

MINUTES
CLCA Directors' Meeting
Sunday August 22, 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, Jon Vesey, Tom Lyons, Mary Jablonski, Marcus Harazin, Steve Egan, Dave Graves, Rick Fink, Erin Beaudet, Randy Fredlund, Paul Corr, Dick Maider, Bob Baker

Attendees by Zoom: Brian Franz, Deb Hoffman

Marcus called the meeting to order at 8:35 am.

President's Remarks – Marcus Harazin

Thanked Allen & Lorrie and the VPs for getting everything together. Handouts were distributed. Allen pulls all the information from officers and includes it on the website. Marcus welcomed everyone and noted he is "learning the job".

Secretary's Report- Lorrie Mott

Received no corrections but a concern that the committee reports were not included with the minutes. Lorrie will be sure going forward that all are included when they are sent out prior to the meeting. Allen mentioned they are all together on the website for history.

Lois made motion to accept minutes, Rick seconded. All were in favor.

Treasurer's Report – Paul Corr

Highlights: Cash \$68,796 in money market, \$8,881 in checking. Various funds are shown under restricted cash. Fireworks are all set for next year and this is a first. 312 members and approximately \$13K in elective donations.

Most everything came in on budget. There are more expenditures forthcoming (i.e., insurance bills, which come in after August). 2021 Budget was approved by the membership. A few notes for the 2022 budget – Lake Environment & Ecology - a donation for monarch butterfly is available; Lake stewardship training and conference registration amounts were what was spent prior to COVID.

Lois brought up that Boat Parade and Party was over budget. Overage was \$76 net of sales tax. Prior years went over so budget was raised to \$450 and then raised again. Paul mentioned the exemption certificate that everyone should be using, which he will send to directors. Brian said he isn't asking for reimbursement but since it has become increasingly popular so he is asking for another increase in budget. Requested \$600.

The only other activity over budget was the Luncheon due to the purchase of mugs used for centerpieces (over by \$34). Request made to increase budget item to \$300.

Lois made a motion that the budget be increased by \$600 (boat parade & party) and \$300 (luncheon) and reimburse the Brian Franz \$76. Steve Egan seconded. Votes in approval -10, 4 opposed, 2 abstained.

Dick made a point that when people take on an activity, that the budget is important. Asks that they be careful in using the budget money so the association gets to keep what is left.

Paul asked if everyone agreed on fire department increase – all approved. Membership line item was increased to 320. Erin mentioned that there was one more membership received yesterday – so 313 to date.

Marcus thanked everyone involved with the budget – a great group working to put it together.

Rick Fink requested that directors do a projected budget for next year at June Directors Meeting to be approved in July by full membership.

Mary made the motion to approve the budget for 2022, second by Jon Vesey. All approved.

CONTINUING BUSINESS

Meeting with SLA, CLCA and DEC. DEC concurred with everything put into proposal that we sent them. Brian Huyck of DEC is working with his staff to schedule a meeting at the end of summer. Allen feels the relationship is working – communication is good. Allen & Bill made a recommendation, approved by SLA and went to DEC in preparation for hurricane. Tainter gate is open in the winter. Sluice gate is open at the bottom and adjusted throughout the summer. Usually kept at 1". It was a mistake that tainter gate was open recently.

Marcus thanked Allen, Bill & Henry for all the work they have been doing with the crazy weather we have been dealing with this summer. Allen has agreed to continue as the point person which gives DEC that one person to deal with.

Allen mentioned that when there are problems, people on the lake attack the DEC. Asked the directors to speak to these people and correct them as the DEC is doing a great job.

Randy mentioned that the tainter gate was done by a new person. You can drain the dam to nothing and still have high water in Canada Lake. It is a complex system. There are constrictions in the channel.

Mary asked that when the water goes down – could we remove the constriction? It will require more than a single dredging operation. Water comes from so many surrounding lakes in addition to springs. It takes a lot of time for the water to get to certain levels.

Bob Baker thanked them for all they have done and noted with the torrential rains that we have had, it could have been much worse if it wasn't for their continued attention. Jon Vesey thanked Allen for the emails – they are really helpful.

Invasive Species – Lorrie & Randy

Lorrie – We continue to watch boats pass by without stopping and boats that come to the launches saying all the "right" things. Many are coming from the infected lakes but say they wash their boat. It is

unfortunate that we can't be more demanding that everyone come with a card from a decontamination station. There was a recent situation where a jetski came to the launch from Sacandaga. There were two stewards present and both said he had a very short fuse and was not going to do what was asked to keep our lake safe. I was also made aware of people launching from the beach area on Green Lake. I would like to take some type of action to educate boaters or eliminate that altogether.

I am working with the different lake associations in the area (Pleasant, Pine, Stoner, Caroga, Pecks) to join with us in the invasive fight. Thinking more will give us a greater voice and cohesiveness among the lakes to look out for each other.

We have had some great ideas sent by Dick Loomis on signage and will determine best placement on either roadside of the launch. . A suggestion by Bob Baker was to create a "reward" for having the boats washed before launching. A raffle to incentivize – each decontamination card turned in is an entry for a few great prizes at end of the year. Educational material, brochures, posters, towels & keychains have been ordered and should be arriving soon. Plan is to encourage volunteers to also cover the night shift especially (4-7) and possibly the weekday mornings (5:30-7:30). Night shift is more necessary as the mornings are usually fishermen who should not want to negatively impact the lakes. We will continue to do our work to finish out the year and ramp up next year hopefully getting some younger crowd involved and having the same funding or better!

Randy – inspectors are a quality assurance for stewards. Thanks all the volunteers who have returned their forms. Some are still out. He is updating the lake map. He thanks Lois & Dixon & Ann for covering areas that were not previously covered. We need more volunteers. Meeting with Brian Greene from APIPP on August 30. Inviting the lake associations to come back for talk.

Marcus – aquascopes. Very helpful to look down into water where there is relative low light – provides magnification. Marcus and Mary are holding them. DEC grant runs through March 31. Will meeting with Town budget next week.

NEW BUSINESS

Water Craft Safety – Brian Franz

Sheriff's office has offered a free in person boater safety course – June/July – arrange for use of firehouse.

Buoys – no wake 5 MPH. \$207 for lights. \$275 for solar lit. two - Delivered by UPS with taxes \$1,208.53. Town covers Caroga Buoys. Brian approached Scott Horton who wasn't helpful. Need a legislative act to declare. Need a permit through DEC annually. Then there are buoy stewards who put it in, take it out, maintain. (London Bridge, Lily Lake for locations). Bob Baker's concern is that even enforceable? We have not had sheriff's presence to enforce. Marcus is willing to follow up with Town to see how it works with Caroga and what needs to be done through DEC, Sheriff and Rangers. His concern is who maintains. We can discuss further. Jon mentioned that it is a psychological reason to stay further way from shore. There used to be a 5 MPH sign in Sawdust creek . The wake impacts not only the shoreline, but loons and cranes. Lois mentioned to grab the registration number of the boat and make a phone call – this will help to build the idea that enforcement is necessary. Rick agreed with

Marcus to get more information before we make a decision. Concerned with vandalism since we have experienced that in the past. Constant reminder to renters about the safety on the lake. Someone should be designated from our committee to be in contact with the Sheriff. Are the original boating certificates OK – or is this new certificate needed. Committee meet for this before the next season. Allen spoke with Brian Huyck that he feels the buoys are redundant to the 100' from shore.

Allen will generate boater safety rules draft that he will share with Bob and Brian. Marcus will also share a fact sheet. Randy would like to see them be in accordance with an ADK lake rather than other lakes in the state.

Calendar – All dates are good. Rick made motion to approve, Paul seconded. All approved.

Alcohol at CLCA events – (picnic & boat parade) Marcus contacted the insurance company to see what they covered – we are not a vendor or using it as a fundraiser so our policy does cover us for those events. Spoke with Dick – we can do nothing, we can prohibit, we can card and use wristbands, allow wine & beer purchased by CLCA, or allow people to bring their own. Feels we should have a policy about alcohol at these events – possibly a checklist that is followed. Allen feels we need to draw a distinction between hard alcohol and wine & beer. Dick feels if that is the case it shows us taking responsibility to prevent issues. When we have one of these events, CLCA is the sponsor. Hosting party is not tasked to following all our rules. Marcus would like to ask Dick and any volunteers to work on this for next season's events. Marcus and Lois will help.

Water-Level Position:

Discussions involved to reinstitute Irving Pond Dam – this helps us, golf course for irrigation, bike trail. This includes Town of Stratford, Dolgeville, APA, DEC. Rick approached the golf course steering committee, and they were on board. Rick made motion that the CLCA's board support the Town of Caroga's efforts to reconstitute the Irving Dam. Mary seconded. All were in favor.

COMMITTEE REPORTS - attached

Lake Management- Mary Jablonski:

- **Environment & Ecology - Dave Graves:** Hemlock Woolly Adelgid – no more information at this time. Newsletter from Cornell and others – requested that Allen put a link on the website.
- **Fire Tower** - ranger cabin is repairing roof & porch – we are NOT stewards for that.
- **Water Purity Topics by John Byrnes** - Visual depth is down to 2.5 from 4 due to sediments. Water clarity darker than usual. Nitrogen & Phosphorous is down, Longterm trend for PH is up – acidic level is better for plant and fish life. Milfoil found was native and identified as Low Milfoil.

Lake Organization- Jon Vesey:

- Need a chair for ADK committee which provides connections with all the other associations within the ADKs. Jim Hays doesn't feel there needs to be a committee but only a representative that would attend the organization meetings.

Lake Activities – Lois Miller:

- Cannons are selling their camp, but new owners are happy to host picnic.
- Welcomed Steve Egan to first director's meeting.
- Alan's gift is on its way.

Allen asked that committee reports be included along with committee rosters.

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

Meeting adjourned at 10:35 am.