

Lamoka-Waneta Lakes Association – Board of Directors Meeting

October 26, 2019

Meeting called to order at 10:00 a.m. by President, Jay White

Present: Terry Allison, Cartha Conklin, Ron Dixon, Rick Game, Gary Gray, Bill Hassoldt, Corinne Julian, Kevin Morris, Chuck Rybak, Gordon Shafer, Ed Sharpe, Mary Kay Tucker, Tom Webb, Jay White

Absent: Calvin Barnstead, Al Buckland, Terry Fisk, Al Gerth, Heidi Gerth, Claud Gingrich, Barry Pappas, Ray Stebbins, Carolee Thatcher, Paula Wright

Guest: None

Minutes of the September 21, 2019 Board of Director's Meeting approved as presented. (Chuck & Terry Allison)

President's Report:

Jay reported on the recent NYSFOLA meeting with the theme "Empowering Lake Associations in Challenging Times." They both believed the meeting was very informative and that LWLA is extremely popular at these meetings with our lake treatment and the first to use ProcellaCor.

One of the speakers addressed the risk levels of lakes in regards to Algae Blooms. The top four reasons that put our lakes at high risk are:

Nitrogen/phosphorous levels

Zebra Mussels

Calm Conditions

Warmer Temperatures

All of these risks describe Lamoka and Waneta Lakes putting us on the high risk scale for Algae Blooms.

Jay and Bill explained that we need more funding to address our problem and one solution is to join CSLAP (The Citizens Statewide Lake Assessment Program) CSLAP is a volunteer lake monitoring program run by the NYS Department of Environmental Conservation (NYSDEC) and the NYS Federation of Lake Associations, Inc. (NYSFOLA). It was initiated in 1985 and was modeled after successful volunteer programs in Vermont, Maine, Illinois and Minnesota. Each participating lake association is a member of NYSFOLA, a not-for-profit coalition of lake associations and others interested in lake management. NYSFOLA was founded in 1983 and presently serves over 200 lake associations as well as individual and corporate members. CSLAP participation provides NYSDEC and NYSFOLA lake associations with a basis for making management decisions.

In order to ensure that the data collected is of the highest caliber, all volunteers are trained to adhere to procedures set forth in the CSLAP Sampling Protocol. Lakes are asked to commit to a five year sampling regimen. Hence, a firm commitment from volunteers and lake associations is required prior to enlisting in the program.

By joining CSLAP it would open the doors to more grant funding and the state uses the data when they are looking to allocate resources. The cost is \$478, a one time commitment, and at the October 27, 2018 LWLA Board of Directors meeting funds were approved to pursue membership in CSLAP. Jay reported that membership is limited and we need to wait until a member lake does not join thus leaving a vacancy. Lamoka and Waneta would be considered two individual lakes, and at this time there is only one possible vacancy. Due to the fact Waneta lake has more risk factors, they would be the first lake to join and as soon as a second vacancy becomes available Lamoka would join. The biggest advantage of membership is availability of grant money and although we collect good data now, we would have our data certified by the state. Seneca Lake currently is a member of CSLAP.

Vice President/Membership Report: Bill reminded the Board that Membership notices will be sent out in December.

Treasurer's Report: Corinne presented the Balance Sheet as of October 26, 2019.

Checking Account Balance-- \$4,292.15

Savings Account Balance-- \$35,709.33

Total Checking/Savings--\$40,001.48

Jay asked if anyone had any questions – No questions—Treasurer's Report approved as presented.

Corrine also reported that we received a Thank You note from the Tyrone Fire Department and Fred's wife, for the donation.

Corinne presented a spreadsheet on the MerchantOne Credit Card Summary. We currently pay an annual fee of \$99.99 for the credit card services, and depending on the amount of credit card transactions for the month determines the GTWY Transaction Fee. We need a minimum of \$200 worth of charges so we are not charged the monthly transaction fee. Corinne has been able to work with Merchant One Credit Card and has lowered or eliminated some of the fees charged. We currently have a cost of doing business via credit card at 14%, last year we were at 22%. Corinne feels that as time goes by more and more people will be paying by credit card, many of the younger generation only uses credit/debit cards and carry very little cash.

Corinne will continue to monitor the Credit Card usage and will report again at the October 2020 meeting.

Members expressed their appreciation for all the work that Corinne has put into the establishment and monitoring of the usage of the Credit Card in addition to the regular duties of being LWLA Treasurer.

OLD BUSINESS:

Lake Treatment: Gordon reported that at this point there is a proposal to treat 5 spots on both lakes with 59 acres on Lamoka Lake and 59.3 acres on Waneta Lake. The determination of these areas is based on the rake toss by Bob Johnson and the finding of the invasive milfoil. We will continue to use ProcellaCor as it acts very quickly and stays in the area treated. Renovate worked over a two year period and although we are still in the learning stage of Procella Cor it says it works over 3-4 years. The cost per treatment is less than Renovate, but we will still use the entire \$120,000 allocated in the Lake District Budget.

A member asked if Procella Cor lasts 4 years is it a possibility to only treat the lakes every other year. At this point there are still some areas not treated and need to be addressed. It is the hope that once we have controlled the Eurasian Millfoil and that Procella Cor does indeed last 4 years it may be a possibility at a later time.

Corinne explained that the LWLA has enough money in savings to perhaps consider donating an additional \$25,000 to treat an additional 31 ¼ more acres if the committee feels it would be beneficial.

Terry Allison made the motion that the LWLA donate up to \$25,000 for added lake treatment for the 2020 Lake Treatment. Cartha Seconded.

Kevin will take the information back to the committee for their consideration.

Other – Board looked over the August 8, 2006 letter from Schuyler County Sheriff regarding the speed limit of the channel and Bradford Pond. As stated in the letter and as Sheriff Allard explained to Jay it is a no wake zone as the channel is 100 feet in width and you are within 200 feet so it is still a no wake zone of 5 mph. It is up to DEC to post the signs, not the LWLA.

NEW BUSINESS:

Jay reported he had received a phone call from a gentleman that said he had found an eel in the wheels of his dock when he took his dock out. Board members had not heard of any other reports of an eel or any other unusual species not indigenous to the lakes. Jay asked members if they hear anything, please let him know and try and have the individual get photos.

Committee Reports:

Clothing: Chuck distributed a copy of the LWLA Logo Clothing Inventory as of 10/12/19. We have a retail value of \$7,184. We currently carry full zip fleece and ¼ zip fleece. He is going to drop the ¼ zip fleece as we sell more full zip fleece. Two years ago our retail value was over \$9,000. Chuck will be putting in an order this fall so the items are available in the spring. He will be ordering more flares as we are finding more people are going to the electronic flares that are more environmentally friendly.

Chuck also received an e-mail from Ultimate Apparel and as soon as she receives a check from her outstanding invoice she will be sending the check to reimburse the LWLA. She is hoping to have it all taken care of by the middle of November.

Environmental Impacts: No report

Golf Tournament: 2020 Golf Tournament is Saturday, June 27, 2020

Goose Control: Kevin reported they will renew the Goose Permit for next year.

Lake Level: Rick reported the gates are open and we are currently at 1098.45 which is the bottom of the summer level and we will be holding at that level.

Kevin reported we are very close to performing a lake level drawdown this year, although much later than the Oct 15th we had hoped for. NYSEG filed a request to NYDEC and US Fish and Wildlife to drop to a 1097.5 level. NYDEC has agreed to the drawdown and we are awaiting confirmation from USF&W. We still need to revise the 2004 Lake Level Agreement that NYSEG is operating to. Part of that will be an ongoing drawdown every three years. NYSEG has hired a consultant regarding the Agreement - possibly to determine the process for changing it. We are hoping to meet with NYSEG to discuss a plan we proposed by year end, but NYSEG has not yet agreed to a meeting.

Lake Testing: No report

Steuben/Schuyler Water Quality Reps: The next meeting is November 15th and Cartha and Bill will both attend.

Other Business: Mary Tucker reminded the Board that the October 26th Board Minutes will be electronically approved so they can be placed on the Website before the April Board Meeting.

There being no other business, the meeting closed by a motion from Ed Sharpe and seconded by Chuck Rybak at 11:27 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Mary Tucker, LWLA Secretary