

**MINUTES**  
**CLCA Directors' Meeting**  
**Saturday, June 19, 2021**  
**at 9:00 AM via Zoom and In person at Caroga Town Hall**

**Attendees in person:** Lois Miller, Allen Farber, Lorrie Mott, Henry Eifert, Deb Hoffman, Tom Lyons, Mary Jablonski, Marcus Harazin, Paul Corr, Dick Maider, Chris Rohrs, Dave Graves, Rick Fink

**Attendees by Zoom:** Mike Durkee, Mark Moritz, Erin Beaudet, Randy Fredlund, Jon Vesey, Ed Fake (who waited 45 min but was not let into meeting)

Allen called the meeting to order at 9:03 am.

**President's Remarks** – Allen Farber

Good to have people back in the room!!!! Wanted to acknowledge for their last meeting:

- Deb Hoffman as our long-time secretary (over 10 years) and keeping people on track. Chris Rohrs said he couldn't have survived without all the heavy work she did in his presidential year!
- Mike Durkee who has been faithful with invasive species (also 10 years). Thank you for all your wisdom and effort.

**Secretary's Report** - Lorrie Mott

One correction was made by Lois prior to meeting. Chris Rohrs made a correction under his Directory report – Cassandra Lyon, should be Cassandra Lyons. Paul made motion to approve minutes as amended & Chris seconded – all approved.

**Treasurer's Report** – Paul Corr

Report was sent out for review. As of 12/31/2020, CLCA in good financial position. Much of our cash is in Money Market. Pandemic caused most of our funds to go unused. Expenditures were the charitable donations. With fewer expenditures, \$5,673 for income.

Allen solicited funds for fireworks - \$7K so we are on our way to next year. Kane Mtn \$3,281.

Membership dues paid - 286 members. Last year we had 300. \$12,300 in donations thus far. Last year's donations due to deaths will most likely not recur. NYS charged us \$75 which will be a budget change.

Budget: Water quality monitoring should be covered. Fire pumps were approved previously and it is being expended. No conference registrations due to everything being online. Not aware of any in-person meetings – will change to zero. Volunteer recognition of \$200 will be spent. Website maintenance will be paid this year. Membership mailings – ECHO sent out by Miller printing and the amount of \$800 should cover copying and distributing. Interest income – we are not getting anything due to low rates.

Received a membership form of ADK Loon Conservation \$100 paid.

Contributions for milkweed for monarch butterfly – will add this as Environment and Ecology line item. There have been many requests to include as separate line items but we want to keep this simple.

Lois Miller made motion to accept treasurer's report as amended, Mary seconded – all approved.

**Calendar adjustment** – Deb Hoffman. 19<sup>th</sup> hole was full for the date originally requested. Would like to change date to July 21.

#### OLD BUSINESS

**By-Law Amendment- Dick Maider:** Amend By-Law relating to the Winter Committee to eliminate the standing committee and allow the President to convene a special meeting of the directors via Zoom. See attached proposed change. If there is an issue that arises during the winter months, it can be put out to the board and have a teleconference meeting. Struck out winter committee and changed number in ByLaws. Paul moved to abolish winter committee in bylaws. Seconded by Chris. Approved. Will bring before the general membership.

**Halloween Flood** – no word. NY Power Authority is being folded into suit as of January. Waiting for discovery.

**Renewal of Volunteer Steward Agreement (VSA)** - we are awaiting final approval from the DEC. The proposed VSA was amended to include our responsibility for maintaining the dock on the island. Still in limbo – Jon DeSantis said DEC is behind in approving. Taking over dock has been added to agreement.

**Road Name Change** - the Town approved the change of South Shore Rd. to Sand Point Rd. Road signage has nearly been completed. Still stated as South Shore Road coming from London Bridge – Allen has contacted for name change. Dick Maider pointed out that Google Maps has not caught up with this. All residents needed to re-register to vote due to this change.

**Kane Mt. Parking Lot**- this project is in limbo as the DEC sorts out its cutting and clearing policies in light of New York State Court of Appeals decision upholding Article 14 of New York State Constitution with Forever Wild clause.

#### NEW BUSINESS

- **ECHO Mailing**- contracted to Miller Printing in Amsterdam to assemble and send ECHO. By using bulk mailing and USPS Non-Profit Mailing, we were able send out the ECHO at a significant cost reduction. In the past we have used first class mailing and needed a group of members to assemble the mailing. It is in the mail right now. We are getting bulk rate and Allen has applied for Not-for-profit status. Forwarding may not work with this status. Group felt this made sense.

- **Nominating Committee- Lois Miller**

Officers: President: Marcus Harazin  
President Elect: Rick Fink  
Secretary: Lorraine Mott

Commented [LM1]:

Treasurer: Paul Corr

Directors: 3 year term: Brian Franz; 1 year term Steve Egan Retired CFO. Brian has agreed to co-chair the Lake Safety Committee and Steve Egan has agreed to become Treasurer in August 2022.

Motion to accept slate made by Deb Hoffman, Marcus seconded. All approved. Will bring to Annual Meeting for final approval. Lois has now given the Nominating committee to Chris Rohrs.

Deb is stepping down as VP of Lake Organization. Jon Vesey will take over. For invasive Species Committee: Lorrie Mott will be taking over for Mike Durkee and Randy Fredlund for Marcus Harazin.

- **Annual Meeting Moved to new Fire House** –The Fire Department has agreed to let us use their meeting room. They see this as a good opportunity to introduce the new facility. Limit of 75 in person due to size of room. All concur this is a great move. Do we offer as a zoom? Allen would like a volunteer to run the Zoom so he can conduct meeting without having to worry about technology. Can we also use for Directors' meeting? Town Hall is not a healthy environment. Howard will give presentation to group as a part of our first meeting. Going back to budget – Allen asks for increase for allowance to use facility. We made a \$1K donation last year and a separate building donation two years ago. Rick Fink made a motion to donate \$250, seconded by Dick. All approved.
- **Dock on Island**- the DEC approved their responsibility through VSA for the dock but has said no to our request to acquire an aluminum dock for the island. Adirondack Park Agency guidelines require docks to be constructed of natural materials wherever possible. Do we build a wood dock? Another alternative is to not have a dock. The island attracts people that are causing more litter. Dock is needed for fireworks. Tim is going to put it up temporarily. He is able to repair. Allen contacted insurance agent – our existing policy would cover liability on island. Rick commended Allen for getting DEC to be responsible and having them assume liability. Association owned island at one time and the insurance was an issue so it was given to state. Rick proposes to make a dock with removable deck to ease its in and out. Need to work out crew to do so. Chris thinks we should have a dock – historically it is where we have taken our kids/grandkids. Residents take care of it, but public does not. Jon doesn't think that removal of dock would eliminate people going to island – this could cause ecological issues. Vote for dock on island was a majority. Will inform membership at annual meeting.

Rick made motion to place dock on island and he will chair committee – Lois seconded. Marcus made motion for \$2k to construct dock on island, Dick seconded. Approved for \$2k in budget – just materials at this point. Rick will work with team for in and out.

Our existing policy covers us as well as DEC, who has liability as owner for property. Bruce Busch is comfortable handling dock maintenance on a voluntary basis – Rick will approach him to confirm. Lois objects to paying since we have plenty of volunteers who are willing. Rick would like to give opportunity to those who are willing. Source of funds – can the patch money be used here – no objection since it has sat there for so long. (\$3,281). Need to speak with Fire Tower Committee to confirm – Rick will do so.

- **Water-Level Position:** Brian Huyck has asked us to consider our water level practices. We have prepared a statement responding to Brian's request and submitted it to the Water Level Committee which has approved. We expect to submit it to the Stewart's Landing Association for their approval. Doris Leverett asked to have a meeting with Allen & Brian (SLA, CLCA, DEC). It did not occur last year. Allen wanted organization's point of view to speak with. Brian asked for meeting this year. Marcus, Dave Graves, Tim Mitchell, Bill Fielding & Allen met to draft statement copied here – presented to Water Level Committee. One reservation was presented by Linda Clark to have Legal Committee– Dick has to opt out due to DEC's involvement. Allen feels Brian is very responsive and doesn't feel we should bring in legal counsel. We are presenting 1986 agreement, which should not bring controversy. Rick asked why there is a drawdown. Henry – if water is not drawn down – we will have lots of weeds, ice breakup – docks will be wiped out. Could create a flood. Rick stated this was not in drafted letter. Marcus is concerned –we should be very careful what we put out & suggested a thank you for opportunity to consider – this is what we support, we look forward to future dialogue. We have a policy in place, we want to continue this. Marcus thinks in terms of policy analysis – documents are already in place no need to reiterate – keep it short & simple. Paul concurs. Here is the issue, here is our policy. Chris agrees with Marcus – extraneous material...it comes down to when will dam be opened/closed. Allen feels history is important. Documents should be referenced, not included. Brian would like to go up 18". No discussion of low number. 12" was going over retaining walls but not causing significant damage. Keep water level between 1541 and 1543.93. Brian wants to have concurrence between organizations. DEC requests a single representative from each of the organizations to be the contact person with the DEC. They were getting barraged by complaints. Brian followed agreement within 2 days. How do we have a consensus when the water level required by both organizations is different. Chris feels we should have a CLCA consensus, and we have good agreement with SLA. Bill and Henry check level every morning. CL will be higher. Bill and Henry communicate daily, have a great track record, and inform Allen to go to Brian. Dave – statement has been approved by WL committee. Is there a strong objection to what is in draft. 12" up, 4" down and continue with our drawdown, then attach other information. Give executive summary of two points. Dick – having historical references demonstrates a course of dealing and residents rely on this information. It's important that this be part of the submission. RELIANCE is the legal term – people rely on this for their dock maintenance, etc. Lawyers should only be involved if irreconcilable. Communication is critical – we should not shut that down. We need to be more tolerant of weather conditions. Brian has done two interventions so far this year (4/15 closed to 2", 4/20 closed to 1" – has been at 1" since then. He wants to minimize his trips – have a buffer. Rick asked if you feel he will anticipate. Rainfall at SL can be 2" and CL as ½". Brian reads all the data he gets daily (water levels & rainfall). When he is called – create dialogue. Brian wants us to be more comfortable with range (9" above, 4" down).

Create a memo that we want to continue 1986 agreement, winter drawdown yearly, leap year drawdown and range (9" above, 4" down). Need to prepare our membership for leap year drawdown and get appropriate permits that are required.

Report out to membership to create transparency – there is no change to what we already have history for.

- Invasive Species Update- Mike Durkee & Marcus Harazin** – Update sent on May 23. Record breaking year – up over 100% in boat traffic – all of which need to be inspected. Vast majority came from infected lakes. The need for this is imperative. We are in year 3 of Grant with state & town. Six years of funding has given boatwash station, and funded stewards. If no state funding is given, how will we handle? Information not available until January when we will apply for more. Town is interested in funding for weed removal. One of the few towns to get a 2<sup>nd</sup> round of funding. At town meeting they noted they are moving along with plans for wastewater treatment to replace septic systems. A reduction of nutrients into lakes can help reduce weeds. AWI stewards at WL and CL campground. Southern ADKs will be mapped with sedimentation, weeds, etc. They will do CL and Pecks Lake. Brian Green and Rebecca Bernacky are new contacts at APIPP. We are losing Mike Durkee and Marcus as co-chairs and they are being replaced by Lorrie Mott and Randy Fredlund. We are also losing Jim Hays and Tim Mitchell from the Committee after many years of excellent service and leadership. Recommending all volunteers participate in courses. July 21 and Aug 11 will be good presentations to attend. Marcus did “show and tell” to show invasive species scope - two have been purchased out of our invasive species fund – gives a good look through deep lake water. Mike echoes appreciation to all volunteers. Mike started through Jim Hays as a steward in 2010. We have a great partnership with state including our lake association, APIPP, Town of Caroga & DEC. This has given us an AWI steward at both locations which we would not normally have. It is a gain that we have new people stepping into these roles.

Lois stated that the screening has been completed at the boat launch building. State law expired on June 30 mandating boats to stop and be checked. Should Caroga pass its own law? It is much better for state to pass a law and have DEC give tickets. We are the gateway to the southern ADKs. Road salt law has been passed and there will be pilot projects – would be great to have it done here at our route 10 and 29A.

Deb asked about the boatwash the impeding golf course parking. It is hard for a boat to make the hairpin turn. Marcus will check with John to see if some stakes can be moved. Lorrie says we can do a partnership by having them park across street with overload.

Remind homeowners not to launch boats on their property – it puts everyone at risk. No limit to boats being launched at state launch.

Allen will collect topics to put together for a newsletter. Would like to have everything before July 4.

- Request for contribution from Nick Stoner Trailers**- see attached. The Environment and Ecology Committee has reviewed the request and has suggested that members can contribute individually. Applying for grant for groomer. Looking for \$44K to come from local community. We need to inform members that this is out there. Marcus feels we should give a small amount as a “good neighbor”. Mary agrees. Allen is concerned as a conservation association and how does this fit. Put something in newsletter that we don’t take a position but will inform our membership.

## COMMITTEE REPORTS - attached

### Lake Management- Mary Jablonski:

- **Fire Safety – Rick Fink:** four of the five pumps have been started and run OK. The fifth has been replaced – no old equipment anymore.
- **Environment & Ecology - Dave Graves:** Hemlocks are prevalent here and the wooly adelgid has been found in Rockwood a few years ago. They did find an infestation in Lake George and a 2<sup>nd</sup> infestation of 250 Acres – they believe it has been here 6-7 years. Need to make people aware of this – it is not “coming”, it is “here”. Recommend property owners and lake inspectors to also look around the lake. If hemlocks are looking stressed or gray or if you turn over and see gray – people should raise issue to this committee. DEC released a predator in Lake George from west coast that eats these there – hoping it will take place here as well. Chris mentioned big stands of trees on thruway that look distressed – possibly ash bores or beetles.
- **Fishing committee – Oct 4 of 2021 48 rainbow 12”, \$1k for 225 rainbow trout 12-16 “** We stock Green lake. DEC stocking for 1,688 brown trout put into Canada Lake. Fishing tournament tomorrow with weigh stations at Jablonski’s on Canada Lake and Bruce Busch’s on Green Lake. Mary thanks Tom for all his help.

### Lake Organization- Deb Hoffman:

- Need a chair for ADK committee. Connections with all the other associations within the ADKs.

### Lake Activities – Lois Miller:

- **Welcoming committee –** Lois showed the different items they distribute to new members. There are 20 new members this year. Erin has directories and will mail to anyone that Lois does not hand out to.
- **Youth Activities –** Annalie Kaiser - Event planner and will get started. Allen feels that the young group of people are great to get involved and become directors.
- Paul will pick up the extra copies of the ECHO.
- Lois noted that this is Allen’s last directors meeting and has done a tremendous job.

Motion to adjourn made by Lois, seconded by Deb. All approved