

Lamoka-Waneta Lakes Association

Incorporated 1965

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

Public Meeting – May 26, 2018

Meeting started at 10:05 am (Approximately 111 people in attendance)

Welcome & President's Report:

- Jay White welcomed everyone to the public meeting and asked if everyone received their membership packet in the mail. The membership packets were mailed out last week and many received them on Thursday. The packet contained the 2018 LWLA Directory, LWLA Calendar of Events Magnet for 2018, and the Spring 2018 Newsletter. If you, as a member, do not receive your packet, please let us know. Those who sign up for membership will receive a packet.
- Jay thanked Terry Allison for all her hard work on the 2018 LWLA Directory. The directory is issued every five years, but we will now begin issuing an addendum each year to the directory with new members.
- Jay announced that Don Robbins, Vice President of the LWLA has resigned. He asked anyone interested in serving on the Board and as Vice President in charge of Membership, please let him know.
- A fisherman notified Jay that he was pulling up water chestnut. Jay asked that if anyone sees any water chestnut, please let the Board Members know.
- Jay introduced Board Member, Kurt Bischoff, who shared the Aquatic Invasive Species Workshop to be held on June 2nd, 12:30-2:30 at the Montour Falls Library. Hillary Mosher and Patricia Wakefield-Brown from the Finger Lakes Institute at Hobart and William Smith Colleges will be hosting the workshop that will help you identify, report, and control high priority aquatic invasive species such as Hydrilla, starry stonewort and water chestnut. If interested contact Elaine Dalrymple edalrymple@schuylerswcd.org or call 535-0878 by May 31st. The program is free and open to all Lake Association members, boaters, fishermen, marina owners interested in preventing aquatic invasive species.
- Kurt also shared the DEC information challenge to set up stations around the lakes that monitors nutrients that are coming into our lakes. Stage 1 was to identify what is coming in, Stage 2 is what do we do. The total prize for the challenge is \$100,000 for up to two winning teams to share. Kurt reminded the membership that LWLA has a lake monitoring committee that currently monitors and reports the oxygen level, PH, clarity etc. Kurt is looking into getting further information and will be sharing it at the Board Meetings.
- Jay updated the membership on the DEC regulations for installing and maintaining Weed Mats:
Time of year restrictions: The Seasonal Benthic Mat General Permit prevents placement of a mat between May 1 and June 30 when many fish are actively spawning. Mats need to be removed by October 1 each year to reduce

impacts on small organisms which live in the sediment and represent a key element of the freshwater food web.

Mat size, location and material restrictions: The Seasonal Benthic Mat General Permit allows mats covering no more than 500 square feet of surface area. A mat of up to 500 square feet is considered to have a minimal local impact and is not likely to result in insignificant cumulative impacts.

Other requirements include:

- A 10-foot setback from any property boundary that extends into the water
- A 10-foot buffer between a property line and mat is expected to reduce any conflicts that may arise between neighbors.
- Only 100 square feet of the mat material in waters less than three feet deep, in order to reduce the potential of shoreline erosion.
- Mats to be anchored to the bottom sediments, in order to keep the mat from moving.
- Mats to be made of gas-permeable material (holes or spaces in the material) to allow gases from decomposition to escape without lifting the mat material.

Gordon Shafer said after working on streamlined permit, DEC will not be enforcing permit requirements this year.

Jay introduced Darrel Sturgis, Watershed Inspector, Darrel presented a power point on the recently obtained 5 year DEC Grant in partnership with Schuyler County for \$225,000 for the Septic System Repair/Replacement. The grant is for permanent residents on Lamoka, Waneta, and Mill Pond in Schuyler County. The grant is up to 50% of the repair/replacement of a septic system, with a maximum of \$10,000. All questions may be directed to Darrel Sturgis: dsturgis@co.schuyler.ny.us or Josh Cole, jcole@co.schuyler.ny.us or call 607-535-6868. The power point presentation can be found on the LWLA website.

Steuben County also received the grant, but less funding. They are currently targeting Smith Pond and have notified those residents. Any funds not used on Smith Pond will then be offered to the other residents of Steuben County which would include the lake area. The exact funding available to the other residents will be determined by the middle of July. Steuben County will then be sending out letters to permanent residents regarding the availability of the repair/replacement grant. Any questions can be directed to Amy Dlugos at 607-664-2268.

Treasurer's Report by Corinne Julian

Corinne distributed the Profit & Loss Statement from August 26, 2017 to May 26, 2018 showing Total Income of \$26,106.52 from Clothing, Directory Ads, Member Donations, Membership Dues, Water Testing Lab Refund, and Savings Account Interest. Total Expenses of \$17,895.91 (NYS sales tax, Internet Expense, Member Postage/Mailing, supplies, Insurance, Calendar of Events Magnets, Lake Directory, LED Flare Expense NYSFOLA Membership) Leaving a Net Income of \$8,210.61

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact Corinne Julian, LWLA Treasurer.

Membership: There are a total of 980 residents on the lake and as of this meeting 515 have paid their \$20 Membership Dues. There were some residents who paid their dues today. The membership update will be given at the monthly Board Meeting.

Update on the 2018 Lake Treatment—Dennis Fagan

- Treatment was started on May 14th on Waneta Lake and completed on Tuesday, May 15th on Lamoka Lake.
- Spring Newsletter included a map of the treatment area. 124.3 acres on Waneta's north end, and 11.2 acres on Lamoka's north end of the lake.
- Restrictions include: No swimming for 3 hours after treatment, no fishing restrictions. Potable water rapidly diluted to 50 parts per billion in 2 weeks of the treatment. Dennis recommended you might want to wait another 2 weeks if using it for drinking water.
- Irrigation restrictions: 1 part per billion – recommended waiting 60 days after treatment to water shrubs, vegetables, new lawns.
- Rick Game does publish the results of the testing and water level on Facebook.
- Dennis told the members that they are encountering more and more problems with DEC and the chemical containment program. The main concern on Lamoka is when we drop the water level for treatment.
- EPA has approved a new chemical (has 16 letters 7 numbers) manufactured by the same company that does our current Renovate treatment chemical. Waiting on the DEC approval. A benefit to the new chemical only needs 10 parts per billion, none detectable after 24 hours with no water restrictions. Treats Eurasian Water-milfoil, hydrilla, water chestnut, etc. The new chemical looks like a good possibility for the future. Financial impact of \$500-\$1,000 per acre, we are currently paying \$1,400 per acre.
- Need to keep in mind that over time the plants get acclimated to the chemical so this would give us an alternative and the ability to switch back and forth. Currently we treat where Eurasian Water-milfoil is found on 2 rake tosses of an area of 100m x 100m. There may be fringe areas, but not enough data to warrant treatment.

Jay followed up with the water level requires us to follow rules which is causing a conflict with the FERC Curve for DEC and Rule Curve with NYSEG. A group is currently meeting with NYSEG to negotiate a more current level as our lakes are becoming shallow. Jay encouraged everyone to read Gordon Shafer's article Lake Level and Dredging in the Spring Newsletter.

Meeting adjourned – 10:45 a.m.

*Respectfully submitted,
Mary Tucker, Secretary LWLA*

State Septic System Replacement Fund Grant

Lamoka Waneta Lakes' Association

May 26, 2018

Background Information

- The Clean Water Infrastructure Act of 2017 established the “State Septic System Replacement Fund”. The purpose of this fund is to replace existing cesspools and septic systems that are having significant and quantifiable environmental and/or public health impacts to groundwater used for drinking water, or a threatened or impaired water body.

Septic Program Description

- Reimburses property owners for up to 50% of the eligible costs incurred for eligible septic system projects, up to \$10,000.
- Only single family, two family and small businesses with a an existing design sewage flow not exceeding 1,000 gallons per day as of the date of the Fund are eligible for this program. Seasonal or secondary homes are not eligible for this program.

What is an eligible septic system project?

- An eligible “septic system project” means:
 - The replacement of a cesspool with a septic system.
 - The installation, replacement or upgrade of a septic system or septic system components.
 - The installation of enhanced treatment technologies.
 - Only septic system projects located within 250 feet of Lamoka & Waneta Lakes and Mill Pond.

Eligible Costs

- Incurred cost must be reasonable and necessary for work done to a septic system determined by the County Watershed Dept. to be necessary.
- Design and installation costs, and costs of the system, system components, or enhanced treatment technologies.

Ineligible Costs

- Routine maintenance such as pumping septic tank.
- Any expenses that are not appropriately documented.
- Government permit fees, including but not limited to fees assessed for building permits, zoning permits, and floodplain disturbance permits.
- Interest and late fees.
- Fines and penalties.
- The payment of sales tax.
- Non-essential site beautification or interior plumbing changes.

Ineligible Costs (continued)

- Administrative work conducted by the engineer.
- Construction observation by the engineer if the engineer, or an entity owned, controlled by or employing the engineer, is also conducting the repair or replacement.

Administrative and Reimbursement Process

- Property owners will be notified by letter if they are eligible to apply to participate in the septic replacement program (letter).
- Property owners septic will be evaluated through five (5) year or one (1) year inspection. If owner is having a problem call Watershed Office.
- If problem with septic system, property owner may apply for the grant.
- If property owner accepted, owner may be reimbursed up to 50% of eligible costs of the project, up to a maximum of \$10,000.
- Property owners are initially responsible for the total cost of the project.

Administrative and Reimbursement (cont.)

- Property owners have the option of paying the reimbursement funds directly to the contractor.

Property Owner Reimbursement

- Completed reimbursement request
- Any applicable design approval for septic system (Watershed will already have this).
- Description of all work completed.
- Cost documentation and invoice(s) for eligible costs.
- If applicable, a written authorization for a septic system contractor to directly receive the property owner's reimbursement.
- County will review information and issue reimbursement payments accordingly.

Questions

Darrel Sturges

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