

## **CLCA Annual Meeting Minutes**

**Saturday, July 10, 2021, at 7 pm**

**Via Zoom and in person**

President Allen Farber called meeting to order at 7:04 pm and introduced Brian McIntosh to give rules of the firehouse. If siren goes off, must stay in room, and noted fire exits. He spoke that they started project to build a new firehouse 14 yrs ago, and increased contacts with Caroga, Bleecker & Piseco to get money for mortgage payment. \$2.5M project require \$1M loan. Fire tax rate went up ONLY 1 penny per thousand. Raised \$28K from tile program – still a long way to go. To use building, have a firefighter sponsor you. Tours available until end of July.

### **Acting President's Remarks – Allen Farber:**

Need to establish a quorum – one vote per property and directors cannot participate. 22 people in room. Online 15 people. Quorum is established. Introduced the officers. New beginning to have meetings here – a very nice space. This year has already been a great beginning with fireworks and boat parade – record of number of boats by 1. We have lost some significant people since we last met. We lost Carole Fisher hosted the Canadian Thanksgiving from 1985 – 2019. A moment of silence. Noted all the volunteers who he can't count but wanted to thank Dixon Peters & Tim Mitchell for working on the screening at the boat launch, and Tim Mitchell and Rick Fink for constructing the new dock on the island. People who are very important and are stepping down: Deb Hoffman, Marcus Harazin & Mike Durkee. Rhea Maria Costello is making pottery for these people. Erin and Allen have special person to recognize – Kaylin Byrnes who has done the membership for years with no errors....this gift will help her find her way home.

### **Secretary's Report - Lorrie Mott:**

The minutes from last year's meeting were presented. No changes were suggested. Mary Jablonski – her name was down as Marty. Marcus made motion to accept, Mike Durkee seconded. All in favor – passed.

### **Treasurer's Report - Paul Corr:**

Verified the community that we have here, our participation and donations that during the pandemic, our donations have stepped up so we should pat ourselves on the back. Kaylin and Erin are responsible for recording the receipts coming in (without error!!).

- Past – Balance Sheet as of 12/31/2020 – restricted cash – invasive species has a significant amount which we may need in future. As of end of 2020, \$59,900 in MM, checking \$997. Membership dues \$9000 – 300 members. Donations in General Fund - \$7,360. Restricted and unrestricted donations total & donations in addition to membership - \$15,855. Allen put out July 4<sup>th</sup> call due to low funds and additional \$4,905 came in! We didn't have a lot of meeting expense, registrations to conferences, stewardship training due to COVID. We have ECHO & directory expense but with advertising, which helps the publication (raised by Chris Rohrs). A lot of participation to help our association. Mary Jablonski made a huge effort to find organizations

that could use the funds during the pandemic. \$2500 to North Bush Food Pantry and Gloversville, \$1000 to firemen and \$1000 to Gloversville Ambulance...since we benefit from this (they come from Amsterdam to us), the membership voted yes. At end of 2020, we end up with \$5,673 in excess of revenues over expenditure.

- **Current** – Great financial position. As of July 10, 2021, \$70,765 in cash of which \$59,914 in Money Market. Not a lot of interest being paid. As of July 10, we collected so much for fireworks that we have \$2,715 for next year. Revenues and expenditure – currently one more member paid than all of last year (301 members). \$12,507 in donations currently in addition to membership dues to support our organization. Environmental activities – there is no stewardship training, conferences, etc. due to COVID. Expenses – Nick Stoner Island dock – need to have a replacement something that can be taken down easily. Cost is \$832 – well under budget. Thanks to Rick Fink & Tim Mitchell. ECHO – we can depend on Christine & Mark Moritz for a great product. Fire department and other organizations - \$100/ea. May expenses haven't come in yet but currently ending with an excess of revenue over expenditures of \$9,868. That is support from our members – thank you!
- **Future (Budget)** – updated for dock that came in under expected. Very consistent with what we have had in the past. Lake stewardship training will resume next year. Membership may increase. Donations may be less as last year an increase for deceased members will most likely not reoccur this year. Interest income is much less

Question online – please respond on loon conservation fund \$100. Monarch fund we will not have separate funds as it would be overkill – money that is donated for monarch or any other environmental purpose is put in Ecology and Environment - \$100. Mary Jablonski made motion, Marcus seconded – all in favor – passed.

Important that we know...we have good controls in place, Erin summarizes, gives to Paul to deposit. Expenditures need to be recorded as a 501-3C. Paul has program that takes care of NYS filing and federal. Assures members that the funds in the report are accurate.

**Tribute to Allen Farber** by Marcus: Allen reviewed 2020 and also 2019. Allen developed, setup and maintained website, learned how to carry out meetings remotely and provided good stable, fair, exceptional, reliable leadership. Standing ovation to thank him. Marcus has been speaking with Allen, who has mentored him. His fun thing is to give a gift to the outgoing president. Allen is multi-faceted – like Forrest Gump – who walked all the way from Sand Point to West Lake. Allen has professionalized our newsletter, his hands are in everything, has helped to educate people on HWA. Our website is one of the best in state for invasive species, keeping us aware of Town meeting – coordinates and orchestrates the membership so that everyone works together better. He came in under difficult circumstances with the president resigning – he jumped in. We are providing him with the map of Caroga Lake, etched in birch showing depths – map should have been ready....but....Allen jumps into another project – changing the road sign...Dixon has connections and gave the map change necessary. The location of his camp will be included on this map. Thanked Allen for all he has done and continues to do. Allen responded that his family has been here since 1921 – a labor of love for him!

## **OLD BUSINESS**

**Bylaws - Dick Maider:** under the old and new organization contemplated a Winter Committee. After COVID and being able to hold meetings remotely, we can do without Winter Committee. Bylaws were changed to remove this as unnecessary. Board approved and asking membership to do so. Article 7 Section E1. We will still have the winter emergency committee to contact people in the case of any issues. An efficient way to proceed. Chris Rohrs made motion, Dixon seconded. All approved.

Do we want to continue as a regular practice to continue with zoom? This would allow others that can't be here to participate. All agreed

**Halloween flood lawsuit update** – no update. NY Power Authority included in lawsuit. We are waiting on discovery. Currently no action. We will not have to cover legal fees – it is covered by our insurance.

**Renewal of Volunteer Steward Agreement (VSA)** – waiting on DEC to give us new VSA. Should have been in January. The responsibility of maintaining the dock will be added.

**Road name change** – on London bridge – one side says S Shore Road, other Sand point.

**Kane Mt parking lot** – still in limbo as DEC is figuring out policies on what they can cut and not cut as far as wood as a part of decision.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

**ECHO mailing** – previously was done with volunteers mail it. It is done now professionally and has cut our cost. \$1.60 per copy to send out due to non-profit bulk mailing. There is a downside – it is no longer first class mailing – it won't be forwarded. Encouraged members to think about where they want the ECHO to be mailed. Any lost in the mail – we have some extra copies but may not have enough.

**Nominating Committee – Lois Miller:** Committee: Dorothy Eiffert, Tim Eldrich, Chris Rohrs. Now giving back to Chris. Slate presented:

President: Marcus Harazin

President elect: Rick Fink

Secretary: Lorrie Mott

Treasurer: Paul Corr

Allen Farber, Brian Franz, Tom Lyons, Chris Rohrs terms end in 2024. Mike Durkee's position open and Steve Egan will take over for 1 year position. Dick Loomis made motion to accept, Clark Saunders seconded. All in favor.

If you know someone who is interested in becoming director, tell them to get in touch with committee – very important to get others involved.

**Status of dock on island** – Jon contacted Allen in regards to status of dock - CLCA has no position on the dock. Asked directors – should we make formal decision to take on stewardship of dock & received positive response. Jon of DEC was very grateful that we would take it. Aluminum dock was recommended for ease, but DEC rejected. Tim and Rick constructed but now ownership is responsibility

of DEC. Will take pics to make it formal for the DEC. Bruce Busch is in negotiation to be the person to put in and take out. Tim designed it to be light. Decision will be at next director's meeting.

**Water level:** agenda with statement was sent to all. Stewarts Landing (SL), CLCA and DEC had dialogue (with Doris, Allen & Brian (DEC)). A meeting to reassess protocols. Brian would like us to tolerate a wider range of water level. Brian is the Region 5 Emergency response coordinator, so thinking of emergencies only. He is frustrated with the number of responses from SL & CLCA members that no one is ever happy. Requested one representative from each organization. Allen met with Marcus, Bill Fielding, Tim Mitchell, and Dave Graves to draft a statement that was sent to the Water Level committee for approval (included) and supplemented with cover letter that summarizes it into bullet points. Between now & early August Brian will meet with CLCA and SL reps to respond to statement. Water level committee and directors have approved this.

Questions – are you giving range of water height? History: Upper limit of 1543.91, lower limit of 1541. Would like to maintain this restriction. 1541 is not suitable for SL – so we propose 4” below 1543.91. Reason being, once you lose water, you have to wait for next rain event. 12” maximum is our suggested acceptable upper limit [it is not our ideal] – some docks & retaining walls are being breached at that point. Allen called DEC after talking with Bill after dam was 8” above summer level but asking them due to forecast it would be up to 12”. It's 13” today but has stabilized. Depends on how much they close it. If water level is dropped 4” below, Alan Peck is affected on Green Lake as well others on West Lake. Storms are not a surprise, be proactive for better control. Allen thought we were pretty accommodating, but Alan does not. Roger Ackerman(online), “what is the proper protocol for communicating with DEC to address our proper navigation?” The presidents of the two associations contact the DEC. Sometimes we react on Friday, but nothing happens until Monday which could take the water below 4” and makes life difficult for SL residents (Randy Fredlund). Allen spent the winter doing research on the dam....in earlier documents, we were dealing with a much broader range due to how the dam was used. Kristen Franz asked what is the safe number for Green Lake and West Lake? 1543. Members should read the statement – Marcus from West Lake – when Irving Pond was removed it was thought it would not impact, but it has. Wants to thank Allen for the solid policy. HISTORY: First year the dam went in – 1897....The two hotels: Fulton house and Auskerada were screaming about water level. Bruce Veghte asked if there should be another way that the association can communicate with DEC if presidents are ill or out of reach. This is the presidents' responsibility to be in contact with DEC – someone else designated as a backup – Lake level committee – Bill Fielding & Henry Eifert. Bill Fielding sends a report with his and Henry's data. Brian knows that they are keeping this information. It was decided that the president would communicate but either of these could communicate in presidents' absence.

**Invasive Species - Mike Durkee** – shout out to all volunteers – couldn't have done it without you. Financial support thanks to all that support this. Shoutout to Marcus – his partner-in-crime. Grateful to Lorrie & Randy for taking over. Jim Hays recruited him - 2010 did 450 inspections. 2020 – over 4500 – tenfold increase in 11 years. Richard Nielsen did over 100 boats on July 4. With that much traffic, comes the risk but hard to control – cannot stop them from launching. Top 5 sources of traffic, 4 are nearby lakes that have invasive species. Our program will continue. Last year we used the second of the two DEC grants, which allows boatwash and steward program and West Lake and campground to be funded. DEC funding will run out. Speaking to invasive species reserves in the case we may need to use it. West Lake Boat launch has become one of the busiest in the Adirondacks. Would like to see AWI

(Paul Smith's) assume responsibility. CLCA needs to speak up for this. This is a busy launch site that requires constant pressure. Town is currently supportive. DEC likes what we have done since we rely on volunteers and we are cheap as a result! May need to be prepared to pay.

Hemlock Woolly Adelgid – this is close to us and Dave Graves and Marcus will speak to this. Encourage people to come to the committee meeting even if you are not a steward.

Marcus mentioned that many boats, kayaks are coming from lakes that have invasive species. Encouraged people to use the boatwash. If you short circuit the system, it will not be to our advantage. Jet skis are a big offender. Talk to your neighbors and educate them. Invasives will deplete your property value. People think we will not get invasive species...but that is not true. It would not take much for milfoil to grow.....we are not immune.

Committee report is included in minutes – committee meeting will be July 31 here at the firehouse. Grant has brought in over \$120K. Marcus looks at where these boats come from – a lot are kayaks, but most are coming from lakes, rivers that have AIS. A lot of members and or/their guests are launching on their property. Please use the boat wash and launch at the launch....jet skis are the worst offenders. Need to educate and plead to our members to keep our lake clean...effect on our property values. People say that CL will not get AIS...NOT TRUE. West Lake, Lily Lake, Dolgeville Point, Point Breeze, Sawdust Creek are highly impacted. Thanks to all the lake inspectors – hope to see you at the July 31 meeting.

## **CONTINUING BUSINESS**

**By-Law Amendment- Dick Maider:** The proposed amended language to Bylaw Article 5 Section D: “To the extent there is no President-Elect to assume the position of President, the Board shall, at a special meeting, appoint an Acting President to serve until a new President is duly elected and assumes the position”. In 2019, we were presented with situation where we didn't have a president.

## **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

### **Lake management/Environment & Ecology – Dave Graves**

- 250 acres in Lake George is infected with HWA (Hemlock Woolly Adelgid). DEC intensely manages 30 acres (think it's been there for six years) – treating with chemicals and bringing natural predators from the west coast. It has taken 7 years to get to the ADKs from Virginia. IT'S HERE. Kills hemlocks within 4-10 years. 4<sup>th</sup> most common tree in ADKs. All along the shores. The beasts look like q-tips – cotton wool. **Everyone** needs to pay attention to their trees. Website contains good information. Call Dave Graves, Allen or Marcus if you have any questions. Chris Rohrs asked what the state thinks about their project – allocated over \$13 million to deal with this. If we find it, we can mitigate it. An infestation at Rockwood was found a few years ago and mitigated. This at Lake George has shocked us...if we get it, it will kill a lot of trees – so keep your eyes open!

**Water Level** – see above. Thanks to Bill Fielding and Henry Eiffert for all they do

**Fire safety – Rick Fink** (unable to be present) – 5 pumps on the lake. The last pump was replaced this spring and all operational. Encouraged members to be familiar with the setup and their locations.

**Water Purity (John & Merryn Byrnes)** – still sampling CSLAP all summer. Still in condition of “could not be nicer”. Uses data from Canada Lake for other lakes in the state. John Byrnes to forward reports to Allen. Getting a sample tomorrow due to high level of the lake to see if anything comes from it.

**Invasive Species – Marcus** has a new piece of equipment (view scope) to look into water. Will bring to invasive species committee meeting.

**Fishing – Tom Lyons** – Fish stocking took place. Data available in packet sent to members. Both DEC and Canada Lake stocks. Fishing Derby for Caroga & Canada– lots of action in Green Lake & Canada Lake. Jablonski’s dock had many of the winners.

**Adopt a Highway – Bob Baker** - did have a cleanup in spring & summer – picked up a lot of trash!!! At the overlook area we used ropes to pull up tires and lots of trash. Fresh stuff has been thrown over since. Actual road cleanup is: Friday, July 23 with rain date of July 24. Meet at 9 am at the Canada Lake store for next cleanup. Thanks to everyone who helps!

**Adopt a shoreline - Deb Hoffman**– keep eye out for floating debris with high water level. No Wake signs were out at launch and store. Looking for a chair as she will be resigning. If group finds anything they can’t manage, Deb and brother will help. Bob, Ed & Karlton pulled out 6 tires last year.

**Campsite – Betsy Cannon** – no report

**Fire Tower – Tim Mitchell** – nothing to report. Mary noticed that there were so many registrations (sign in) during the COVID year. Trail is very clean.

**Island - Rick Fink** – dock has been replaced. Island has been cleaned three times. Encourages people to take their garbage with them. No camping on the island.

**Lake Organization - Deb Hoffman** – Adirondack committee needs a chair – Jim Hays is stepping down. Jon Vesey will become the new Lake Organization Vice President and be in charge of finding a replacement for the Adirondack committee.

All the committee reports under Lake Organization are included in the package.

### **Lake Activities – Lois Miller**

**Boat Parade - Kristin Franz** – Happy to have people on the docks. Trophy, made by Edwin Woods was given to the Shipwreck. Had 16 registered boats. Had over 100 people at party afterwards. Had so much participation from shore – would like to have people to be able to text in their vote for a winner. Looking for volunteer to help with this – reach out to the Franz’s. Shout out to West Lake – every dock was filled.

**Flare Lighting – Ed Fake** - will be on September 4

**Fireworks - Mike Manning** - will get in touch with them again

**Waterskiing clinic** – will happen on July 24 – no rain date. Need waiver – will be at Halverson’s.

**Ice Cream Extravaganza** – Stewarts will again donate – please support them as they are so good to us. August 7 at Alexander's.

**Lake Luncheon – Deb Hoffman** – July 21 at Nick Stoner. Tickets for sale – need to be prepaid – can't take walk-ins. Gentlemen will be welcome.

**Picnic – Mike & Mary** – July 17 at 230 Fulton Road 1-4 pm. Bring a dish to pass. Bring your own folding chairs. Lots of food & drink will be available.

**Youth activities** – major activity on August 7 prior to Ice Cream Extravaganza.

Refreshments made by Heather are back in the kitchen. Lois Miller made motion to adjourn, Dixon Peters seconded....all in favor. Meeting adjourned at 8:52 pm.