



Fall Public Meeting Minutes

Saturday, August 26, 2023

Wayne, Fire Dept.

Welcome & Introduction of Board Members by LWLA President, Jay White-

Meeting opened at 10:03 a.m. Jay thanked the Wayne Fire Department for the use of their department for the LWLA Fall Public Meeting.

➤ Treasurer's Report (copies available at the door as you entered—

Corrinne Julian- Corrinne reported on the Profit & Loss statement August 26, 2022 to August 26, 2023. Total Business Operations Income of \$14,263.20 The Program Income is \$27,419.00 for a **total income of \$41,682.20**. Our **total expenses \$35,828.96**. **NET INCOME: \$5,853.24**. We have approximately **\$4,900** in our **checking account**, **\$64,000** in **Savings** for a **total of \$68,900**.

➤ **Membership Report – Bill Hassoldt-** Currently have 584 paid members out of a possible 984 members. Many homeowners own more than one property, but only pay \$20 for membership of the multiple properties. Bill also reminded members that if you receive a packet in the spring with your newsletter and magnet then you are a paid member. We are looking into how people may request a second newsletter packet for \$10.

Bill and Corinne reminded everyone to **please pay your dues BEFORE March 1st, 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, to Bill. The cost of our bulk not-for-profit mailing of the newsletter packet is 97 cents, if your packet is returned and we need to mail you an individual packet, the cost is \$2.94.

Sheriff Allard (Steuben County) and Sheriff Rumsey (Schuyler County)

Reminded members that in 2025, EVERYONE needs the Boater Safety Course. The course can be taken in person or online. A member asked if it would be possible to offer the Boater's Safety Course at one of the Fire Halls?

Both Sheriff's departments continue to be challenged with staffing for Boater Patrol. Schuyler is down a craft and it will take 52-54 weeks to replace the engine. They are on the list for two jet skis while waiting for the boat. Both departments attempt to cover both lakes. Sheriff's reminded members that any part of the waterway is in either jurisdiction when patrolling.

Reminded members that if a PWC (personal watercraft) is pulling a tuber or skier you still need a spotter. You also need three seats – driver, spotter, tuber/skier – and only one person in the tube.

Skiing and tubing AFTER sunset are prohibited.

The Channel has a 5-mph speed limit—no wake. Up to the individual towns to post signs.

In addition to the NYS Boater Regulations regarding life jackets, EVERYONE needs to **wear** a life jacket from NOVEMBER to MAY.

DEC patrols the lakes also and do have the same jurisdiction. Their primary focus is Fishing License.

Some members asked about having more enforcement on roads—again manpower is the same issue. If you have a concern, call it in. They will mark the area as a “hot spot” and attempt to patrol that particular area.

NOISE ORDINANCE: Sheriff Allard explained that the Noise Ordinance in the Town of Wayne is a POLICY not an ORDINANCE, it is a recommendation. Purpose of the ordinance is to make “good neighbors”.

Tournaments—during fishing tournaments they try to be on the lake, but not always possible.

Lake District Taxes vs LWLA Lake Association dues—Jay explained the difference between the two groups. The Lake District Taxes do the weed survey, weed treatment, and inspection of septic systems.

Grants are available to the Association and that is why we are saving money in our treasury. Many of the grants we apply for require matching funds.

The Association cleans the channel, work with townships and is a member of the NYSFOLA (New York State Federation of Lake Associations) western division. LWLA will be hosting the Fall Regional Meeting on Saturday, October 28, 2023 at Briggs Barbecue at the Boat House on Waneta.

Jay reminded members that it takes 3.7 years for Waneta Lake to turn over and .8 years for Lamoka. We have no fresh water flowing into Waneta. Lamoka has the Tobyhannas.

A member asked about the channel at the north end of Waneta Lake? The Channel is filled in, NYSEG needs to come periodically to dredge it.

Another member asked why the Lake District doesn’t take over weed cutting? Also, it was asked if other than members can attend the Lake District meetings. Jay said it was OK to attend their meetings.

➤ **Lake Treatment 2023—Dennis Fagan-**

There are two major discussion points.

In August we do a plant survey.

Two years ago Bob Johnson did our rake tosses, but he has since retired. We now use Adirondack Research that worked within our budget.

Lamoka 169 sampling points; Waneta has 137 sampling points, with 2 rake tosses per sample point.

2023: Lamoka had 41 sites with milfoil found in 51 tosses; Waneta had 32 sites with milfoil found in 41 tosses.

2023 we budgeted \$151,000 (\$109,000 from Schuyler County; \$42,000 from Steuben County). Cost is: \$12,250 for Plant Study \$9,000 Septic Management, \$1,800 permit and administration. We currently have a Fund Balance of \$113,000 since we did not treat Lamoka Lake.

The Lake District Commission will look at the detailed data and come up with an estimate of which area should be treated.

Members comments included:

Can we charge a fee at the boat launch to help with our lake management. *Response: the boat launch is public and controlled by DEC.*

Could we ask the fishing tournaments to build in an extra \$5 to their fee to donate to the LWLA for lake management? *Response: The LWLA Board did discuss this and will continue to look into this form of revenue. We just need to know what Tournaments are scheduled and who is the contact person.*

Have we considered using a natural way to remove weeds? EX: Grass Carp LWLA *did have a presentation on stocking Grass Carp as an alternative to the chemicals, however we would not get approval because our water flows into Susquehanna Water Basin and they will not approve it as the grass carp would end up there. Grass Carp works best in a pond where no water flows out.*

Is there a way to create a water flow in Waneta Lake? EX: Pump system *Response: We had not looked into a pump system, but it may be very expensive. The member who suggested the pump system agreed to look into a pump system.*

HAB'S Terry Fisk explained a HAB is a proliferation of cyanobacteria that may produce toxins capable of causing GI, upper respiratory, neurological, and/or dermatological symptoms. HABs only became a problem in the USA around 2012. Waneta saw its first HAB in 2019. A member also commented that HABs have been around for millions of years it is not something new, what is new is that they are becoming more widespread and toxic.

Terry Fisk and Bill Hassoldt inspect each HAB that is reported and collect the sample. Terry looks at the sample under a microscope and determines exactly what species of cyanobacteria are present in the HAB. All HABs are reported by Terry and Bill to the DEC.

DEC has a site listing all the reported HABs in New York State. Thus far in 2023, Waneta has reported 10 and Lamoka 6. By this time in 2022, Waneta reported 16 and Lamoka 1. What is being done differently this year? Waneta property owners have begun installing fountains, and aerators. Waneta has close to 30 systems and Lamoka has 2. The more oxygen we can add to the lake the better it is to discourage the HABs. Eelgrass also is a great breeding ground for cyanobacteria because it reaches the surface then continues to grow and extends flat across the surface. This causes stagnant water areas that develops green filamentous algae and scum. Then, when there is no breeze and the sunshine is intense, BOOM! We have another cyano-HAB! Everyone should REMOVE as much of the eelgrass as you can rake out!

People are also posting signs at the end of the dock notifying fishermen of the presence of an aerator/bubbler and weed mats. You can customize your own sign on the Amazon site. In the search field type in "custom signs" and you will find many options.

*****See sample at the end of these minutes******

If you happen to see pea-green colored areas or what looks like swirls of bright green or blue-green paint spilled on the surface of the water, or tiny off-white specks floating near the top surface of the water, please 1) **STAY OUT OF THE WATER!**, 2) **REPORT IT!** - on Lamoka Lake call Bill Hassoldt (607.329.2920), on Waneta Lake call Terry Fisk (607.731.8863) We will come examine the suspected HAB, take pictures and report it to the DEC if it does look like a HAB. A sample may also be collected of the HAB area so that Terry can analyze it under his microscopes to

determine what species of cyanobacteria are present in the HAB to determine the risk it poses. Samples sent off to the DEC in the past have taken a week to ten days to get answers.

A member asked if HABs disperse naturally, and how long does it take? *Response: When you see it the HAB is at the peak. They are usually gone the next day. Wind, rain, and boat wakes usually help to disperse a HAB. Keuka Lake had a HAB report at two public swimming areas in Penn Yan. The Health Department closed them down and waited 14 days before reopening both parks. Five days later they had another HAB and the swimming areas are closed once again.*

Another member reported that HABs are all across the world and there is no plan to eliminate it.

Terry mentioned that the HAB season was usually July to September, but last year they had sightings on Lamoka and Waneta later than usual, far into December.

Terry also reminded members to remove your weeds from your lake front. If you are going to rake or cut them please TAKE CARE and remove them from the water. Weed mats are another option to help reduce the amount of weeds in front of your cottage. Another member voiced her concern that someone was cutting the weeds and then they were floating down to her lake area.

Weed Treatment is good at what it does, we cannot completely get RID of Eurasian Milfoil.

Lake Management Committee: Jay explained that in April a group from the Board took a survey of every waterway running into the lake. The next step is to take samples/organisms to help us determine what is going into our lakes. We take the sample/organism and send them to DEC and they will analyze what is in the sample/organism that will tell us what is in the water flowing into our lakes. Soil and Water will take care of anything coming into the lake—not what is already in the lake.

DRAW DOWN: This is the year we do the extra deep drawdown to 1097.5' or less. (About 1 ½ feet lower than it is currently!) This is so maintenance can be done on the shorelines. This will start mid-October, and we will try to keep it low to mid-November, or until ice starts to form, whichever comes first. Afterward, the gates will be closed to bring the lake back up to the winter level. Look for the announcement on Facebook and the website for exact dates. Gary Gray, a LWLA Board Member, warned everyone to get your boat OUT BEFORE the draw down!

2022 CSLAP Data: The latest data is on the website.

Clothing: Chuck Rybak reminded the members that we have a good supply of clothing and you can reach out to Chuck via email ewbfp@aol.com OR call 607-426-1959 (cell) We also offer gift certificates, which make great Christmas Presents! Chuck reminded the members you can see our merchandise on our website. <https://www.lamokawaneta.com/>

2024 Board Elections: Jay asked if there were any members who are willing to volunteer and serve a 2-year term as a LWLA Board Member. The following members stepped forward to serve the LWLA Board of Directors for 2024-2026 term.

Lamoka Lake:

Jody Christen
Christine Parulski
BethAnn Parulski-Seager
Steve & Sandy Tressler

Waneta Lake:

Patrick O'Shaughnessy
Jaci Riorden
Jim & Barb Russell
Barbara Walls
Debbie Cooper
John Thatcher

A motion was made to accept the above new volunteers for the **2024 LWLA Board**.
Unanimously approved.

The following Board Members agreed to continue another year as **officers**:

Jay White, President

Bill Hassoldt, Vice President

Corinne Julian, Treasurer

Mary Tucker, Secretary

Motion to accept the above-Board Members as the 2024 LWLA Board Officers for a one year term. Unanimously approved.

SAMPLE SIGN to hang at the end of your dock warning fishermen you have an aerator system/bubbler.

