

Lamoka-Waneta Lakes Association

Incorporated 1965

FOR THE BETTERMENT OF TWO OF THE FINEST LITTLE LAKES IN New York STATE

Public Meeting – August 26, 2017

Meeting started at 10:00 am

Welcome & President's Report:

As per the LWLA by-laws Terry Allison completed her term as President of the LWLA. Terry shared her reflections on her term as president and thanked the Association. She gave a big THANK YOU to Ed/Jackie Sharpe and all LWLA members for a successful Pancake Breakfast. Also a special thanks to the Tyrone Fire Department for making their building available for LWLA meetings and Pancake Breakfast. (NOTE: the Tyrone Fire Department needs \$5,000 more for a \$30,000 piece of equipment to lift people out of wrecked cars.)

Terry also thanked Gordon Shafer for his special knowledge of the lakes and Dennis Fagan for "getting the job done." Both gentlemen are dedicated to the lakes and the health of the lakes.

Terry listed what she felt were some of the accomplishments as presiding president of the LWLA:

- Distribution of the Directory
- LED Flares, magnetic calendar of events, bumper magnets
- Updated website with a new webmaster
- Pontoon Palooza
- New Logo
- Expanded the newsletter
- Applied for and granted 501(3)c tax status, which enables LWLA to be a tax exempt organization
- Solicited and received over \$10,000 contributions to cover shortfall for chemical treatment.
- Brought in many speakers, i.e. representatives from watershed districts, others to help educate property owners on learning to live with the weeds.
- Public Expos introducing new products for lake living, etc.
- Re-entry into NYSFOLA (New York State Federation of Lake Associations) as a member.

Items to continue to watch for in the future:

- Over building – destroys views for the smaller cottages. Make sure codes are being enforced.
- Attend town meetings.
- More vigilance regarding septic systems due to increase of year round residents
- New invasive weeds, especially Hydrilla. It is not currently in our lakes yet, but has been found in other near waterways.

- Dredging and lake level issues. Our lakes are filling up with sediment, etc. causing lake level to go up
- Continue to work with New York State DEC
- Watch for negative misinformation (rumor mills). If questions or concerns, contact Board of Directors.
- Non-Participation—Be informed regarding what is going on with our lakes.

Treasurer's Report by Corinne Julian

Corinne distributed the Balance Sheet Detail as of August 26th showing the checking and savings account balance of \$22,634.64. Liabilities of \$16,747.50 leaving a Net Income of \$5,887.14 (see attached)

Update on the 2017 Lake Treatment—Dennis Fagan

Dennis distributed DEC handouts for Hydrilla Identification from the Schuyler County Water Quality Committee. Dennis also discussed Plant Survey Results (see bottom of chart attached). The Plant Survey is done every year by Bob Johnson. Bob has been watching for Hydrilla, which has been found in Cayuga Lake. He continues to watch the channel between Lamoka and Waneta for Hydrilla and so far has seen nothing.

Dennis gave a review of this year's chemical treatment and discussed the issues they had getting the permits from DEC.

DEC required excessive monitoring above and beyond monitoring done for prior treatments. The containment of lake water was done from 5/24/17 treatment date through 6/30/17. By 7/12/17 there was no trace of Renovate found down Mud Creek. No impact of chemical below Mud Creek to Savona. It was felt that the treatment was successful.

Dennis summarized rake toss data (see attached)

- In Lamoka—all plant species increased by .83%
 - NSA (native plants) increased .15%
 - Plant density increased at moderate level, decrease at dense level
 - Most common found – Coon tail, Elodea, Southern Niad
 - Major decrease in EWM (Milfoil)
- No milfoil found in Mill Pond after treatment
- Mill Pond was treated using lowest concentration of Renovate—which saved LWLA money and gave a successful treatment.
- A very small amount of milfoil was found in 2 spots in the channel

In Waneta Lake an increase in total plant species and plant density

- Decrease in NSA (native plants) due to increase in invasives
- Increase in plant density from 6.5% in 2016 to 29.3% in 2017
- Most common found: Southern Niad, Coontail, Elodea
- Milfoil increase from .9% in 2016 to 16.3% in 2017

In the Waneta 68% of rake tosses found milfoil. It was found throughout Waneta Lake. Why? There has been no treatment for the last 2 years and the past 2 winters have been mild.

Found lots of Zebra Mussels growing at base of plants (zebra mussels clarify the water). Bob Johnson has found in general for all Renovate treatments (not just Lamoka/Waneta Lakes) there is excellent control of milfoil in the year of treatment, pretty good control the year after treatment, then the milfoil returns the 2nd year after treatment.

Dennis discussed the tax increase of 50%:

- Increased revenue from \$100,000/year to approximately \$153,000 in 2017
- Less expenses (\$11,000 plant study, \$15,000 Waste water management, and \$2,000 for Administration costs (re: permitting) leaving approximately \$126,000 for next year's treatment.
- This amount plus a Fund Balance of approximately \$67,000 leaves approximately \$193,000 for next year. We will need to prioritize treatment locations next year. Cost is prohibitive to treat both lakes at once. Suggests for native weeds to either pull them or put down mats.

Questions regarding Grass Carp:

- DEC will not permit—(as per audience member). DEC is only allowing grass carp in ponds 5 acres or less. Problem is that they eat good plants as well as invasives.
- It will probably be 8-10 years before DEC determines whether they will allow grass carp.
- Suggestion to have a DEC representative for the Spring Public Meeting.

Lake Level—Gordon Shafer

- Down 6 inches in Spring to 1098, 2-3 weeks later the level came back up
- Unable to do a drawdown due to debris, silt, branches, etc. at the end of the lake in front of the dam.
- Our lakes are full of nutrients from the debris being deposited.
- Water depth is different than water level—Natural process in eutrophic lakes where the bottom is rising due to nutrient load so lake level goes up though there is less water.
- Years ago, drawdown to 1096 froze a lot of weeds out. Now we are unable to physically get below 1098.
- Thinking of dredging in front of dam and/or in the channel
- Lamoka has approximately 800 acres with 22,700 acres watershed. Waneta has 16,225 acres watershed

What should the depth be? Either way there are complaints on both sides – too high, too low. We cannot operate at 1099 there is too much risk of flooding. We are currently at 1098.9

NYSEG is supposed to control from October to Memorial Day between 1099 and 1098 and from Memorial Day to September between 1099 and 1096 (mean sea level).

Unless we dredge there is no need for a drawdown since we can only drawdown so far. In 2008 had DEC permit to help remove the berm at the south end of Lamoka Lake.

Goose Control: Gordon Shafer

Andy Strawhand has the permit—people on permit can shoot year round due to special permit. Each is limited to 5 geese per day on permit. Egg addling is done in the Spring. (Marian Nicastro most active addler.) Nests are difficult to get to.

Clothing: Chuck Ryback

- New LED Flares that now come 3 in a carrycase for \$30
- New T-Shirts

Golf Tournament: Gary Gray

Tournament was very successful. Not meant to be a money maker.

Pancake Breakfast: Ed/Jackie Sharpe

Served 150 with approximately \$300 profit.

Ed reminded members that there is a need for more help next year.

Pancake Breakfast is always the first Saturday of August.

Board of Directors for 2017-2018: (Year runs from September to August)

The following Officers, Renewal Board Directors, and New Directors were approved for 2017-2018.

Renewal of a two year term as a LWLA Board Member:

- Al/Heidi Gerth (Lamoka Lake)
- Dene Karaus (Waneta Lake)
- Kevin Morris (Waneta Lake)
- Ed/Jackie Sharpe (Waneta Lake)
- Ron Dixon (Lamoka Lake)

New members approved as a LWLA Board Member for a two year term.

- Terry Fiske (Waneta Lake)
- Wayne Lynch (Lamoka Lake)
- Terry Allison (Waneta Lake)

Officers: 1 year term

President: Jay White

Vice President: Don Robbins

Secretary: Mary Tucker

Treasurer: Corinne Julian

Septic Laws Discussion:

All complaints/inquiries call Darrel Sturgis 607-535-6868

Meeting adjourned at 11:10 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Cartha Conklin filling in for Mary Tucker, Secretary, LWLA