MINUTES
CLCA Directors' Meeting
Saturday August 25, 2024
At 8:30 AM via Zoom and in person at the Caroga Town Hall

Attendees in person: Marcus Harazin, Rick Fink, Lorrie Mott, Stephen Egan, Jon Vesey, Janice Corr, Allen Farber, Dick Maider, Mary Jablonski, Chris Rohrs, Bob Baker, Ed Fake, Archer Newell, Ken Luttman

Absent: Merryn Byrnes, Henry Eifert, Brian Franz, Tom Lyons.

Zoom: Kate Freeman, Randy Fredlund, Mark Moritz

Rick Fink, President, called the meeting to order at 8:34 AM. Quorum was established with 15 members in attendance. The meeting was recorded via recorder.

President's Remarks – Rick Fink
A moment of silence was observed for a great friend, Tim Mitchell – repaired firetower steps & cabin at Kane Mtn, we relied on him for engineering expertise on over a dozen structures around lake and at the historical museum. Even though he wasn't on the board, we relied heavily on him to give us more accurate information. Welcomed Archer Newell to her first director's meeting.

Secretary's Report – Lorrie Mott - Minutes were distributed and a few spelling corrections were received. No changes received here. Chris made the motion to accept as corrected, Jon seconded, motion passed.

Treasurer's Report – Steve Egan – financials were sent out. We are up to 278 members and donations up due to contributions made in memory of JD Widdemer. We are in a good financial position. All details are in the report received. Allen asked if we are OK with electronic (printable) rather than paper copies – all good. Chris asked what was in the budget for 2025 for directory. He knows revenue, but not expenses and postage have changed. $2500 in budget for ECHO and directory. Advertising in directory offsets costs. Jon moves the report be accepted, seconded by Chris– all in favor – passed.

<u>OLD BUSINESS</u>

100-year celebration of construction of Kane Mtn tower: Allen & Marcus attended a meeting with Forest Fire Prevention at Town Hall with great suggestions. Will have series of events in August, including session with Summer Youth Program, educational management with Smokey Bear & LL Bean truck and local Fire Department. Historical society has Marty Podscotch who wrote the history of the Fire Tower. Looking for help in organizing the event. Would like to do a table during the Museum's Craft Fair, a town-wide garage sale but volunteers are needed. Need to engage town & state officials – proclamation for event. Laurie Rankin is helping with the event and is in touch with former observers and rangers. Looking for a venue where we would have events. Need someone at our lake who can oversee this.   Allen is considering sending out something to members for pictures and stories. We would like to use this as a time to encourage DEC to better the trail and the cabin and seek legislatures assistance in this.   The trail is slated to be moved but may not happen before this event. The hope is to be able to go inside, view this cabin and make it permanent with interpretive visuals and a map. Sale of patches brought in $3400. Mary asked if we would be making a donation, something in memory of Tim Mitchell. Would like to avoid having events at the tower due to parking issues so events will be offsite. An idea was to offer merchandise for sale – space at Canada Lake store – splitting proceeds with them. Allocate some Kane Mtn funds to produce this merchandise and include any monies for map, etc.   Mary made the motion to allocate monies for patch & merchandise sales funds for 100-yr celebration.   Steve seconded. All in favor – motion passed.   Marcus will be the coordinator and will run event, and Mary has offered to help. Involve Caroga Arts to tie them in musically. Will have outline this fall and focus on specifics in the spring.

Buoy ordinance – Letter to members and DEC putting up signs for 5 MPH within 100 ft from shore has helped a bit with complaints on speeding boats. Speaking with the current Town Board who spoke with DEC/ENCON officer for recollection of rules, which is different than what we are hearing. Our contact is Beth McGee who does the permit. She reassured us that we need to get a vessel regulation zone before we get permit. ENCON officers can enforce. If we do this for Canada Lake, shouldn't it be done for other lakes in the town. No as law exists as a state law. Unless we regulate beyond the 100 ft of shore.   Jon asked what the difference between the state law and vessel regulation zone is. Speed and wake require the vessel regulation zone. Lake George regulates speed up to 1000 ft in some instances. This requires legislation passed in the State Legislation. Our start would be a buoy placement near Point Breeze as there have been many instances there of unsafe operation.

2025 Directory – Chris noted about 40% of revenue is in. He will complete all the ad sales before he leaves in October. Working with Cassandra and being the third time doing this together, it is going well. Look to publish in June 2025.

Communication Gear for Boat Launch – stewards have no access to communication. There have been some instances of confrontations of not wanting to adhere to regulations & putting staff at risk. It could require medical or law enforcement. Maggie Newell works at the ADK Mountain Club, Fire Department, DEC (who are only in contact with ranger's desk). Can use cell phones to make satellite 911 call. Maggie has SPOT device – 2-way communication ($250 plus monthly fee). Text and phone capable. Steve asked about where it would be stored each evening since the building is not really secure. Need to decide where to leave it and get it charged. Checking into the monthly fee plans. Ed made the motion to allocate $500 for this equipment from the funds (from JD Widdemer donations) and Dick seconded. All in favor – motion passed.

Waterski Clinic Insurance Options – Risk about holding this was researched by Ken & Ed. Ed passed it on to his daughter, Jackie who is a member of the USA Waterski association who researched it and forwarded it to Paul Corr. To be a member is $25 as an individual…organization is $125 plus cost of insurance. Ed will get more information. Once we have, we will determine if it is viable. Depending on interest, will determine how we proceed. When Ed did this as a volunteer, they served over 40 individuals for skiing. Janice thinks risk management extends beyond this clinic. Janice will provide details on a situation where people were invited to come and swim during Youth Activities.

NEW BUSINESS

Individual Camp History Database – Nancy Myers and Kathryn Hoffman were interested in getting camp stories. Allen sent out a google form to gather this information from the directors only. This was a draft and he is asking for suggestions. Will piggyback the Kane Mtn information. Who was original owner, builder, etc, who owns now. Camp owners will need to provide. Allen asked us to try the link prior to sending this out to the membership and send any comments to him.

Proposed Bylaws Change – Janice had made proposed changes to Article 7 which has to do with sub-committees' chairs (roughly 10 under the three main committees). Her proposal is to stagger the positions of the three committees to encourage more involvement beyond our current directors. This would be a mandatory requirement to be included in our next July membership meeting.
Purpose is to bring in more interest – frequently hear from others that it is a closed association – they don't know when there are openings. Send a notice to membership that they can apply for positions that come up. People don't feel they can get involved in leadership unless a board member contacts them. This applies to the subcommittee chairs. Allen is concerned that some committees need continuity (ex: website, membership, water level). Chris likes the idea of pulling more people in but worries about making it mandatory. Dick asked if this could be better done through the emails that are sent out to the membership. Example: from email, give opportunity to self-nominate for any positions. On membership form, there is a place for it. Bob is all about encouraging more involvement as he is begging people to help on his committee but would not mandate it. Rick – with 278 household members, only about 10% are involved. Chris chairing the nominating committee has not had anyone reach out to him in many years. Mary suggested sending an email to committee chairs to ask their members to ask their members if anyone wants to step up. Jon mentioned that there have a few new members that have stepped up in his committees. Ken noted that people that are stepping up in his committees do a great job with good turnouts and no negative feedback. We need to make ourselves as welcoming as possible for all the events. Marcus provided an alternative – membership request is well responded to but possibly using a survey. Table was successful in selling tickets, so include a signup sheet to get involved. This allows us to give a more personal appeal. Even if only here

for a short time in the summer – they could be involved. Archer has seen the open-ended calls to get involved – some of her friends don't feel they meet the requirements – so providing education on the survey or newsletter would help.
Allen sent out the rosters – this is a great time for committee chairs to update rosters and reach out to members to step up. Get this done so it's ready to get to Allen in January.
Janice is willing to withdraw the proposal if we can do this better. Each of the VPs to check the directory to update their membership and state what the purpose is.
Chris says to make better use of the board at the store. Keep it updated. VPs need to contact chairpeople to reach out for new involvement. Marcus has offered to do a survey. Rick feels we can reach out to Archer's demographic and get them involved if even for a weekend.

Bylaw change on quorum – at annual meeting each year we struggle to get a quorum. This year it was made by 1. Should we change the bylaws from 10% membership exclusive of directors and officers to include them? Dick to investigate whether membership is one from household only or members of household. What is the compelling argument to exclude directors? Would it be that board members dominate a meeting? What is the definition of a member? Do we continue to offer zoom as an option to encourage more participation? Should keep as members are not always here to participate. Many families share camps. Dick will clarify members vs households. Randy asked if we could investigate proxies.
Allen proposes using Sherman's for the Annual Meeting.

Proposed 2025 Calendar – Interference with CAC events (gala and Saundersfest) for Picnic and Ice Cream Social. Include other events on the calendar. Conflicts with CAC fireworks. Get meeting with CAC, Historical Museum, CLCA. We are networked into these organizations, including other lake associations that we could limit conflicts. Move boat parade to Saturday and move picnic to July 26 and go back to 1-4pm – Ken will check with the Dykemans to confirm. Youth event keep as is – Kim is willing to continue. Flares & fireworks have always been on a Saturday night of the July 4 & Labor Day holidays and need to confirm with Town. Will reach out to Mike Manning.

<u>COMMITTEE UPDATES – posted online</u>

<u>Lake Management - Mary Jablonski -</u>

Invasive Species – Lorrie reported that report on boats was not available. Boatlaunch & boatwash very busy this summer – request for volunteers to get through September.

Lake Luncheon – 66 people in attendance. Charged $25 and expensed $22. We were short $98 with the addition of 50% gratuity. Would like to make donation to North Bush Church for their service to elderly - $200 for purchase gift certificates for gas and groceries. This is a one-time ask as luncheon is self-funding but gratuity was higher than expected. Motion made by Mary, Ed seconded. All in favor – motion passed.

Mary requested a donation in memory of Tim Mitchell because of his involvement with trails. Family designated two charities and planting trees in lieu of flowers. Jon made a motion to allocate $1000 funds. Rick will reach out to family on the ideas presented. Discussion was to sponsor an event IN HONOR instead of supplying funds. Chris suggested $500 since we haven't gone that high before and setting a precedent. Jon adjusted his motion to $500, Mary seconded. All were in favor – adjusted motion passed.

<u>Lake organization – Jon Vesey</u>

Fire Department – Alan Peck and Jon Delansky are our contacts.

<u>Lake Activities – Ken Luttman</u> – all events were well attended. Karen will do movie nights again next year (did 2 this year). Weather cooperated for all events. All committee chairs are willing to continue next year.

Water quality – Marcus coordinated meeting with Archer and John Byrnes to coordinated between CSLAP (Citizen Lake Assessment Program) and ALAP (Adirondack Lake Assessment Program) information. CSLAP is reducing sample times from 8-4/yr. ALAP is doing 5 samples/yr. This helps us to be proactive with any changes in our lake. We were invited to go to Piseco and speak on invasives. Attended with Walter Hogan to speak on their treatment and results of ProcellaCOR. Diver Assisted Submersible Harvesting (DASH) program will continue. Divers can be used to survey other surrounding lakes – map out the weed beds and soil strata on lake bottom which is helpful in detecting weed growth. Chris would like an overview of results. Marcus can provide in next year's ECHO on trends in water quality – Archer will help. Having all the different lakes information will help us understand where we stand. Allen said we did the Darien Freshwater survey about 10 years ago – we could do again.

Formation of town committee – Allen hasn't been able to move forward with this.

Ed made a motion to adjourn at 10:32, Jon seconded. All in favor.

<u>Next meeting June 22, 2025 at 8:30 am at Town Hall.</u>