

MINUTES
CLCA Directors' Meeting
Sunday, August 23, 2020
at 8:30 AM via Zoom

Attendees: Lois Miller, Allen Farber, Mike Durkee, Lorrie Mott, Bob Baker, Ed Fake, Henry Eifert, Deb Hoffman, Erin Beaudet, Don Clark, Dick Maider, Chris Rohrs, Dave Graves, Marty Newell, Randy Fredlund, Marcus Harazin, Jon Vesey, Paul Corr, Dick Arthur, Rick & Kathy Fink, Tom Lyons, Mary Jablonski

Allen called the meeting to order at 8:46 am.

President's Remarks – Allen

Sent email to all membership giving them capacity to log in. Asked non-directors to log off. Apologized for mistake. Lois mentioned that anyone can attend our meetings. This meeting begins a new year with new directors. Allen thanked Paul and Lorrie for continuing in positions as Treasurer & Secretary and Marcus for stepping up as President Elect. Two new directors and 1 returning – introduce themselves:

- John Vesey – part of Smith family on Stony Point spent summers since 1960 – grandparents bought camp in 40's. Spent time in the Koppel camp. Happy to help with publications.
- Randy Fredlund – lives in Rochester and now on Stewart Landing Road (9/11/2001 was purchase date). Engineer who worked for Kodak. Enjoys hiking, camping, and doing blogs. Rebuilt guest house and is very happy to be here most of year. His photography has been included on website and he hopes to do more. Received a drone for his birthday and hopes to document the channel where the rocks are (Stewarts Landing) – interested in history of old hotels, where the boiler is, involvement in invasive species, and exploring solutions for water level problems.
- Erin Beaudet – Lives on Green Lake, parents are Tim & Sue Mitchell and the Fieldings are her cousins. Has taken on membership from Meryn and happy to be part of the directors.

Directory – Chris Rohrs gave kudos to Cassandra Lyons for her design.

Secretary's Report- Lorrie Mott – minutes approved with the attachment of committee reports. Corrections /Additions – Lois Miller called this morning to mention about including committee reports, which should be included in minutes. Vote to approve as emailed

Treasurer's Report – Paul Corr – What was sent did not have properly numbered pages.

- Balance Sheet \$70,362 in cash \$68,857 is in money market. We are in great shape.
- Profit & Loss statement – 2 more members bringing us to 300 members total. Donations \$7,325. Restricted \$15,700. Significant donations above membership dues.
- Review of 2020 budget -has not changed and was agreed on at last meeting. Updated for water monitoring, added \$1,000 for fire pumps, other figures updated by comments from directors and members.

- Any comments? Lois – should we include screen for boat launch? It will come out of invasive species.
- Lois made motion – Mike seconded. All approved

Continuing Business

Meeting with Jon DeSantis about the Kane Mt. Parking Lot and Trails – Allen had meeting to talk about parking lot expansion by Town. Hopefully will take care of issues on road. Can't complete before resolution of lawsuit between parties and DEC, but it will happen.

Invasive Species Update- Mike Durkee & Marcus Harazin –

- Mike – as reported at ISC meeting – very busy season at wash and definitely launch. Increase in usage around entire park and a major increase in boats going through our launch 8/9 – over 3300 inspected compared to 2000 in all of 2019. 77% increase in boats. Support of AWI providing 5-day steward, town pays for 2-day steward and supplemented by trusty volunteers. Parking lot has had some issues with going in and out by boaters. Four (4) invasives picked out: 1 curly leaf pondweed and 3 milfoil. AWI decided on short notice, they would stop providing the steward at West Lake to provide one at Caroga campsite which has 13% less traffic. Mike requested fervently and they conceded to provide West Lake steward until Labor Day. Kayli (college student) returned to school with last day last Wednesday leaving us with 2 days that were open and have covered next week with volunteers. Would like to ask volunteers to cover boat launch though September weekends. Boatwash will be open on weekends. Lorrie thanked Mike for all he did to get AWI to continue.
- Marcus – John Olm, Mike and Marcus will cover next town board meeting to be sure we are all covered in the town (Caroga & West Lake). Mentioned the HWA film and how informative it was. Thanks to all the inspectors. Would like to seal off areas of lake where people are launching boats on their private property. Request to send out letter to members to educate them to the boatwash that we have available and how important it is. Same issue at Caroga where people were launching boats, and this doesn't help our effort to keep our lakes clean. Mike went over to Green Lake to see where people are launching. Would like to get metal signs for Stewarts Landing and private properties to point to boatwash and inspections. There are several signs available through AWI that we can pursue.
- Will get more information on ash bore and encourages something in our newsletter that all homeowners keep track of trees on their property as well as shoreline detection. Marcus will work with Scott Horton to see how we can note to boats that the wash and inspection are free. Lois mentioned that we will be putting up screening on the boat launch to protect the stewards from the bugs. Mike asks the directors to approve \$500 to put up the screening around the porch. Dixon Peters and Tim Mitchell have volunteered to construct so cost is just materials. Paul Corr moved and was seconded by Dave Graves. All approved.

- This is national invasive species water week. AWI is offering courses through their website and YouTube and offers a certificate upon completion. They are also offering workshop on salt that impacts waters in our area. Mike and Marcus will supply link.

Charitable Contributions:

Mary Jablonski and Paul Corr have been researching. Contacted several food pantries and people in community of which are most used and most successful.

1) Food Pantry and Center for Hope, that operate out of the Gloversville YWCA, at 33 Bleecker St. Rich Wilkinson is Pastor of the Free Methodist Church, and his wife, Stephanie, is director of the Food Pantry. - Food provided to over 400 families weekly - Mass food distribution once a month at the Farmers' Mkt. Pavilion or Sr. Center in Gloversville, provides food for 500 + families. (Last winter they began offering a winter shelter for people who are homeless, called Code Blue).

2) GAVAC (Greater Amsterdam Volunteer Ambulance Corps), 24 Gardner Place Amsterdam, NY in addition to information noted above: - Currently operating with 10 ambulances; several placed at Fulton Co. Fire Stations, to improve response time to a wide area. (Respond to 16 Townships and Villages, including the Town of Caroga) about 50% of calls received by Caroga Fire Dept require ambulances. Could allow them to reach area faster. The cost of sending out one ambulance on a call costs over \$400.00. Medicaid and Medicare service reimbursements are significantly less than actual costs. There is great need for donations to help cover expenses for the service to continue. Services include:

- a) attending School and community events to be available if services are needed, as well as to provide community education about services they offer.
- b) providing ongoing medical education and training to their volunteers, and basic life support courses to community individuals

Paul and Mary recommend donations of \$1,000 each to the above 2 Community Service Providers. A previous donation of \$1,500 was sent back to us so this is only \$500 more. HWA and Asian Lantern insect affecting NJ and moving north so this may need monies in future. There soon may be a need to provide additional monies for preventing Aquatic and Terrestrial Invasive Species in our area. Lois made motion for \$1000 each. Mike seconded. Marcus feels our fire department for emergency services should be considered. It was stated that we gave them \$600 this year. Would like to add \$400. Lois will amend motion to include the extra \$400 to local fire department. The two above are one time opposed to Fire Department which is yearly. Dave Graves seconded. All approved \$1000 to each above and \$400 to FD.

Lake Safety

Need Chair – some issues to address are waterskiing after dark, jet ski pulling someone, people on the front of a boat dangling their feet off and how dangerous it is that if they fall in, the prop could be very deadly. Should have a committee to address the increase in unsafe actions. Mary wants to inform members of online boating and certification courses that are required by

NYS law and work with Fulton County Sheriff's Department to have a contact and come for inspections. Get the registration numbers of those not following rules, we can share that with Sheriff. Bob Baker would like to offer to co-chair – possibly ask Brian Franz. Chris feels that nothing can be achieved without enforcement and presence of Sherriff. Mary will stay on as co-chair if Brian is unavailable. Lorrie will join committee. Marcus would like to put together a notice or flyer to go in newsletter to inform members to enforce with renters as well.

Winter emergency

In place with Mary, Lorrie and Merryn. They will get information out for any emergencies or damage.

Clarification about the roles of Winter Emergency and the Winter Committees:

- Winter Committee: By-laws call for President and a minimum of 4 directors. By-Laws: 1. The Winter Committee is a standing committee of the Board which is responsible for continuing the Association's business during the off season. - It shall consist of the President and a minimum of four other Directors who will be empowered to act for the Board. - This committee shall be operational only after the final Board meeting of the summer until the first Board meeting of the succeeding summer. In the event the Board becomes operational during the offseason, its actions will supersede the decisions of the Winter Committee.

Mary asked what type of business. Allen mentioned a notification of a potential lawsuit last year that he would need directors for. Rick stated if it was so easy to do zoom – why would we need separate committee. Would need to changer bylaws because it is a standing committee. Mike suggests we constitute this committee for this interim period and propose changing bylaws at next meeting that president can convene directors via zoom. Chris seconds this. Dick will put language together for next spring's meeting. Dick asked if we abolish or keep. Mike - Amend bylaws to eliminate but word it to convene special meeting. Allen would like to appoint Erin (Membership), Merryn (year-round contact), Marcus (President Elect), Chris or Dave as former presidents.

New Business

- Approval of 2021 Calendar presented. No information for fireworks yet but included as event. Annual meeting moved to Saturday June 19 since 20th is on Father's Day. Lake luncheon and picnic in same week. Lake Luncheon regularly occurs after annual meeting. No objections – Paul moved; Ed seconded. All approved.
- Name change of South Shore Rd. to Sand Point Road. Allen working on this due to Caroga Lake having same name and confusing. After multiple emails and suggestions – Sand Point Road. Would like to petition for this before Labor Day. Move to 911 for change.
- Excellence Award: Lois raised the issue that we have not given out the Excellence Award in several years. Jim Hays and Merryn Byrnes have received. Lois thinks from records it was "Outstanding Service Award". Someone can nominate anyone that has done this. Allen has about 7 people in mind. Chris agrees but would like to propose that consideration be given to Cassandra Lyons who did the two directories and all the hard work. Lois thinks service throughout the community, being involved in years of service. Chris feels we need a definition of exactly what this award is. Allen feels a committee would be necessary to create this. Lois,

Marcus & Mike have given so much. How do you separate? We also need to create a new plaque for CLCA Presidents?

- Water Level Issues: Brian Huyck has questioned the rationale for our Leap-year and Winter draw downs. Brian has limited resources and can't meet our needs like we want him to – our membership needs to be more tolerant.

See statement from the Water Level Committee at the end of this document. Also included is a letter from Linda Clark and a draft of the proposed letter to be sent to Brian Huyck of the DEC by the CLCA Directors. Committee Reports- see reports online. There is no agreement in writing with DEC but there is an understanding for 60 years. This document states that effectively.

Dick's observation as a homeowner on the lake – we've relied on DEC to manage our dam. Suggests putting statement about "legal rights" should be placed at the end of the letter. Probably not necessary and stokes the legal issue. Allen doesn't want it to be adversarial.

Mike likes the review of the historical record – there is a long history of understanding and DEC has taken an interest. Current members of DEC are not aware of this history and how it relates to lake residents. Present this to new regional director. We are the one lake that operates this way and DEC gets frustrated with the number of phone calls received. DEC would like us to be more tolerant of level changes. Allen feels we can do a better job of communicating with members before a storm hits. Brian has also mentioned about the quadrennial drawdown and would suggest members are get proper permits to do work – which they are not doing currently. Allen will put in website. Dave says the letter is very good establishing history and protocols. Emphasizes that we want to continue with this, and that the history says a lot. We are not commenting on how often they should raise or lower water level. Different issue (not in letter) which establishes how high is high and how low is low. Allen agreed it should not be part of the letter at this time as immediate concern is draw down. Jon mentioned that every storm comes out of West Lake and makes a beeline for Stony Point. He works with historic preservation committee in NJ and would like to suggest that our boathouses are historical monuments. Not many left and we would like to maintain. Rick suggests they train volunteer dam operators, but Brian will not agree to that.

Henry commented that we agree to send the letter and have no further communication with DEC until we have their answer in written form. Allen will take this under advisement.

Motion to adopt letter as amended by Rick, Marcus seconded. All approved.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Committee rosters presented – would like this reviewed and approved so it can be ready for ECHO next year.

Lake Management- Marty Jablonski

Review of film watched on 8/17. Asked Dave if there is anything else to be added – no.

Water lever & flood control – above

Fire safety – all 5 pumps started and tested yesterday. Approved \$1000 and will use this efficiently for next year. 2 very old and will replace one.

Water purity – no report – Merryn unavailable.

Mike or Marcus – did they have any chance of talking with owners of marina at Caroga to inspect boats both going out and in. Mike spoke with Karl & Carol at beginning of season – will ask them again.

Lake safety – see above

Fishing – permit is up to date (Tom) has spoken to Avery's to have restocking done in late September & early Oct.

Adopt a highway – Bob Baker – did two this summer. Very successful. Highway is a continuous effort. Collected 10 tires over ridge plus garbage.

Adopt a shoreline – article sent

Campsites – article sent

Fire tower – because of COVID – no progress on tower or cabin. A lot of cars parked on road Island – Rick (& Allen) – Jon deSantis did not have time to address tree on island. Due to COVID – in limbo Dock was pushed over by boater has been repaired. Cleaned up garbage. Someone started a fire under one of the dead damaged trees. Planted 3 trees yesterday. Asked for people to bring bucket of water out and put on new trees. There is definitely increased usage. Poll on website asking for picnic table to be put on island. Since it is state land, we don't have authority to do so. It would increase usage and not good for conservation of island. Ed agrees that this would not be good and thanked Rick for all he has done. Picnic tables placed elsewhere have been chopped up and used for firewood.

Lake Organization- Deb Hoffman

Adirondack – no report from Jim – not sure if committee is up to date

Bylaws committee is current and no issues requiring changes

Directory committee is up to date

Fire Dept – Howard encourages everyone to follow progress

ECHO – no report

Membership – listed

Nominating – listed

Welcoming – listed and posted online

Winter committee – see above

Lake Activities- Lois Miller

Boat Parade – email from Kristen with photos – 15 boats entered. Loon boat won first place, Wave Goodbye to Corona - 2nd place.

Flare Lighting – Ed Fake – committee is good. If anyone else would like to jump in, we could always use more help.

Fireworks – Mike will continue and work for next year's date

Waterski clinic – committee updated

Ice cream – thanked Stewarts and look forward to next year

Luncheon – committee is being updated. Half of what it was last year and asks if others will be involved

Picnic – Cannons will continue.

Youth activities – Ward will continue

No newsletter has been done this year, but Allen is happy to put one out for anyone that sends information.

Motion to adjourn was made by Lois and seconded by Tom at 10:25.