

# Fall Public Meeting Minutes

Saturday, August 27, 2022

Wayne Fire Dept.

➤ **Welcome by LWLA President, Jay White-** Jay explained the change in venue, the drought/flood cycle, the inability to “add” water, etc. He sympathized with everyone’s frustration, and explained that we have plans to try to combat all the issues. He complimented Mary for all her hard work as secretary. He mentioned two books that were available on the front table. He announced that Matt Gallo planned on doing a guided tour on August 31, 10:00 a.m. and the meeting place is the pull off/boat launch on Mill Pond.

**Sheriff Allard, Steuben County-** Sheriff Allard reminded that by January 2025, all drivers will need boater’s safety, regardless of age. Courses can be taken online or in person at the counties, or at the boat museum. He is trying to get a plan together, with Schuyler County, to cover our lakes on the weekends in the summer. The roadblock is staffing and retention. If you know of any retired police, please share. Recently, there have been more fatalities on Waneta than on Keuka. Watercraft like motorized wakeboards and water bicycles will pose new challenges. Ongoing is the issue of the lack of compliance with the 5 MPH in the channels.

➤ **Sheriff Rumsey, Schuyler County-** Sheriff Rumsey reminded that he has an open-door policy and loves to talk with people, so call or stop in with any concerns. Much work went into getting the money to cover fuel to patrol the lakes, but now there is a lack of staff. Reminded that PWC cannot be out after dark, and that non-motorized vehicles need the same lights as motorized vehicles after dark. Bill Hassoldt suggested a once-a-month patrol to watch for after dusk activity. Sheriff Rumsey indicated they would try to do that. Reminded that the paving of Rte 23 would begin soon, so there will be patrols out. Report any problems. A resident asked about speed signage in the channel to Mill Pond, and was directed to the Town of Orange for a town ordinance.

➤ **Treasurer’s Report – Corrinne Julian-** Corrinne reported that the treasurer’s report was emailed to all members. She also reported the major sections to the public. Reported the purchase of a laptop and free software for being a charitable organization. She asked the public to email her with any questions or concerns, and reminded all to get their membership information updated.

➤ **Membership Report – Bill Hassoldt-** Bill reported that the membership was down about 10%, mostly due to members buying more than one property. Reminded to please pay dues, and to update winter addresses for the mailing of the newsletter and directory. These mailings occur between Dec 1 and April 1, so be sure the address is for that time period. Updating can be done by email, phone call, or visit to Bill.

➤ **CSLAP/Harmful Algae Blooms – Terry Fisk-** Terry explained how the CSLAP procedure works, and the purpose. They are now collecting 2022 data. Both lakes are “impaired”, Waneta worse than Lamoka, due to the fresh water in Waneta turning over much more slowly than Lamoka. Runoff from recent years’ flooding may be a contributing factor. Terry reported many pertinent numbers from the overall report that is available online. The orange highlighted numbers are the numbers that are worse than prior years. Please read the complete report on the website. To answer the question of “What do we do now?”, continue to gather CSLAP data, turn it in to the state database, get grant money, and work for a decrease in phosphorus and nitrogen, removal of biomass and muck, and an increase in oxygen. Jay and Terry offered the public to come see their aerators, and suggested reading “Diet for a Small Lake” on the NYSFOLA website. Public Question: “How much does an aerator cost, and would it help if everyone had one?” Terry replied that aerators would help. They will not solve everything, but they will help clear your own waterfront. HABs hate oxygen and need carbon dioxide for photosynthesis. Price for an aerator is less if homemade, but prices of pumps are on the rise. Public Question: “Does clearing the weeds in your own waterfront help?” Reply was that the weeds stop the water from moving, so the HABs grow where the weeds are, then spread to other areas. Terry reminded that HABs are NOT algae, they are bacteria that release toxins that cause many health problems. Dogs and young children can die 2-3 hours after being in a HAB. Public Question: “Does rain help?” Answer- Yes, rain, wind and boat traffic break up HABs, but they often come back. If there is any green streaking, don’t go in. HABs are occurring on all the lakes. 2007 was the first reported HAB. 2021 was the first HAB on Waneta. Waneta has 15 confirmed HABs, with 8 more recently formed. Be sure to report if you see what you think is a HAB. We need to accurately report to receive grant money. Be prepared for HABs to continue. Public Question: “Is there a way to remove phosphorus and nitrogen like salinity can be removed from the ocean?” Reply was that we will keep hoping for such a thing. Some lakes are “capping” the muck at great cost.

➤ **Gary Light Memorial Pancake Breakfast – Ed Sharpe-** Ed reported that only 130 people came to the breakfast. Hope for a better turnout next year. A sign-up sheet was available to help for next year. August 5, 2023.

➤ **Sean Fitzpatrick Memorial Golf Tournament—Gary Gray-** Banner was hanging at the meeting.

➤ **Goose Control – Kevin Morris-** There are 8 hunters, we have the permit, we need volunteers to addle eggs. Please don’t feed geese!

➤ **Update on June Lake Treatment—Dennis Fagan-** Dennis explained the tax levy, the expenses, the use of the fund balance, the use for septic management, and the plant study. The plant study report is not yet in. Dennis explained that late June is the best time for the treatment because the invasive plants have grown enough to be killed, and that because so much less ProcellaCOR is used than the previous Renovate, that it does not need to be kept in the lake by lowering water level. The ProcellaCOR only remains in the water 1-2 days. 1098.7-1098.8 are the goal summer water levels. The NYSEG error brought the

level to 1098.6, and the drought level is 1098.3. Next year we hope to maintain 1098.8. A thank you to Dennis came from the association and the public.

➤ **Environmental Impact update on the 5-year Volunteer Stewardship**

**Permit. Calvin Barnstead-** Calvin was not at the meeting. Jay explained the frustration Calvin has experienced working with the DEC. He does now have the Volunteer Stewardship Permit, with very strict guidelines. He will be contacting those that signed up to help. If interested, see Jay. Clean up will happen in the spring of 2023.

➤ **2023 LWLA Directory – Terry Allison-** Terry requested that members update information so that the directory can be the best possible source of correct information. Sponsorships are wanted. Let Terry know if there is specific information you would like included in the directory or newsletter. The last newsletter had bubbler information that many are seeking.

➤ **Reminder that the Tyrone Town Dump is only open on Saturday's from 8:00 to noon. Even if the gates are open during the week, it is only for the town highway department.**

**LWLA Short- & Long-Term Goals: Jay White-** Jay briefly mentioned these. Time was way over...

**Short Term Goals – 1-2 years:**

- Boater Safety Rules & Regulations Magnet developed and distributed with the SPRING 2023 Newsletter (magnet complete and approved by Board at the July 23, 2022 Meeting) Jay mentioned that we want people to be knowledgeable and safe on our lakes.
- Determine a way to honor Sean Fitzpatrick's legacy and dedication to the LWLA board (LWLA Annual Golf Tournament change to the Sean Fitzpatrick's Memorial Golf Tournament and banner purchased.)
- Create a family friendly social event—with old fashion games like wheel barrel races, cornhole, music with a DJ, chicken BBQ, etc. as a way for more folks around the lake to get to know one another. If you have ideas, join the board and share them!

**Long Term Goals 3-5 years:**

- Achieve 100% of all lake property owners as LWLA members.

Jay stated that we want more people to help, and to care.

- Determine the advantages and cost of weed harvesting and removal of biomass on the lakes.

We are looking for ways to reduce this. The cost is over \$1,000 per acre. We are filling in!

- Develop and coordinate with the towns a feasibility study for public sewer and/or water in the Towns of Wayne and Tyrone

We have 1,000 septic systems. Making a change will be expensive, but may be necessary, or we will lose our lakes. We have a need for septic and water systems, in Jay's opinion.

➤ **Membership Suggestions for Short Term/Long Term Goals-** none

- **2023 Board Elections:** The following member from Lamoka and Waneta Lake have agreed to serve another 2 years. Nominations from the membership for volunteers to serve on the board? (No volunteers to serve on the 2023 LWLA Board.

The following were elected to serve for a second two-year term on the LWLA Board of Directors:

**Waneta Lake:** Terry Allison, Al Buckland, Cartha Conklin, Dennis Fagan, Terry Fisk, Corinne Julian, Kevin Morris, Ed Sharpe, Mary Tucker, Tom Webb, Jay White

**Lamoka Lake:** Claud Gingrich, Bill Hassoldt

The following were elected to serve as 2023 LWLA Officers for a term of one year.

**President:** Jay White

**Vice President:** Bill Hassoldt

**Secretary:** Mary Tucker

**Treasurer:** Corinne Julian