

Lamoka-Waneta Lakes Association – Board of Directors Meeting

August 22, 2020—Tyrone Town Hall & Zoom

Meeting was called to order at 10:00 A.M. by President Jay White. The following members were present: Terry Allison, Calvin Barnstead, Cartha Conklin, Terry Fisk, Claud Gingrich, Gary Gray, Bill Hassoldt, Corinne Julian, Kevin Morris, Chuck Rybak, Gordon Shafer, Ed Sharpe, Mary Kay Tucker, Tom Webb, Jay White. The following Board Members “joined” the meeting ZOOM: Rick Game, Al & Heidi Gerth, Claud Gingrich

Absent: Al Buckland, Ron Dixon, Barry Pappas, Joan Rybak,
Guest: Dennis Fagan

President’s Report: Jay reminded Board members that we are still looking for new board members along with new members for the LWLA.

Jay also reported he has received numerous calls on the weeds this year and was wondering if there is any way we can save a small percentage out of the Lake District money so that in the future we would have enough money to hire or purchase a harvester. Dennis said it is up to the Lake District Committee to make this recommendation to the County Legislatures. Dennis also believes such a plan would be fiscally sound. The association would need to develop a management plan to maintain the equipment if we chose to purchase the harvester. Gordon believes if we are going to do weed harvesting we not only need a plan, but approval from DEC. Kevin agrees we need to get the bio-mass out of the lakes and the end of the year is the right time. Jay questioned if the milfoil is actively growing in late September and October. Dennis agreed to check with Glenn Sullivan on the growth of milfoil in September and October and the cost of hiring a harvester. Jay was wondering if we might be able to use Lake District money and supplement it with LWLA savings as a possibility. Jay also asked Dennis to see who else is using ProCella Cor and what their results look like. Dennis will get Jay the fact sheet.

Approval of July 18, 2020 minutes – motion to accept minutes as written by Chuck and Teri. Unanimous approval

Vice President/Membership Report: Bill reported that we have 974 possible lake owners that are eligible for membership and currently are up to 54%. Hopefully we will pick up a few more memberships at the Clothing Sale on August 29th at the Tyrone Fire Hall.

Treasurer’s Report: Corinne presented the Balance Sheet as of April 18, 2020.
Checking Account Balance-- \$209.95 Total Savings: \$44,566.98
Total Checking/Savings--\$44,776.93
Treasurer’s Report accepted as presented.

OLD BUSINESS:

- **Lake Treatment:** Dennis reported they are waiting on the rake toss results, should have a report by the September Meeting. Kevin has noticed when he has been out on the lake he has seen a big improvement from the treatment. Rick questioned the lake level for treatment. Currently at 1098.45 is in the permit we can treat up to a level of 1098.7. Dennis stated that the original 2003 permit had a

clause with the lake level draw down, but he believes the new permit does not require a draw down.

- **Lake Level Policy & NYSEG:** Kevin has a call into NYSEG to meet by the end of August regarding the lake level document. It appears that DEC is fine with our proposal, but NYSEG has now hired consultants that want to become involved in the proposed plan. The proposal is to move the December draw down to September/October with the result being 1098 by November 1st. This allows the weeds to freeze, which will be helpful by next spring. Rick asked if no one expects a resolution by November 1st, can Kevin do a “one-time request” this year until we are able to agree on the new policy.
Since 1954 there was no formal plan for lake level control and the Lakes Association would simply call or write to NYSEG with a request to open the gates to draw the lake down for the winter. This worked well until a few years ago when NYSEG re-discovered the “plan of 2004” and decided to adhere to it. That plan is interpreted to state that the dam does not have to be opened or stop logs removed until 1099.2 is reached. In NYSEG’s mind this seems to eliminate an early drawdown. Rick believes that if we get it in writing that DEC agrees to our new proposal and give it to NYSEG, would that help move the plan along? Calvin asked how NYSEG can be so involved and yet be so removed.
- **CSLAP**—we have two more samples to submit in September and hopefully they will have a report on the findings by October or early November. We do have our charts that show the Secchi depth reading and the temperature. Mary will print out the charts and have them ready for the October meeting.
- **Signage for “Entering Susquehanna River Drainage Basin Area”.** Jay has reached out to the agency in charge of putting the signs up. Called the office and was told the people are working from home. He was given a phone number and e-mail. Jay left a message and sent an e-mail and has not heard anything as of the date of the Board Meeting. Dennis told the Board that the Schuyler County Highway Dept. has the ability to make the signs.
- Heidi heard from some people that at the recent Pontoon Palooza there were a number of political flags, and is it appropriate when it is a Pontoon Palooza and not a political rally. Jay responded saying the Lake Association does not sponsor the Palooza we simply advertise the date and the event on Lamoka happened to coordinate with the Sam Pallet Band so it is difficult to determine who is there for the band and who is there for the Palooza. It is also difficult to ban political or other types of advertisement as it would infringe upon people’s rights.

No Other Old Business

NEW BUSINESS:

- New Members for the 2021 LWLA Board will be announced at the September meeting. Jay is hoping that at the August 29th clothing sale they may be able to not only recruit new members to the association, but also see if people are interested in serving on the Board.
- Bill has received complaints on the local Air B & B’s on the lake regarding the number of people staying and the number of boats and their operation of their boats in regards to speed and how close to the shoreline they are coming.

Although everyone agrees with the concern of more people in the rental and Air B & B's that consistently overloads the septic system, the LWLA has no authority to interfere or enforce any regulations. It was recommended that people can contact Josh & Darryl at the Schuyler County Soil & Watershed Agency for septic concerns. As for the boats speeding and being reckless, the suggestion is to contact the local Sheriff's department, as they are the only ones who can enforce the boating rules and laws. Kevin suggested we include a magnet with boating rules and the Sheriff's contact number and send it out with the membership packets for 2021. It was also suggested that NY State does have free fliers regarding Boating Rules and Regulations.

Committee Reports:

Clothing: Chuck and Terry A. are organizing a "drive by" clothing sales on Saturday, August 29th from 10-noon at the Tyrone Fire Department. The date is the original date of the Fall Public meeting. A notice will be on the LWLA Website and a facebook blast to advertise the sale.

Environmental Impacts: No Report

Golf Tournament: No report

Goose Control: Kevin has not received the 2020 permit due to the backlog caused by Covid and everyone working from home. Hopefully we will have the permit by September.

Lake Level: Currently at 1098.1 and is consistently going down since the middle of June due to no rain. The last rainfall gave us 9/10 of an inch. Rain has also been very inconsistent in the lake areas. Terri on Waneta had .86" of rain while Gordon on Lamoka received .4".

Pancake Breakfast: No Report

Steuben/Schuyler Water Quality Reps: Cartha reported there was a Zoom Meeting on reviewing Steuben Water Quality concerns. A woman on Lake Salubria reported the DEC confirmed they had Red Tide, a type of harmful algae, on their lake. It is most common in oceans, but the DEC did say it can occur in lakes. The Schuyler Water Quality Committee will meet on September 19th.

Other Business:

Teri mentioned that he has been regularly visiting the boat launch and noticed a college student monitoring the boats going in and out at the boat launch, and distributing information on invasive species brought in by boats. He commended the student in doing a great job.

Cartha said the young man was a summer Steward of the Finger Lakes a program through a DEC grant program through Hobart & Smith College.

There being no other business, Terry F. & Kevin made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 11:25 a.m.

Mary Tucker

Secretary, LWLA