

Lamoka–Waneta Lakes Association

Board of Directors Meeting – Tyrone Town Hall

May 16, 2015 10:00AM

In Attendance: Chris Kain, Ed Sharpe, Patty Gray, David Wallace, Carolee Thatcher, John Thatcher, Kevin Morris, Jean Hubsch, Dene Karaus, Sean Fitzpatrick, Gordon Shafer, Andy Strawhand, Kurt Bischoff, Rich Stewart, Ron Dixon, Brian and Patty Smith, Cartha Conklin, Terry Allison

Absent: Chuck and Joan Rybak, John Herbert, Al and Heidi Gerth, Terry Fisk, Al Buckland, Dick Fagan, Gary Gray

Call to order: 10:10AM

OLD BUSINESS - Motion to accept minutes by Dave Wallace, Jean Hubsch seconded, all in favor.

NEW BUSINESS:

Treasurer's report: Checking: \$18,862.31- Savings: \$20, 171.46- \$500 petty cash, new clothing logo order \$1,400

President's report

- **Dam issues:** Found lots of misinformation on Friends of Lamoka/Waneta Lakes Assoc. Facebook site. The LWLA President gave numerous updates on Facebook and Association website. Two gates, one closed OK, the second gate closed down to within six inches. Debris blocked complete closing. Bruce Corwin, NYSEG liaison, said it would take 7-10 days to prepare to repair problems. The lake level dropped to 1098.1 after ten days with no action. After repeated requests by LWLA with no action, President resorted to placing a request on Facebook for everyone to contact NYSEG. NYSEG came down on Saturday and the dam was repaired. Senator O'Mara's office had been contacted by Facebook members and contacted the President on Monday to check on the dam's status. NYSEG reported to LWLA that further inspection found that more extensive work would be needed. They will place two gates on the front side of the dam facing the Bradford Fire Depart. The old gates will be taken off and repaired. Some cracks at the base of the dam will also be repaired. This will take place as soon as NYSEG is able to get their work crews and engineers scheduled to do the work. Per Gordon, the dam was repaired 15-20 years ago.
- **Lake Treatment - Allied** Biological will be in the area on May 27-29 for chemical treatment of Eurasian milfoil. The cost is approx. \$162,000
- **News from Albany** – The LWLA President received a phone call from State Senator Tom O'Mara's office to inquire if the dam was repaired enough to close the gates. Secondly, Senator O'Mara's assistant said his office was completing an application for a grant for approx. \$150,000 to assist in the implementation of the proposed aeration system. A codicil attached to the grant is that the LWLA must pay for the project upfront and Albany will reimburse the LWLA. The LWLA President explained to the assistant that if the LWLA had the money they would be paying for it themselves. The LWLA President agreed to stay in touch with the Albany rep. as this grant would take up to a year to complete and there was no guarantee that it would be approved. In the meantime, the LWLA will try to be creative in its approach to this possibility.
- During the explanation of the Albany offer, Gordon Shafer began to question the aeration project and its continual cost. Since only 1/3rd of the lake would be affected by the aeration project, it seems too costly to consider doing the entire lake and then move into Lamoka. There is also the electrical cost that would be a constant expense for years to come along with maintenance costs. We need to remember that we are

trying to change Nature. Is it really possible? Should we rethink the Aeration Project? Further discussion needed.

- **Flare Night change:** A mistake was made on the magnetic calendar; the correct date is Sept. 5th. The public meeting will remain August 29.

Committee reports:

- **May Forum** – Jean Hubsch reports that all is ready. Darrel Sturgis will be our guest speaker. Dennis Hayes, Jay White and Terry Fisk will discuss weed removal, aeration and water movement ideas, along with dredging using their experiences in those areas. The LWLA will be instructing the public about the dam issues, the upcoming chemical treatment along with introducing the new logo on numerous items.
- **Boat stewardship program** – Rich Stewart attended the NYSFOLA conference, attending the boat stewardship program. The boat stewardship program was established to stop the spread of invasive species in NYS waters. Rich explained that numerous lakes in the state have the program. Visiting boaters are reminded to clean their boats off after leaving the lakes and making sure there is nothing on their trailers when they enter the lake. Some lakes have paid stewards that check boats daily or on weekends or during fishing tournaments. Some are paid and some are volunteers. Rich reported that Cooperative Extension has grants from \$8,000 - \$10,000 to pay for summer stewards. At some lakes, these stewards have I Pads that have a program on them that can be used to keep track of what kinds of weeds were seen and pictures can be taken of the boats that the stewards have inspected.
- Board Members asked the following questions:
 - Does the LWLA have to contribute \$ to or pay for stewards?
 - Should stewards pass out reminders to bass tournament participants that come to our lakes?
 - Should we explore sources to fund the project?
 - Should we observe the boat launch a few times to determine if a problem even exists?
 - Are we spending \$ to educate when materials already are out there?
- A motion to create a committee to follow-up on the stewardship program was not seconded. The board believes there should be more investigation into the actual need for such a program on our lakes. Rich Stewart agreed to keep us informed into any new ideas that may develop.
- **Spring newsletter** – Rich Stewart, chairperson, reported that the newsletter was sent out and everyone should be receiving it in the next few days.
- **Clothing** – Chuck Rybak was absent but Kurt reported that \$1,476 was spent on ordering the new logo merchandise.
- **Flares** – John Thatcher reported that stick flares will be ordered in a smaller quantity since electronic flares seem to be catching on. Stick flares will be sold at the Wayne Shop of Surprises and Ray Dann's. The cost will be 2/\$5 or \$3. Electronic flares will be sold 2/\$25 or \$13.
- **Golf tournament** – Patty Gray reported that all is a go for the July 11th tournament.
- **Goose control** – Andy Strawhand reported that the goose shooting permits are completed and goose shooting can continue. Please remind guests at your cottage **Do Not Feed the Geese**. Gordon reported that adding permits are in effect and six or seven nests were added by volunteers. The over plentiful geese continue to create sanitary problems for many property owners. Their excrement creates health issues for humans and the lake.
- **Lake level** – Terry Fisk was not present to report on lake level but the new lake level device for a more accurate measure of lake level has been ordered. It should arrive sometime in June. The device will cost

\$2300 to get it up and running. The lake level target for chemical treatment is 1098.5. Stop logs will be inserted during the duration of the treatment to keep water in the dam so treated water is not lost.

- **Pancake breakfast** – More details to come. Al/Heidi Gerth, Chris Kain and Dick Fagan will spearhead the work.

- **Other** – Kurt Bischoff reminded everyone that the testing team will be testing both lakes. What tests they will do will be decided by the team. May be sending samples out to John Tucci in Michigan this summer.

- Meeting adjourned at 11:15AM

Respectively submitted,

Terry Allison, President