

## **CLCA Directors' Meeting – June 25, 2017**

The meeting was called to order at 8:30A.M. by President Dave Graves.

The following officers were in attendance: Dick Arthur, Paul Corr, Michael Durkee, Henry Eifert, Ed Fake, Allen Farber, Bill Fielding, Rick Fink, Dave Graves, Deb Hoffman, Mary Jablonski, Richard Maider, Lois Miller, Chris Rohrs, John Saunders, and Shawna Thompson.

Directors not in attendance: John Broderick, Merryn Byrnes, Mark Moritz, and Tony Sturchio.

### **President's Remarks-**

Dave indicated that our membership is strong, our budget situation is very good, our invasive species efforts, thanks to Mike and Marcus are on track and running like a Swiss clock. It was felt that we needed to talk about the health of Nick Stoner Island and that we are moving forward on some additional water quality testing. There are a few issues that need to be “fleshed out” as the meeting goes along.

### **Secretary's Report-**

There was one correction noted in the minutes that had been emailed (pg. 2, paragraph 2; “restricted funds changed to unrestrictive funds”. There were no other additions or corrections. Deb asked for a motion to accept the amended minutes. The motion was made by Rick Fink and seconded by Mary Jablonski. The minutes were approved unanimously.

### **Treasurer's Report-**

Paul reported that we are in good financial condition as our donations have significant. Paul went through his handouts individually. The balance sheets indicated what was filed with New York State. At that point we had significant cash, we have certain restricted funds, which are sufficient for the purposes we desire. The second page represented our Profit and Loss statement (cash basis). We had nearly \$32,000.00 in total income and that required a special filing for New York State. We paid our small fee. Third page was the Balance sheet, which represents figures through today, June 25, 2017. Paul emphasized that we have total cash of \$51,408.82. The 4<sup>th</sup> of July Celebration tends to cover itself each year, the Invasive Species account spent some money on a new shed, and Paul pointed out that the Publication fund has a reserve of \$2,356.41. Paul felt that with this reserve and the addition of advertising we really don't need to have this as a line item in the budget. If there is a need for additional funding we certainly have enough in our budget to cover our needs. The Kane Mt. Patch money has sat untouched for several years and Paul recommended that we move the money to unrestricted funds. There was

discussion that followed regarding an adoptive resource agreement where we would maintain but with no financial obligation on our part. If we do put together a group to maintain the trail and work on the structure, the State will pay for the raw materials and we will provide the free labor. Despite repairs that have been made in the past, this account has not been drawn on for several years. Rick volunteered to go up with Tim Mitchell and make some type of assessment after which we could make a decision as to whether or not to keep this as a line item in the budget. We will revisit this topic in August. There is no clear decision on the future of the cabin.

Turning to the Profit and Loss statement we have paid all expenses that have come in. Looking at the budget for 2017 under Water Quality Monitoring this includes the testing done previously and paid for by James Long. Under Lake Environment and Ecology funds were spent on the Island and there is also \$400.00 for photo plankton and zooplankton analysis through the Darren Fresh Water Institute that Jim Hays is doing for us. There is also allocated \$300.00 for Fire Pump Maintenance. The 4<sup>th</sup> of July Celebration tends to consistently grow over the year through donations. It was decided that there would be no flares placed on the Island due to our restoration efforts so Paul removed that item from the budget. Bill then assured the group that he would put flares on his barge near the Island so that amount was added back in. Lake Organization dues have increased a bit, Lake Directory reserve will be removed as a line item in 2018 as Paul believes it's unnecessary. We have the money to cover these in restricted funds. Volunteer Recognition funds have not been used so the Board may want to consider removing this line item. Everything else is straightforward. Paul indicated that if anything our funds maybe understated. Lois wondered if there were funds available for the Ice Cream Extravaganza. Paul indicated that this event was covered under "Social Events". Lois would like to order T-shirts for those who work at the event. All felt it was a good idea and a motion was made to purchase by Lois and seconded by Chris. The motion was approved unanimously. With no further questions on the 2017 budget Paul went over the 2018 budget noted that the \$75.00 for flares would be added back in as well as \$75.00 for the purchase of T-shirts for those working the Ice Cream Extravaganza. Paul had donations up by \$1,000.00 and even that amount maybe understated as the membership has really pitched in to help with our activities. Jim Hays suggested that we increase our donation to the Caroga Lake Museum to \$100.00. Mike Durkee also pointed out that the Fire Department maybe seeking funds for their new building. Our organization did purchase a tile as part of the fundraising efforts last year but as of right now they have nothing planned. Bill believes that they are waiting for a possible grant. There is no need to act on this right now but it is something to think about in the future. Back to the Museum it was decided that we would increase our donation to \$100.00. Lois made the motion and Shawna seconded it with all approving the motion.

The only other issue regarding the budget was insurance regarding the Ski/Wakeboard Clinic. Paul explained that the \$2,000.00 listed for insurance in the 2017-18 budget is for officers, directors, and liability insurance. Getting insurance at a reasonable rate that include the ski clinic became a problem. Paul handed the discussion off to Chris who was finally able to get us insurance with considerable restraints on the ski clinic. The insurance company requires there be a certified

lifeguard on duty as well as a signed waiver by all participants. We finally agreed to these conditions so we will have coverage for the event this year. Chris has asked Dick to draft a waiver, which required parental permission as well as a release. Diana Leaf then got involved as Dick felt this is more her field of expertise and she drafted a waiver as well. It was suggested that we put the waiver on our website so that parents could review the content. Dick questioned why we need insurance if we have an airtight waiver and release of liability. It was decided that we would wait on Diana's waiver and then submit it to the insurance company for approval. Our organization carries insurance on all Directors and general liability to cover any incident at our sponsored events. Dave asked if we, as an organization need to sponsor the ski clinic. Is Diana willing to take this event on with all its challenges? Perhaps we will learn from this year and decide if we wish to continue to sponsor this event in the future. Dave asked that Chris work with Diana to whether the event is practical. The results will be communicated through email. Mary asked Paul about the amount listed for line item ALA. Paul explained this expense was for membership in the Adirondack Lake Association program for chemicals used in the testing and training done by James Long. James has been doing this testing with his own funds for years. A motion was made to accept the Treasurer's report and it passed unanimously.

## **Old Business**

**Nick Stoner Island**-Dave provided background information on what had been done last summer. The Island appears in the same condition but hasn't gotten any worse. The go ahead to injection fertilize the white pines was given but this process has not been done to date. Rick will follow up. It was suggested that the dock be removed from the Island as there may be a temptation to use it as firewood. We will continue to do some planting and all agreed that the dock should be removed.

**Eagle Scout Project**-Our organization was approached by an individual who is hoping that his project to refurbish the six State campsites will be approved by his council. We have signed all the necessary paperwork and hopefully this young man will hear from his council soon so that he can get started. The State will supply him with all the necessary materials.

**Boating Safety Patrol**-The Sheriff's department has received some funding from the county and the department intends to continue the patrols again this year. Sheriff Giardino indicated that he could always use more money but he seemed pleased with the county's response. Our organization has not been approached for extra funding. It was suggested that we put it in the newsletter that individuals may make contributions if they wish. There was a concern regarding water skiing after sunset on West Lake. Dave referred to the Sheriff's response from last year. If you see a pattern by individuals you can call his department and a car will be sent.

John Saunders spoke to the fact that several Fulton and South Shore Rd. residents seem to be renting their properties. The renters are bringing in their own

watercraft and there is some concern as to whether or not these crafts have gone through the boat wash. Some have also observed some unsafe boating practices. John suggested that we might come up with an attachment to our newsletter that renters could leave with their property information for incoming renters. Dave and Allen along with several others agreed to get together and work on this document.

**Invasive Species**-Mike had the first meeting of the season on June 24<sup>th</sup>. He reviewed statistics from last year and indicated that we are ahead of last year's pace at the boat wash station. As in the past we have two part time stewards paid by the Town at the boat launch site and two full time stewards at the boat wash station. Volunteers will start up at the launch this coming July 4<sup>th</sup> weekend. The Lake inspection process has been expanded to include Lily Lake and there are ambitions to go down toward Stewart's Landing. There is no evidence of any invasive species though milfoil was found on several boats last season. Mike is optimistic that we can keep the same amount of protection this year as in the past.

Mike had invited the terrestrial species manager from Keene Valley to their meeting. Zack Simek gave a presentation on the terrestrial invasive species in this area. Zack has been doing surveys along Rts. 29A and 10 and has identified stands of phragmites and knotweed. The group has an arrangement with DEC and DOT so they will do eradication along the State's rights of way. Zack also found Black Swallowtail Wort which is an invasive vine and quite unusual to find in the Park. Zack gave Mike "wanted" posted that will be posted to alert residents of this invasive. If you do come across it, notify the group's rapid response team and they will come down and take care of it.

The new shed at the boat launch has received many positive compliments both by the stewards and the general public. The State provided the paint for the shed while Town money was used for the shed located at the boat wash location. Mike did learn that there is a possibility of obtaining a hand held radio that would allow stewards to contact DEC Northville and the Sheriff's department in case of an emergency at the launch site. Mike will get follow up information on this. Finally Mike indicated that DEC had placed a gate near the dam at Stewart's Landing to prevent boat launching. Henry indicated that for the most part it seems to be working.

Rick Fink asked about boater compliance at the boat wash station. Mike said it's difficult to tell if those who do pass by are going to the West Lake launch or continuing to another lake. Mike is encouraged as the numbers are up from last year. Since there is no State mandate for boaters it is difficult to get compliance. The State is still in the public information phase. Mike hopes add additional signage and perhaps some flashing lights to bring more attention to the free boat wash.

Lois will be taking care of getting the new CLCA \$500.00 Reward posters out to the directors to distribute at the Annual meeting.

## **Lake Activities-Lois Miller, Vice President**

**Boat Parade**-Brian and Kristen Franz will be hosting again this year. The date is Sunday, July 23<sup>rd</sup> and they will take care of all the advertising.

**Picnic**-Mike and Mary Cannon will host again this year at their Fulton Road camp. The picnic will be held on Saturday, July 29<sup>th</sup> from 1 – 4. Please bring a chair and a dish to share.

**Fireworks**-Mike Manning has received the waiver and the show has been scheduled for July 2<sup>nd</sup> at 9:30P.M.

**Sailing**-Anyone interested in learning how to sail should call Courtney as he would be happy to take them out.

**Ice Cream Extravaganza**-Lois has it under control.

**Ladies Luncheon**-Cat has worked with her committee and the luncheon is set for July 19<sup>th</sup> at the Pine Lake Lodge.

**Youth Activities**-Ward Halverson will be taking over this committee. Shawna has agreed to stay on the committee. They will put out a blurb on the website regarding an organization meeting.

## **Lake Management-Mary Jablonski, Vice President**

**Environment and Ecology**-Dave Graves indicated that all he had to say is in his article that appears in the Echo that was just handed out. Dave did add that the State has had plans for expansion of the boat launch for many years. We have shared our views with DEC and the APA for a more modest upgrade of the launch. We need to keep a close eye on this. Dave's group also discussed the evidence of the Black Swallowtail Wort found on Kasson Drive. He and Zack will find out who owns the property and Zack will treat the spot. Dave also mentioned that he and Jim Hays had attended a conference on the Hemlock Woolly Adelgid. Experts had hoped that the cold winters would kill it off but it continues to spread north and has now been found in Schenectady and Schoharie counties. It is moving north at about 10 miles per year and once it arrives it takes about four years to kill off the hemlocks. We really need to keep a close eye on this invader.

**Fire Safety**-Bill Fielding spoke to the usual precautions; have a hose ready near your structure, have several fire extinguishers on hand. Most everyone has the fire numbers displayed on their properties. The fire pumps may need some new hose and Bill will check them. The three pumps will be gassed up and tested.

**Fishing-**Mary reported that the week after Easter there were 2,000 brown trout put into Canada Lake just off Stony Point. There was no report from Doug Smith.

**Lake Safety-Tony Sturchio**

No report given

**Property Assessment-Linda Clark**

No report given

**Water Level-Bill Fielding/Henry Eifert**

There are now two new people involved with the operation, which is a concern. Bill does report on a daily basis to the Northville office but can only offer his recommendations not tell them what to do. So far they have been proactive and despite the rain, the level of the Lake has not gone above six or seven inches. The trick to controlling high water is to know when to open and close the gate. It must be opened early enough so that Canada Lake can receive water when the heavy rains begin.

**Water Purity-Merryn Byrnes**

CSLAP water testing has begun. The 2<sup>nd</sup> out of 8 samples for the season will be collected this afternoon. (June 25<sup>th</sup>) As mentioned, she needs help with the collecting of the bacteria samples this season. Anyone with a small motorboat or a kayak can help collect throughout the season. If any college student interested in water quality or environmental science should see me. This is another great way to gain experience and it looks good on a resume!

**Stewardships-**

**Highway-Shawna Thompson.** Shawna indicated that four pick-ups will be scheduled throughout the summer. Shawna asked if she could purchase a safety vest to be given to Sue Tantalo in honor of her many years of being involved in the program. Dave agreed.

**Shoreline-Deb Hoffman.** Deb referred all to her article that appears in this year's Echo.

**Campsites-Betsy Cannon.** Lois reported that she had checked the campsite in Lily Lake and that Courtney has agreed to check the site on West Lake. We are looking forward to the involvement of the Eagle Scout.

**Fire Tower-**There is a stewardship agreement with DEC that encompasses the tower only. The upkeep of the cabin was removed. The tower itself is sound according to Bill.

## **Lake Organization-Allen Farber, Vice President**

**Adirondack-Jim Hays.** Jim reported that he attended the ALA meeting last summer where the primary topic discussed was the Hemlock Woolly Adelgid. It is spreading north and we will be getting in touch with the researcher at Cornell to see what we can do to help stop the spread of this.

**Bylaws-Dick Maider.** Presently there is no need for any new or amended Bylaws.

**Directory-Dick Arthur.** Nothing to report

**Legal-Dick Maider.** Only discussion centered around the waiver for the ski clinic.

**Membership-Merryn Byrnes.** As of today there are 263 members. This is 28 short of last year's total at the end of the season. She believes that we should make up for at least 20 of these members throughout the season with some gentle reminders. Her late follow up on non-payers is likely contributing to the lower numbers. New members: 7 - Lois will be giving them a nice welcome and distribute a packet of information to them.

Donations so far this year total \$7,525.00.

Echoes are sealed and awaiting a trip to the post office first thing Monday morning and Directors' copies will be distributed at today's meeting.

**Nominating Committee-John Saunders.** John indicated that he had sent out an email to all Directors whose term was ending this year. John had received word from Merryn and Jim that they would step down if replacements were available. John did get notice that Eric Manning has shown interest and John would like to approach several individuals on South Shore Rd. We do want coverage around the Lakes. If anyone has other people in mind, let him know and he will approach them. Shawna and Bill also would like to continue to serve.

With Chris becoming President, we now have a need for a President Elect. Dave and Chris nominated John Saunders for this position as both felt that John has been a great contributor to the organization. This recommendation was approved unanimously by the Board. Potentially there are now two director slots to fill and one candidate. Someone will talk to Merryn about reconsidering. Bill felt that Merryn could be talked into staying but with staffing the store, especially so early in the season, she will be unable to attend the meetings. Our Bylaws do state that if a Director misses two consecutive meetings without a valid excuse, they are subject to release. Everyone felt that Merryn had a very good excuse.

Dave brought up the fact that the organization does not have term limits. Dave feels we need to have people who are contributing and particularly get some younger blood into the group. After discussing with the officers, Dave felt we should at least review the concept of term limits, ie; how many times can you "reup" as a Director before giving it a break. Dave and Chris are also going to talk with John Broderick who has some health issues and has missed recent meetings. Rick Fink

noted that we have discussed term limits for the past twenty years and nothing has ever come of it. Dave pointed out that if no one is willing to step down there are never any openings to accept potential newcomers. We do not want people to feel that this is a closed group. It was suggested that it could be announced at the Annual meeting that there are several Board members who are willing to step down if there are any members interested in becoming a Director. We need to remind people that the Director meetings are open if anyone is interested in seeing how the Board works.

**Website-Allen Farber.** Despite some late changes Allen has kept the calendar up to date. The newsletter will begin this week and he asked that you notify him with any event that is planned. Allen did spend the winter working on Branson material and that appears on the website.

**Welcoming Committee-Lois Miller.** Lois gave a welcoming packet to all but one new owner last year and she has received the list from Merryn for this year. There were several additions to that list. Let Lois know if someone new moves into your area.

**Winter Emergency-Tony Sturchio.** No report given.

In other topics Jim Hays expressed concern with the Town regarding widening some of the dirt roads around Canada Lake. Jim had a rather lengthy discussion with Highway Superintendant Steve Putman who assured Jim that the roads were not being widened the department was merely taking down trees that had been hit by the plows. Jim's concern is that the wider the road the faster the cars will go. Bill indicated that there is something happening in the Town that is fostering this. Every year the Town is awarded CHIPS money. This money must be used to pave or repave roads. However once you pave a road with CHIPS money you cannot pave that road for ten years. Basically if the Town doesn't use money, they lose it for the next year. Perhaps there should be a movement in the Town to preserve our atmosphere and fix the roads we would like to be fixed and leave the others as dirt roads. The challenge will be for you to fight for leaving the dirt roads as they are. To accomplish this the Town would have to pass an ordinance to keep the roads as they currently are. Bill indicated that there is a lot more to this situation than meets the eye.

Bill encouraged everyone to take in some of the concerts presented by the Caroga Lake Music Festival that will be given throughout the summer. This year's schedule has been extended to five weeks. Bill believes that this group represents one of the best things that have happened in the Town in years. Bill hoped that we would all attend and support the group.

Chris announced the next Directors' meeting would be held on Saturday, August 19<sup>th</sup> at his residence on 194 Fulton Rd. beginning at 8:30a.m. Dave reminded everyone

of the upcoming Annual meeting that will be Saturday, July 8<sup>th</sup> beginning at 7:00 p.m.

With nothing else to be discussed, Lois made a motion to adjourn at 11:02 a.m. The motion was seconded and passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,  
Deb Hoffman – Secretary