

Lamoka-Waneta Lakes Association – Board of Directors Meeting

April 15, 2017

Meeting called to order at 10:00 a.m.

Present: Terry Allison, Calvin Barnstead, Al Buckland, Cartha Conklin, Ron Dixon, Rick Game, Gary Gray, , Barry Pappas, Gordon Shafer, Ed Sharpe, Richard Stewart, , Mary Kay Tucker, Tom Webb, Jay White

Guest: Dennis Fagan

Absent: Patrick Allison, Kurt Bischoff, Sean Fitzpatrick, Jamie Gensel, Al Gerth, Heidi Gerth, Claude Gingrich, Corinne Julian, Dene Karaus, Kevin Morris, Chuck Rybak, Joan Rybak, Ray Stebbins, Andy Strawhand, Carolee Thatcher, John Thatcher

The minutes of the October 15, 2016 Board Meeting were approved unanimously with the correction of Darrel provided information on people who are behind on cleaning septic tanks. The minutes read “Doug provided information....

Introductions: Terry welcomed Board Members back for the 2017-2018 year, and welcomed Dennis Fagan to update the Board on the 2017 Lake Treatment.

Dennis explained that they are having problems getting approval from DEC this year. DEC has developed new guidelines. This year they proposed containment without lowering the lake level. We were rejected because they needed a model, which we did. Dennis reminded the Board and the DEC that we have been treating the lakes for the past 14 years and we are a model in New York State. We have shown we can and have been successful. The concern of the DEC is the seepage.

Sent the proposal on February 27th and received a rejection on February 28th. The DEC does not want to change their new guidelines and protocol. Dennis followed up with an e-mail of our track record of 10 parts per billion when the gates close it seals and it is up within a couple of weeks of the treatment. Our dam gates are sufficiently closed and sealed. Dennis requested a letter from Steuben County stating that there are no irrigation users from Mud Creek to Savona.

On April 12th Dennis received a letter from the Director of Bureau of Pest Management who is in charge of Pesticides. He did not change anything, but offered to meet with Dennis. The meeting will take place next Wednesday, April 19th to go over the issues.

Dennis cautioned the Board that we are on a tight timeline. We normally treat the lake Tuesday before Memorial Day. We need to send a letter to property owners that will be affected at least two weeks prior to treatment so the property owner has enough time to respond.

Dennis asked the Board for a consensus on getting some leeway in the level. He believes he can address the leakage concern. To address the chemical overflow at 1099.0 we need the ability to drop down 6” or go halfway at 3”. Last year we dropped it 6”, but the problem was the drought. In the past two years we successfully held it back and did not cause any major issues.

Dennis explained that the hardest part of this treatment is we are treating close to the outlet. The last time we treated Mill Pond was 2009. Last year the testing showed Mill Pond was full of milfoil and the treatment will control the influx of milfoil back into the lake and the treatment should last 10 years.

Members asked why the new guidelines. Dennis believes that the DEC wants to treat everyone the same rather than based on their need and condition. The bottom line is the close proximity to the dam for treatment. The "new" DEC head in Albany who doesn't know our record for past treatments seems to have higher expectations and is requiring greater assurance that the chemicals won't get downstream and affect possible irrigation sights. The issue is there isn't anyone downstream irrigating.

Dennis reminded the Board that the treatment needs to have two good days in the water to be effective. Dropping 3" or 6" does not affect the treatment.

Dennis proposed the following timeline:

April 19th meet with the Bureau Director

May 1st send letters to property owners

Tuesday before Memorial Day—Treatment

Old Business: No Old Business

New Business:

Treasurer's Report: In Corrinne Julian's absence, Terry went over the LWLA Balance Sheet as of April 11, 2017.

Checking Account Balance-- \$15,452.47

Savings Account Balance-- \$11,185.61

Total Fixed Assets -- \$7,363.58

The activities since the October 15, 2016 meeting included:

- NYS sales taxes paid at \$105.30
- Insurance paid at \$599.78
- Goose Permit at \$100
- PO Box rental, 2017 membership printing, pre-stamped envelopes at \$1,261.42
- 2016 web maintenance/hosting at \$314.38
- Quickbooks software upgrade at \$217.15
- Flowers for Al's family at \$89.56
- Printed Treatment envelopes for Dennis
- Created Newsletter mailing list for Terry

Membership Update: The LWLA Database with information from Schuyler/Steuben Tax records. We have 998 membership applications sent out on January 2nd with about 25 returned invalid or changed addresses. Currently have 501 members that have paid their 2017 dues at 50.7% participation. We may be upwards of 52% as some more dues have been sent in after this report.

Terry reminded Board Members that the LWLA Dues are now collected on an annual basis and can no longer be paid for multiple years.

NYSFOLA (New York State Federation of Lake Associations) Conference will be held on May 5 & 6 at Lake Moraine in Hamilton, NY. The first day of the conference will include a lake testing demo with actually going out on the lake. Anyone interested in attending the conference one or both of the days, please let Terry know. Cartha told the Board that this is a great opportunity to network with other lake association members.

Septic System Upgrades there are currently 110 residents not in compliance. Terry has been playing “phone tag” with Daryl to get an update on what is being done. Gordon mentioned that he knew of someone who had recently received a letter that was a little stronger than just asking the owner to comply. Cartha reminded the Board that the Local Law governs septic inspection and she read from the local municipal law. Terry and Cartha will reach out to Daryl for an update on the issue.

Committee Reports:

Clothing: Chuck has reached out to the current distributor to no avail. He is currently looking for a new distributor.

Channel Inspection Team: Gordon reported that a clean-up of the channel requires a permit. A boater is allowed to put aside any debris that obstructs the safety of your boat. He reminded the Board that the channel is DEC property. Gordon recommended anyone who travels through the channel keep track of the condition of the channel and notify the committee at that point if a clean-up is necessary, a committee could be formed and a permit could be acquired.

Goose Control: Some shooting has been going on. Terry read a report from Andy. We currently have a permit with 125 slots. If anyone would like to be added to the permit, please notify Andy. You need a NYS license with a duck stamp. You must be on your property to shoot and make sure you have your paperwork if the DEC were to stop by! What you shoot, you must report! Andy needs everyone to keep written reports. Your name, how many shot each month (even if the number is 0 or none). We need the written reports if we want a repeat permit in 2018.

Andy also reminded the Board that goose feces can spread infection and illness by touching, tracking it into the house, etc. Saturation of goose feces in the lake can also affect swimming adversely. Geese love freshly mowed grass, and plants. DO NOT FEED THE GEESE!

Gordon reported the addling of eggs. We have a permit and a committee that soaks the eggs with corn oil. Nests are located on dry ground. Anyone interested in helping out with this project send your name and contact information to Gordon, he will add your name to the permit. We addle about 1% of their nests. A concern was raised that we don't know how many geese there are, how many eggs addled, who is keeping track? Gordon replied that a DEC representative from Bath does attempt to keep a count.

Golf Tournament: Gary reported that the Golf Tournament is scheduled for July 15th. Advertising has begun.

Lake Level: Rick is the official lake level reported. Terry commended him on his excellent job of posting the levels and the standard on Facebook. Rick spoke to the fact how NYSEG is regularly down at the Bradford dam opening and shutting the gates especially during the rainy season.

Rick shared the NYSEG guidelines regarding the Bradford dam followed up with the e-mail regarding the guidelines:

Maintain the water levels at the Bradford Dam as noted below

From the...BRADFORD DAM OPERATION PLAN FOR WATER LEVEL MANAGEMENT OF WANETA AND LAMOKA LAKES dated June 2004

3.0 LAKE LEVEL AND BRADFORD DAM GATE OPERATIONS

NYSEG will continue to operate the Bradford Dam gates to maintain the target levels in Waneta and Lamoka Lakes for the term of the Nonpower License. Upon installation of the notch, NYSEG will, in cooperation and consultation with the Lamoka/Waneta Lakes' Association, follow the following criteria for maintenance of lake levels and operation of the Bradford Dam gates:

3 3 Spring Season (March 1 - May 15)

Maintain water levels at a target of 1098.5 feet through the spring. Water levels during the spring months are subject to variation from year to year, and may be lowered to between 1098.0 and 1098.5 feet to avoid spring flooding. As the heavy runoff flow and threat of flooding subsides, water levels are gradually raised and transitioned to the summer season range. The gates in the dam are opened or closed at the discretion of the operator relative to flow and precipitation conditions. High amounts of rainfall may require the operator to open the gates to prepare storage in Waneta and Lamoka Lakes.

Environmental Impact Committee: Barry explained this is a new committee for this year and have not had an opportunity to meet. Barry and Rick asked the Board if they have any environmental concerns or hear of any concerns to report them to Barry Pappas and Rick Game.

Fundraising: Terry shared that we currently have a good cushion in the fund which will be helpful for future projects at this time.

Lake Testing: Ron will be putting his dock and boat in soon and will begin testing at that point. He is looking for someone to do the testing on Waneta Lake. Terry explained that if you are interested in doing the testing on Waneta Lake it must be done once a month at the same time for consistent data collection. If you are interested in helping out, please contact Ron Dixon, Chair.

Membership Development: Terry reminded the Board that we are at 50% membership. Cartha mentioned that we have come a long way in membership in the past two-three years. She asked if there was something that we could hand out at the Pancake Breakfast to promote the Association. (ex: a sticker) Terry explained that Board members are encouraged to reach out to their neighbors who are not members. The membership applications are available on the website and also will be available at the Public meetings and Pancake Breakfast.

Newsletter: Rich handed out two copies of the upcoming newsletter, one in color and the other in black and white. He explained the cost of each printing and reminded the Board that this year only members will be receiving the newsletter. The difference between the two is approximately \$1300. Discussion was held and some Board members believed that the color makes more of a statement especially with the photographs of the weeds and zebra mussels. Rick felt that the color photographs made him stop and look at the graphs.

Cartha made the motion to have the upcoming LWLA newsletter be printed in color. Unanimously approved.

Navigational and Recreational Law: Terry pointed out the articles in the upcoming newsletter, particularly Gordon's article, "Our Waterfront". Gordon's article deals with the rights of anglers and property owners, what we should and should not be doing. There are currently 10 tournaments scheduled for this year. (See the LWLA Newsletter for dates.) Gordon reminded us we are stewards of the lake not owners of the lake.

Pancake Breakfast: Al reported the date for the Pancake Breakfast is August 5th. There is a need for cooks!

Steuben/Schuyler Water Quality Reps: Cartha reported Schuyler County meets every other month **1:30-4:00** p.m. usually the third Thursday of the month, but we do not have a representative for Steuben County. If you are interested in representing the LWLA at the Steuben County meetings are held at 10 a.m. on the third Friday of January, April, July, and October at the USDA Service Center in Bath, NY, please contact Cartha Conklin.

Cartha handed out a Brochure that was given out at the Schuyler County meeting regarding a new plant (Mile a Minute Vine) that grows up to 6" a day and can reach up to 25 feet long in one year. The Brochure explains how to identify the vine, how to document it, and how to report the infestation and stop the spread.

Other Business: None

There being no other business, a motion was made to adjourn the meeting at noon.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Tucker

Calendar of Events: 2016-2017 LWLA Calendar of Events:

- May 27 & August 26 Public Meetings @ Tyrone Fire Hall
- July 1 (9:30 p.m.) & September 2 (8:30 p.m.) Flare Nights
- July 1 (2:00 p.m.) Boat Parade (Lamoka, meet at Baptist Camp, Waneta meet at South end of lake.
- July 15 Golf Tournament
- July 22/23 Lamoka Lake Rummage Sales/July 29-30 Waneta Lake Rummage Sales
- August 5—Pancake Breakfast 8-11 a.m.
- August 12 – Pontoon Palooza 2:00 p.m.
- Board of Director's Meetings: April 15, 2017, May 20, 2017, June 17, 2017, July 15, 2017, August 19, 2017, September 16, 2017, October 21, 2017 (All meetings are held at the Tyrone Town Hall at 10:00 a.m.

Meeting adjourned at 12:00 noon.

Next Meeting: May 20, 2017 at 10:00 a.m. Tyrone Town Court

Respectfully Submitted,

Mary Tucker, Secretary