

## Lamoka-Waneta Lakes Association – Board of Directors Meeting

July 18, 2020—Tyrone Town Hall & Zoom

Meeting was called to order at 10:06 A.M. by President Jay White. The following members were present at the meeting: Terry Allison, Cartha Conklin, Terry Fisk, Gary Gray, Bill Hassoldt, Corinne Julian, Kevin Morris, Chuck Rybak, Gordon Shafer, Ed Sharpe, Mary Kay Tucker, Jay White.

The following Board Members “joined” the meeting via: Calvin Barnstead, Rick Game, Claud Gingrich, Paula Wright

Absent: Al Buckland, Ron Dixon, Al & Heidi Gerth, Barry Pappas, Joan Rybak, Tom Webb

Guest: Dennis Fagan

Minutes of the June 20, 2020 Board of Directors’ Meeting were approved with the following addition and clarification to the President’s Report, as requested by Cartha Conklin.

Currently every five years the Watershed Protection Agency regulates the inspection of septic systems and sends a letter to the homeowner to have their septic drained and inspected. *The Tyrone Wastewater Management Law shall be supplemental to the Schuyler County Watershed Protection Laws, The New York State Sanitary Code, The New York State Uniform Building and Fire Protection Code, The New York State Environmental Conservation Penal Law and any other laws pertaining to public health. The provisions of these rules shall be in effect for only property in the Town of Tyrone, which lies within the Lamoka-Waneta Lakes’ Protection and Rehabilitation District (hereinafter referred to as “District” otherwise known as Zone I.)*

The typical sequence for a Lamoka Waneta Inspection:

- Listed property owner receives a letter from Watershed Protection Agency (WPA or Town of Wayne) and contacts Inspector promptly (preferably within 10 working days).
- Inspector reviews available information on file and discusses any known system history. (Ascertain any system deficiencies if appropriate and/or known).
- Schedule a licensed Septic Hauler/Contractor to meet with the Inspector on site to pump the septic tank during normal working hours. WPA inspector must witness the tank pumping.
- WPA inspector conducts inspection, witnessing the septic tank pumping and assesses the absorption component. Distribution box and/or seepage pit need only be uncovered if a problem is suspected.
- Upon completion of inspection, either a “Certificate to Operate” will be issued, or a Minor/Major Failure will have been documented. Any failure will require a “Compliance Agreement” as well as any pertinent permits.
- No fee is required for the Lamoka Waneta Inspection. However all costs associated with locating, uncovering and pumping the septic tank, as well as any system repairs, upgrades and replacement components (including applicable permit and design fees) are the responsibility of the landowner.

### **President’s Report:**

Jay received a call from Doug Smith, Assemblyman from Chautauqua, NY sharing the information that CHAUTAUQUA LAKE ASSOCIATION Douglas E. Conroe, Executive Director is working very hard with the state to take Eurasian Milfoil off the invasive weed list. If that becomes a reality Lamoka and Waneta Lake would not have the ability to “treat” our lakes and the growth of the Eurasian Milfoil would take over the lakes.

Chautauqua Lake Association uses a harvester system and has the following inventory of equipment: Aquatic Plant Harvesters, Transport Barges, Floating Debris/Shoreline Work Barges, Hydro-Mate Barge, Shore Conveyors, Bobcat Loader, Dresser Loader, Forklift, Gator Utility Vehicle, Trucks, and Yard Trailers. All equipment is owned by the CLA (Chautauqua Lake Association) and the personnel operate the equipment during the summer and then fully service the vessels during the winter months. The CLA also has an yearly

budget of \$640,000 (2019 information on their website). LWLA yearly budget is approximately \$150,000. Chautauqua Lake Association receives a great deal of their money from NYS grants, which our involvement in CSLAP and the data collected will hopefully open up grant money for LWLA. Jay is drafting a letter to our Congressman and Assemblymen to encourage their support for the LWLA increased funding.

Some members asked if we had thought of using a harvester at the end of the season to get rid of the biomasses. Jay cautioned that the harvester does not always remove all the weeds. Some of the weeds fall off the conveyor belt and end up with the re-growth of the weed. Dennis said the County used to have a harvester and it was maintained by the Highway Department. Issue was that the Highway Department was too busy with their season and did not have the extra manpower to operate the harvester. Gordon said there are small harvesters designed for a few cottages, but they work as well as weed mats currently used by many cottage owners. What you see in the lake now is the scum from the weeds.

Jay, Claud, and other members of the LWLA participated in a ZOOM meeting of the Wayne Town Hall pertaining to the Keuka Power Plant. There is a current donation of \$150,000 for the Town of Wayne to purchase the land from the point closest to the road to the water. If the \$150,000 donation is accepted it goes directly to the Town of Wayne and then the property becomes tax free. Claud and Jay will continue to monitor the Town and the proposal and report back to the LWLA Board. If NYSEG offers to sell the remaining part of the Keuka Power Plant many board members felt LWLA would be interested in purchasing the channel next to our lake.

Jay read on Facebook where people were complaining they did not receive their magnet and newsletter. Corrine responded that she has not received any packets returned. She questioned if these people had paid their dues. Currently we pay 34 cents for bulk mailing of the membership packet and after that \$1.69 per packet that is the reason we encourage people to pay their dues early.

Jay will put a notice on Facebook if they did not receive their packet and did pay their dues, please contact us and we will take care of it.

Jay is also noticing people talking about putting in their own "recipe" into the lake for treatment of the weeds. Please be on the lookout for these people and notify LWLA or the DEC.

**Red Bank Island:** reports are conflicting. One post says there is garbage all over the island, then someone posts they were there and did not see anything. Gordon lives directly across from Red Bank Island and did see people camping on the island. They had tents, clamp on toilet, citronella candles, etc. The Sheriff was called and addressed the issue and spoke with the campers and they did pack up and leave. Bill witnessed a week ago on Wagner Road access to the island that he noticed tents, porta-potty, and fire pit. He talked with the individual and told him the Sheriff had been notified and he assured Bill he would be out by 8:00 and was in the process of breaking down camp. By nightfall he was gone. Since that incident he has only witnessed day users. Please note that DAY USE is not an issue!

Bill has a friend who works for the DEC and the Island is NOT part of the "wilderness" it is owned solely by NYSEG. Bill agreed to continue to keep an eye on Red Bank and will continue to address any upcoming issues.

**Vice President/Membership Report:** Bill reported that we have 973 possible lake owners that are eligible for membership and currently have 561 paid members (56%) and 142 members contributed \$4,280 in donations. Bill asked that everyone reach out to their neighbors and new owners to join the Association.

**Treasurer's Report:** Corinne presented the Balance Sheet as of April 18, 2020.

Checking Account Balance-- \$683.14      Total Savings: \$44,766.49

Total Checking/Savings--\$45,449.43

Corinne had noticed that she did not send the Tyrone Fire Department the annual \$400 donation for the use of their hall and will do so this month.

### **OLD BUSINESS:**

**Lake Treatment:** Dennis reported that they had a few problems with the permit due to the new person on the DEC that is involved in issuing permits. Many of the Pesticide area of DEC are working from home and makes communication a little more complex.

On July 1<sup>st</sup> they treated 70+ acres in Lamoka and the Channel and 60+ acres on the Waneta south end with ProCella Cor. They will not know the effectiveness until they receive the plant study in August. Gordon and Dennis said when they checked they did not find any residual in any of the treated areas. ProCella Cor basically goes away as it dissipates in the water.

Members asked if we could treat earlier next year. Dennis would like to treat in the middle of June so we would not have any issues with the fourth of July.

Dennis did mention that NYSEG now wants to review permits. The new representative from NYSEG stated he would like their attorneys to become involved with reviewing permits. NYSEG would like to control the lake level and not the LWLA. Hopefully the upcoming fall meeting with DEC, NYSEG and LWLA representatives will address the issues and finally be able to develop a plan they have been working on over 3+ years.

Rick questioned the lake level for treatment. Currently at 1098.45 is it in the permit we can treat up to a level of 1098.7? Dennis stated that the 2003 permit had a clause with the lake level draw down, but the new permit we should be able to do less of a draw down.

**CSLAP**—The team continues to test twice a month and send the samples to NYSFOLA. Chuck has agreed to help Bill on Lamoka. Next sample will take place on August 9<sup>th</sup>. Once we have the data from CSLAP it will give us more leverage to speak with our Assemblymen and Congressman. Jay read in a fishing article that we have a healthy weed population of native weeds that helps with Bass fishing. He has reached out to them for any grants/money they may have available for the lakes.

### **No Other Old Business**

### **NEW BUSINESS:**

An individual notified Bill about an extensive amount of garbage and dead animals (snakes) at the Barnards Campground. When Bill checked it out he spoke to an individual who explained that the trash/garbage was washed down from the highway and they were in the process of getting it cleaned up.

Mustard Seed Ministry normally holds their food collection on Labor Day, but due to the coronavirus they cannot collect food donations. They requested permission to place a donation jar at the August Public Meeting. Unfortunately, at the time of the request the decision had not been made regarding the public meeting. The Board agreed to cancel the Fall Public Meeting at the July 18<sup>th</sup> meeting. Jay will put a notice on Facebook to encourage lake residents to send in a donation to the Mustard Seed Ministry.

### **Committee Reports:**

**Clothing:** Chuck reported the Flares sales are going very well. They purchased 36 packets and are currently down to 15.

**Environmental Impacts:** No Report

**Golf Tournament:** Canceled for 2020 – No report

**Goose Control:** Kevin reported he still has no update on the permit. A member from Lamoka has noticed some goose shootings in the area. Kevin encouraged them to check to see if the person(s) are on the permit.

**Lake Level:** Currently at 1098.45

**Pancake Breakfast:** After some discussion regarding take out/drive through etc. Jay made a motion to cancel the Gary Light Memorial Pancake Breakfast until August 2021. Chuck second—Motion Approved unanimously.

It was noted that the August 8<sup>th</sup> Pontoon Palooza on Lamoka Lake and the Rummage Sales on both Waneta and Lamoka will still be held.

**Steuben/Schuyler Water Quality Reps:** Cartha reported that on July 23<sup>rd</sup> there will be a water chestnut pull. Volunteers are encouraged to attend and bring a canoe or kayak.

**Other Business:**

- No update on the NYSFOLA Fall Conference.
- Chuck noticed signs on Route 54 stating that you are now entering Keuka Watershed Basin Area. Chuck would also like a sign advertising “Entering Susquehanna River Drainage Basin Area” explaining our lakes drain into the Chesapeake Bay. Cartha and Bill will take the suggestion to the Schuyler Water Quality Committee.
- Board Members were cautioned to check their e-mail group of the LWLA latest Board of Directors. Some members are using old lists when sending out a group e-mail. Mary Tucker agreed to send the latest and updated list of the LWLA Board Members emails.
- Jay encouraged members to reach out to any one they might know who would be interested in joining the LWLA Board for the 2021-2022 term. Due to the cancellation of the Fall Public Meeting we are unable to seek new members and vote. If you are interested in joining the LWLA Board of Director’s please contact Jay White or any Board Member.

There being no other business, the LWLA Board Meeting closed at 11:30 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,  
*Mary Tucker, LWLA Secretary*