

CLCA Board Meeting Minutes

Saturday, August 24, 2019

Caroga Town Hall – 8:30 am

(convened after Emergency Board Meeting was adjourned at 8:43)

Allen Farber called the meeting to order at 8:43 as the new acting president.

President's Remarks: Allen thanked the board for the teamwork going forward and for all the years prior. He stated his enjoyment of working on the website and with this new role as President, asked for someone to lookover what is being done on the newsletter/website as a check and balance. Chris will be the approver. He plans to bring the meeting to a more appropriate length and thanked all board chairs for their work.

Secretary's report: Deb Hoffman mentioned the corrections that were sent to her: gate leaking, nominating committee question by Lois Miller about 2 people from the same family on the board, fishing statement from Jim Hays moved up under fishing in the Fishing section. She will send minutes with the corrections to Allen for posting. Asked for approval. Mary made motion to approve, Ed Fake seconded. Applause for Deb and her untiring efforts as secretary. Allen thanked her publicly as well.

Treasurer's report: Mary Jablonski presented on behalf of Paul Corr, who was not in attendance.

- Balance Sheet: The balance sheet as of August 22, 2019 shows \$54,975.40 in cash of which \$45,568 is in a money market savings account earning interest. The balance details the amount of cash restricted for specific purposes. The Profit and Loss Statement summarizes the receipts and expenditures for the year through August 22, 2019. Profit & Loss by class – no comments were made here by Paul.
- Paul recommended that Kane Mt funds be moved to an ecology & environment fund. Allen expressed reservation as that particular fund did not need it. Dave said he has not discussed with Paul but agreed that it could be left in the same place or moved to a different area. Allen mentioned the upcoming Centennial Fire Tower celebration and suggested having this money in reserve for that. Chris mentioned that it is just sitting in cash. Rick asked if we should designate it for fire tower. Question was posed as to who would oversee this. Chris said it is 5 years away – we may not need to do anything immediately and to keep it in place with the thought in mind that it is earmarked for the centennial celebration.
- Allen requested we focus on the budget and the changes:
 - invasive reduced to \$500. Marcus was OK with this. Chris asked if we are sure Paul Smith's was still in place. Primary areas are for training. In past it was used on match for grants.
 - Water quality monitoring was reduced to \$500. Merryn did not get communication and did not know what it was last year. It is for the monitoring we do which does not include James Long testing (who still needs it). Recommends that we need \$1100 for the testing and membership. Has \$470 for CSLP. When totaled the three areas equal \$1150. Merryn agreed if it is this amount. Membership was confused as to how it was presented. Chris recommended it be put all together for better understanding.
 - Fire pumps reduced to \$4,200.

- The payment to NYSFOLA (NYS Federation of Lake Associations) is a membership. NYSFOLA and NYS Encon run CSLAP (Citizens Statewide Lake Assessment Program) which is a volunteer organization that does water purity monitoring. The payment for both is made to NYSFOLA (\$645). The ALA (Adirondack Lake Alliance) is also a membership (\$75) which was overlooked in 2019. We are current now. The Adirondack Lake Assessment Program sponsored by Protect the Adirondacks has charged \$200 for other testing which James Long does. There was no charge in 2019. I have reimbursed Merryn for Millipore Sigma supplies for testing in the past (\$456). There were no such reimbursements in 2019 or 2020. I have not received the invoice for NYSFOLA from Merryn to reimburse her this year. It is best that I pay NYSFOLA directly or that I give Merryn a check payable to NYSFOLA.
- Water Ski Clinic. Lois stated Lifeguard is \$150 + snacks. Her budget was \$450. Boating gas topped at \$50/boat.
- Kristin sent in budget for boat parade which was \$400-500. Actual expenditures equaled \$446.16. Allen asked if that included the punch. The idea was that it was a dish-to-pass supper. Kristin changed it due to the attendees going around parade with macaroni salad in the sun & heat. Allen is a big proponent and requested \$400. Lois asked it to be moved to \$450 due to the expenses submitted. Jack Ryan wanted to keep a tradition of the fish house punch. There was a concern about the hard alcohol included so they wanted to eliminate this. Many people that attend that are not in the parade could bring dishes. Allen said the July 4th weekend was a great time due to the number of people on the lake during the holiday.
- David thought if the picnic was mentioned with sandwich platters it might bring in more people. Do we need porta-potties? Lois mentioned that there is an outhouse. Allen mentioned how the activities have changed over the years. Youth activities were largely attended in prior years. The picnic seems to be the older group. Maybe having corn hole tournament might bring younger group. The weather may have dampened this year. The weekend of choice may have limited a younger group as well.
- Through August 22, 2019, 294 members have paid their dues ($\$30 \times 294 = \$8,820$).
- Need to approve report but changes are for next year's approval. Rick made the motion...Lois seconded. Approved

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Dam repair – Chris Rohrs

- Reported and asked for Henry's input. 10/14 – rapid pull down 2-3 ft on lake, 5-6 at dam. Repairs completed on seals, dam will be closed, and lake can go up according to rain until Nov 15 when it will be drawn down again. 6-7" high on the lake, 1-5" high at the dam. Dam is open 14" as of yesterday morning and DEC is on call prepared to go Sunday to close if recommended by the Water Level committee. Not known yet but thinking Monday. DEC has crew ready for Sunday. If committee thinks it will go down to fast, they will tap it down. Chris gives high marks to the state and Brian Huyck as they are great to work with. Sent recommendations at 7 and he responded at 7:15. Very responsive. It got to 9" at it's peak, 6" high at dam. No one likes these variations, but DEC was very responsive. Allen thanked Chris. Bill asked Chris if he would stay on as liaison to DEC and he agreed through the season.

Fire Pumps – Rick Fink

- Purchased two new fire pumps to replace two oldest pumps. New pumps are on location and operational. Rather than mothball the old pumps we decided to build two new pumps stations (at Tim Eldred's in West Lake and Rick Fink's on S Shore). These pumps are on location and operational
- Dick Maider will review liability issues concerning the fire pumps. Pump locations have been updated in the new Directory map and ECHO map (????)
- Instruction has taken place for 20 members at Dolgeville Point. Lois said new pumps are quite easy to start.
- Get locations of pumphouses to ECHO and Allen will add them to the website as well. Requested same statement goes on website. Dick wants to harmonize language to be sure that any disclaimer is the same in both ECHO and website.
- Lois had suggestions – what if you do not have a hose? Where do I go to get fire extinguisher tested/charged? How often is it to be checked? Deb mentioned if it is green, it is good and that there is a place in Fultonville. Good information for the ECHO. Would Fire Department give any instruction?

Invasive Species – Marcus Harazin

- Held committee meeting on Aug 4. Mike Durkee is traveling. Contacted Sue O'Reilly (AWI) for changes in totals: 1,600 boats inspected. As of Aug 24 – 2,635 inspected. With addition of staff, Caroga campsite now inspects boats. Count of 500 and have found invasive species on 7 including milfoil and spiny waterflea – origin of boats from Lake Ontario. Educated over 4,123 boaters. When this began - 400 boats to date. Working with Town and DEC to get contract in place for grant. Looks like it is going into signoff process. Working with Town to get their reimbursement. Very pleased with volunteers – haven't found anything unusual. When boats are coming out of Caroga Lake – are they being inspected? Marcus not sure. Lorrie mentioned she has found milfoil on a boat coming from Caroga so possibly not. He thinks marina does more boat launching than campsite. Lorrie brought up 6-8 am not being covered by volunteers at West Lake boat launch – many boats launching with no inspection. AWI starts at 8 am and Marcus needs to be sure time period is covered. AWI Stewards work 7:30 -3:30 so there is a gap both before and after. Bob noted we need better approach to assure coverage. Allen mentioned approach was more on weekends. Chris – spending association money to get more paid coverage...we are well funded thinking of having to deal with invasive species control. Lois mentioned that there is more workmen's comp, etc. that would be included. Marcus – past coverage has worked well with peak being on weekend. Weekdays – feels that most are repeat customers and know the drill. Tough to pay people to sit there when no one comes. Will check with Mike to see numbers and where to better deploy people. If there was an issue on shortage of resources, would come back to the board. Lois feels the Town should be responsible. Feels that Town would take it for granted – stick with Town and State money. Jim asked what the town is contributing. Grant – 25% local match, 75% state funding for wash station and boat launch. DEC has a grant with AWI (Paul Smiths) to provide stewards at sites on state property. (Caroga campsite and one at West Lake). Town pays for divers, supervisor (\$100,000). Now added steward supervisor – town pays for that as well.

- Many members interested in terrestrial invasive species. Woolly adelgid – DEC promises to keep us informed of Rockwood Forest. Are they also looking at hemlocks on the shore? Lois did not feel it was being done. Marcus feels the property owners should be involved. He has done shore inspection, but it is hard to do from shore. He has inspected some dead ones thinking woolly adelgid, but it was not. Lois inspects from Point Breeze camp to West Lake. There is so much debris and roots that would not be able to see from lake. Jim inspects Point Breeze to ½ way to shore – there are many hemlocks on the shore – he educates the people on the shore.
- Feel we need to stay on top of road salt. Level of salination in local wells has increased a lot. Jim feels the ill of hemlocks on Green Lake may be due to road salt.
- Mary brought up that Mike Hoffman is working to eliminate Japanese knotweed at Green Lake – thought there may be some behind Bret Fielding’s house. Marcus says there is a map that shows Caroga is now plotted on the map for Japanese knotweed and phragmites. Feels we should talk to town and see if there is some abatement highway dept can do. Marcus will bring up at next Town meeting.
- Knotweed is working its way down Sawdust Creek from Pine Lake. Abatement ranges from consultation and what strategies can remove and there is equipment available. AWI loans that out.

NEW BUSINESS

- Approval of 2020 calendar. First directors meeting shifted to Saturday since it would have been on Sunday – Father’s Day.
- Major question on fireworks. July 3rd was the ideal day until Pine Lake had them on that day. Lois – said there is Thursday and Sunday – did not feel it should be on Friday with Pine Lake. Deb – our funding is done for the lake where Pine Lake is more for community. Additional cost for Saturday is \$10,000. Merryn – when did we decide to contract Majestic? If we have a contract with them, then we are responsible. They give opportunity to reschedule. We have not contracted as of yet. Feels we need to set the best date for Canada Lake when most people are here since they are funding it, and not worry about Pine Lake. Feels the only date would be Friday. Allen – will most likely have the same problem next year. Lois declined but asked for someone to be responsible for fundraising for this. Allen will put request in the correspondence. Merryn will volunteer. We are the means of collecting the funds – how much do we need to raise - \$740 in account. Chris – December turned out well - \$1900 maybe through year-end contributions. Maybe do the same thing. Allen – still concern in spring – need to appeal to those who give large sums. All agreed that the prime day of July 3 – Friday was the best option. Deb – was it decided that if we do not make \$5,000, the association would not fill in, but move over to next year. It was not resolved during last meeting. Merryn – association has never had to give out of general fund – we have needed to put out a last-minute plea. \$730 in budget currently we would do it, pay for it until it became a problem. Ed thought if we are \$4100 short, we would put it in but end it next year. Allen put out the idea of a go-fund me account, but most felt that should not be an issue unless there is a big problem. Lois made a motion that fireworks be held on July 3 and that if contract is signed and funding is not met, association funds for this one year. Allen brought up there is a possibility that Majestic is not available. Motion seconded by Jim. All in favor.

- Waterski clinic moved a week away from picnic. Lake Luncheon hosted by Deb Hoffman. Allen asked for calendar approval. Rick made the motion & seconded by Dave. All in favor.

Nominating committee – Chris Rohrs

- Meeting on Monday to activate committee and move forward with getting a slate in place. Before John resigned, he asked Chris to fill in for the chair of this committee. Allen endorsed this. He also asked Tom Lyons to fill the spot. Lois, Dorothy, and Henry Eifert in addition. Seeing info from all board members on who might be interested. Allen is stepping down from Lake VP – Deb Hoffman filling in. Asked board if sending out committee report prior to meeting is working – to cutting down on time. Someone must compile them. Deb feels as prior secretary that it is extremely helpful when they are posted as it cuts down on transcribing.

Winter Committee – becoming irrelevant? Shall we continue with current committee – Allan, John, Merryn, Paul and Mary. This committee is different from Winter Emergency Committee run by Tony Sturchio.

Email spoofing – source was website. Allen and Deb met to update website adding new directors including Lorrie who was then spoofed. Allen has since removed all email addresses and added one contact information box on the website with an association email. Allen sent current emails around for any updates – mail chimp avoids showing all addresses so minutes and reports will be using this going forward.

Leap Year Drawdown – Mike Manning approached Allan. He is asking for opinion. Jim states drawdown this year will be short. Water level committee expressed opinion to stay will current situation. People plan a year or two ahead of time. Ed requested to keep as is – all approved.

Septic - Jim Hays had spoken with Inlet, Lake Pleasant, Queensbury – all working on management of such. State has rules for installation and failure of systems. Not much in between. Air B&B, etc. – there is some concern on how often it should be pumped, and tank replaced. Inlet & Queensbury have finalized rules. Wonder if we should approach Town of Caroga as to this. Merryn asked if we could get a copy of Inlet's and Queensbury's rules. Jim is working on this and will provide to Allen & Jamie Long.

Island - Lois mentioned a possible tree down. Rick said it has been down and wedged all season. Rick had called John to use a chainsaw to help remove dead wood, but it was not approved. Need a certified individual – Allen Peck is certified. Dave – contract to help with trail maintenance. They do not want anyone out there that is not properly certified. Needs to be recertified if expired. Rick would like to get a good assessment of the trees.

Lake Management – Contacted Jon DeSantis who has repaired the netting on the fire tower and inspected the roof. Concluded that it is in fair shape and nothing further is necessary at this time. The roof deemed for Kane was put on a tower that needed it more badly. Dave contacted Jon DeSantis, forester with the DEC, about Nick Stoner island. Jon felt that a trip to check on the trees on the island every other year was sufficient, and would be interested in inspecting the island next summer.

Water Purity – Merryn did not have a report but will work with Jim on Septic. Allen – do we need to update information on website – she will check. All members are the same. Marcus is testing for road salt – is that CSLAP? Merryn said no. John Byrnes has volunteered to collect water samples for anyone

that wanted their wells tested. There was a study through Paul Smiths which was separate. What is the best course of action on following up on the monitoring the increase in wells, lakes & streams? Marcus will see what he can find out. Merryn will talk with NYSLAP to see if there are any other programs we can be a part of. Jim Hays mentioned the state report from last year showed that most was coming from roads as they felt they had a mandate to keep roads cleared. There could be accidental dumps as well. John found high concentrations near the highway. Merryn feels the town dumps a good amount of salt as well. Marcus knows of wells that have been closed in Hamilton County due to unsafe levels.

Lake Safety – needs a chair – Eric Manning has resigned. Lois wondered who should put up the speed limit sign for entrance into Lily Lake. As VP, Mary can appoint a chair. The sign was under water – if someone could find it, it could be reposted in the spring after the ice goes out. Merryn will check with Bill Fielding to locate.

Fish – approved until 12/21/24. Allen said that Jan Corr reported there was a cost to stocking Caroga. Allen will put out a request that Canada Lake deserves money as well. Jim feels that we should have a fish survey. Oneonta does this with students on Otsego lake. It would be helpful to know what is there and if we add, is it a good thing since a lake is made up of a complex system. Jim will pass this off to Allen but be part of the conversation.

Assessment – no issues

Highway – Bob Baker reported that he and Lorrie did this on August 22 from West Lake to Canada Store both sides. He asked for a committee of 10. Lois committed to helping.

Campsites - Lily Lake and West Lake looked good (campsites). Mary asked if there was one on Green Lake, Merryn said there is a spot not designated as a state campsite across from old rope swing. Should we designate? There are campsites down the channel as well, but we have never checked them out.

Fire tower – Tim Mitchell – report in notes

ADK – done

Bylaws – Dick will take care of issue brought up today regarding officers/elections.

Directory – ad sales is underway. Organizing content in next two months – goes to publication on June 1. Looking forward to as great a book as Dick Arthur did last year. Dick said Allen did a great job with maps and requested that all fire pumps be included.

Fire dept – would like to have Howard be our contact.

Echo – Chris and Allen have volunteered to be editors for next year. Mark was not present. The committee reports will give a great start. Merryn asked if Mark was OK with them being “proofreaders” and Chris said he was good. Submissions were not confirmed – that seemed to be the problem. Allen said he will be more consistent with the information.

Legal – nothing new. Allen brought up the alcohol at the boat parade, but it was covered.

Membership – Merryn – just 3 short of goal of 300. Merryn sent a 2019 update via email. She did not do that this year with the email spoofing and the concerns from members that their contact information would get out. There was concern also that it would be accessible through the website – Neither is an

issue as confirmed by Allan. Allen can send out to the members that the 2019 membership is available on the website through a link in the membership email. A hacker could get this information. Cost is prohibitive (\$150 for 30 copies). Feel that this is not important since it will be supplemented with the 2020. Many members would like this at home. Chris feels we should not push out anything else this year. Merryn has sent to people that have requested directly to her and will continue to do so this year and revisit this next year. Should membership form be the same - dues breakdown? One request by Dee Dee Leaf from the waterski clinic that the waiver be added to the membership form. Merryn feels this is too expensive, but perhaps it can be mentioned in the letter and add a checkoff for interest on the form. The form is on the website. Add "Are you interested in participating on the waterski clinic?" here. It was agreed to keep the same form and no other additions were made.

Nominating – covered. Jim Hays stated 2020 is an election year. As a non-profit, we cannot be involved in any political statement.

Website – Erin Beaudet to help with taking on newsletter and working with Merryn as to handling multiple databases.

Welcoming – Lois reported a lot of corrections with phone numbers. Allen – membership does not have email/internet connection.

Winter emergency – none to report

Lake activities Lois – all committees submitted online – please take the time to read.

Rick and Chris met with Sherri Buckner – mom at 99. Being that she will be 100 next year, they felt that this organization should have something in the plans to help her celebrate. We did cake for her 95th at the Museum. Dick Arthur mentioned that she would allow us to use her place for a picnic. Rick asked that we table this to the next meeting. Falls into Lois's committee. Cannon's volunteered next year, and Deb raised concern if they would be upset if we changed it.... Lakeside does not have an inside area in case of inclement weather. Check with Doug Smith as it may be too much for Bonnie. Lois mentioned that she attends the luncheon and it could be an ideal place since it is for everyone!

Allen asked for adjournment – Mary made the motion to adjourn and Lois seconded. The group retired to the boat wash (across the road from Town Hall) for a director's picture.