June 29, 2017 if they intend to present justification as required by Article 5(a), (b) and (c) of the lease.

- City Inspector, Larry Johnson asked for Committee discussion on issues that he recommends need to be addressed by ordinances:
 1. Sandy Beaches – Sandy Beaches (bringing materials to the waters' edge that could possibly silt into the lake) are illegal according to the U S Army Corps of Engineers. When construction requires performing work in the waters of the US, the contractor most likely will be required to obtain a Clean Water Act (CWA) Section 404 permit. Sandy Beaches on the City Lake would not be permissible under this permit. Document: Managing Your Environmental Responsibilities is posted on the CGCLA web site.
 2. Fire Rings – There is some question as to reasonable size of fire rings. Johnson suggested a review Manhattan, KS regulations as a model. A 4' inside diameter fire ring seemed to be reasonable. City Ordinance # 1843 will be modified to reflect restrictions on burning. This has also been a problem within the City Limits and City Parks.
 3. RV Problems – Definition of RV – RV can be parked but not 'set up' in a permanent fashion on a lake lot. RVs are allowed to be parked and occupied on a temporary basis for up to 5 days. This will be clarified by ordinance as it is also a problem within the City Limits.
 4. Commons Area – Johnson reported continuing problems with items being stored in commons areas. It is suggested that the City require owners to tag items with their cabin numbers listed on the tag and given a period of time to claim the items or be charged for the moving 'by others', or mowed under the item.
 5. Missing Buoys – Some buoys need to be replaced and/or moved.

The Lake Advisory Committee reps for the CGCLA receive their guidance from the CGCLA Board of Directors. If you have any issues or input that you would like the BOD or the Lake Advisory Committee to address, please contact one of the BOD members.

Water Safety –

Approximately 40 people attended a boat and water safety program sponsored by the Council Grove City Lake Association. The community was invited to attend the safety seminar presented by KDWPT (Kansas Department of Wildlife, Parks and Tourism) Natural Resource/Law Enforcement Officer Randy Benteman. He was assisted by Council Grove Police Sergeant Ray Fowler, who clarified City Lake boating ordinances and talked about city police patrol on the City Lake.

Both officers emphasized that their main task is to keep people safe through education and, where necessary, by using enforcement. Officer Benteman stressed throughout his presentation that he is always available and willing to answer questions and visit with the public. His official cell phone number is available on the KDWPT website listed for Morris County Game Wardens. He also said that Game Wardens are Kansas Law Enforcement Officers and, if necessary, write tickets and make arrests in the same manner as other Law Enforcement Officers.

Benteman also stressed that it is the responsibility of both the boat owner and boat operator to insure the boat is properly equipped and operated. If someone other than the owner is operating the boat, the boat owner is still legally responsible for the safe operation of the boat. Both officers said that sometimes guests at the lake operate the boats and jet skis without being properly informed about rules and regulations. Please make sure your guests are knowledgeable about both the equipment and regulations before they venture onto the lake. This is a safety issue. Also, remember the boat owner is responsible.

A very interesting and informative Question and Answer session closed the meeting. Some main points from the meeting were:

- Life Jackets are Life savers, expect the unexpected. A properly fitting life jacket must be in "clear view" for each occupant of the boat. The jackets cannot be in storage compartments or in plastic bags, etc. KDWPT has a Zero Tolerance Policy on the number and proper size of required life jackets.

- All occupants under the age of 13 MUST wear a life jacket while on a vessel. KDWPT has a Zero Tolerance Policy on this law.
- No wake speed was a topic that resulted in lively discussion. Several people expressed concerns about boaters not complying and passing close to docks.
 - Officer Benteman explained that no wake means no wake. One guideline he suggested was that if a boat was leaving white water when viewed from the front, it was leaving a wake. PWC no wake speed is defined as under five mph.
 - A question was asked if video was enough evidence for enforcement of no wake. Officer Benteman said it was admissible in court. He also said if he was sent a video of an identifiable violator visible KA number he would follow up.
 - Discussion included the location of the wake buoys and the size of the no wake area. Sgt Fowler said that the buoys had been moved by someone other than the city, then moved back in place by the city. He expressed concerns for safety caused by moving the buoys as boaters develop habit patterns. He also said the city police department was looking into ways to apprehend those moving buoys.
 - Several folks ask about enforcement of “reckless operation “ of PWCs. The concerns were wake jumping close to boats and following boats and skiers/tubes too closely. Officer Benteman said that Wake jumping a PWC is illegal (KBR-115-30-10). He also said the 200 foot no wake rule applies, and often when a skier is in the water 200 feet appears very close.

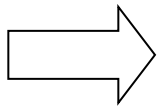
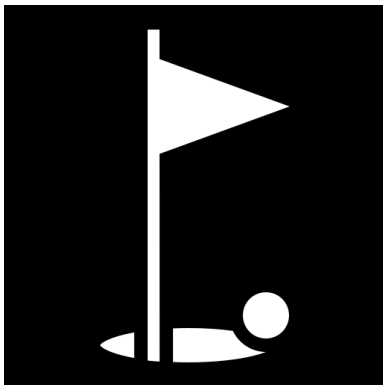
The presentation closed with both officers emphasizing their goal was to keep people safe on the water, and enjoy the boating activities. Both of them also invited anyone to contact them with questions and/or concerns. Several in the audience complimented Officer Benteman and Sgt Fowler on their methods of enforcement and attitudes while patrolling the lake.

Kansas Boating Regulations and Safety Material is available at the KDWPT website.

Council Grove City Lake Boating Ordinances are available at our website <http://www.cgclakeassoc.org/>

KNOW THE LAWS OBEY THEM BE SAFE HAVE FUN!!!

CGCLA Golf Tournament Benefit for Educational Fund



The council grove city lake association annual charity golf tournament is held at the Council Grove Country Club on a Saturday in mid-May of each year. The BIG winner is the USD 417 Educational Enhancement Fund with a **total donation from the tournament sponsors, participants, and guests being \$5,128.00 in 2015.** John Nicodemus does an outstanding job of organizing this event each year, but he is always in need of volunteers. If you would like to help, contact John by phone at 316-619-0016 or email at kem.nicodemus@gmail.com

HAVE FUN----ENJOY YOUR LAKE TIME----BE SAFE.