

Lamoka-Waneta Lakes Association

Incorporated 1965

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

Public Meeting – August 27, 2016

Meeting started at 10:01 am

President Introductions

- Terry introduced herself and thanked everyone for coming.
- Election today for officers and board members. Terry thanked the current board members for all their hard work this year. Some old members will be leaving and new board members joining. Sean will cover in more detail later.
- There are 2 mailings we do.
 - The first is membership letter that goes to all lake owners. Cost of this mailing is covered when you generously pay your dues. The LWLA is now 501C so your dues are tax deductible. We are working on cleaning up our membership DB to reach more lake owners.
 - The second is the newsletter and calendar magnet. There has been a change here where only paying members will receive this for paying their dues. If neighbors ask about this you can tell them if they pay their dues they will receive this too.
- The Pontoon Palooza update
 - No reported activity on Lamoka but have been told people tie up all the time.
 - Waneta was a success with about 20 boats and 107 people. Were tied up for about 4 hours with people passing food and moving from boat to boat. Some people even brought their dogs. The only negative was once you tied up you couldn't leave until brave enough to speak up.
- The Gary Light Pancake breakfast served about 135 people. Thank you for Ed Sharp for taking over at the last minute with Al being sick. The Light family all served breakfast to honor of Gary Light who started the pancake breakfast.
- The lake level is very low, down about 1 foot so won't have to lower this fall.
- The person who put pesticides in Waneta Lake is still in litigation. When an individual throws pesticides in lake they make a chemical cocktail which can be toxic. You don't want your kids or grandkids swimming in this.
- Goose control permit finally came in for this year. Andy, who handles this, and his wife Joyce were in a car accident. Andy was a hero. When car went over embankment Joyce was stuck in car. Andy went over embankment and helped Joyce out of car. Please keep them in your prayers.
- Terry, as an individual not board member, discussed her observation on lack of zoning in Tyrone. There was a 3 story garage and a new house built on footprint but second story goes out over footprint that both went up on Waneta very quickly. They both block the view of the lake. This puts stress on septic systems if not changed out and uses more well water if bigger because more people.

Without zoning people can put up condos or multiple dwellings. It's important that we all be aware of this since it could happen to any one of us. Terry is personally going to Tyrone representing herself. She is on a one woman crusade. This is not a LWLA issue; she just wants to bring it to your attention.

- Next Saturday is Flare Night. Please note the time has changed to 8:30 from 9.
- Fishing tournaments
 - Several people have had problems with fisherman fishing too close to docks where kids are swimming and lures catching on boats, docks, etc.
 - There are no rules in the fishing guide relating to this.
 - Gordon told his story of a fisherman was casting right where his daughter and kids were swimming. After some yelling back and forth the fisherman took off and flipped them the bird. They took a picture of the fisherman and sent it to the fishing tournament lead to identify the guy.
 - Terry also had an encounter on her dock when a fisherman's lure was stuck on her boat.
 - Gordon is meeting with Sea Grant/DEC at Bass Tournament meeting in the fall to see if can get some guidelines added for when near docks.
 - In talking with DEC they were unaware of how big these tournaments are. Rules allow for 50 people, regardless of number of boats, in a tournament on a lake our size. In addition, the size of tournament is limited to the number of parking spaces at boat launch not including street parking.
 - Someone from Michigan contacted Terry saying they were having the same problem so it is not just our lakes.
 - Must have a permit for tournament but only if use public boat launch. However, there are tournaments that don't use launch.
 - The fishing tournament schedule will be published in newsletter.
 - Don't be nasty to fisherman it is against the law to harass fisherman. If you have a problem get the boat number and contact the head of the fishing tournament.

Treasury Report by Kurt

- Kurt talked to how he was treasurer for 4-5 years serving under 2 presidents and liked doing it. However now that he goes to Florida it does not make sense because the treasurer needs to be here all year.
- Reviewed highlights of Treasury report that was handed out.
 - Current balance of all assets is \$24,145.72.
 - Pancake breakfast took in about \$870 and cost about \$840 with a profit of about \$30. More of a social event rather than money making event.
 - 501C Tax Exempt application cost \$850. Now need to fill out 990 form.
 - \$112 for sales tax for items purchased that do not pay taxes on at time of purchase.
 - \$600 for LWLA Insurance premium
 - \$299 for golf tournament prizes
 - Spent about \$2000 on clothing
 - Goose permit cost \$100
 - Postage about \$4200 for membership letter and newsletter. LWLA also pays postage for District weed treatment letters.

- The biggest expense of \$40,000 was the donation to the District to assist with the payment for the Lamoka weed treatment. About \$9600 of that came from your donations so thank you.

Weed Control and Lake District Tax by Dennis

- Handed out Rake Toss data. They go out to sampling point and throw in 2 directions. When pull back identify as Trace, Sparse, Moderate or Dense. Plus estimate what type of weed.
- Waneta Lake
 - 138 rake toss sampling points
 - Mostly Southern Naiad and Coontail weeds
 - Highest plant growth this year probably due to mild winter. Trace went down and others went up
 - Scum starting to form because algae forming on top of plants due to lake being so low. Still pretty small compared to what we had 5-6 years ago
 - Milfoil in only 8 locations. Of those half were only fragments and the others were moderate. Probably down because of native plants crowding it out.
- Lamoka Lake
 - In 63 locations found milfoil but most, 59 locations, were in Mill Pond and channel to Mill Pond which were not treated for last 3-4 years. Only found 4 trace location in Lamoka which was treated this year.
 - Native Plants found are Coontail, Elodea, Curly leaf and Southern Naiad
- Treatment next year
 - District meets on September 10 to determine what to treat. Will probably focus on Southern Channel and Mill Pond
- District Tax Increase
 - Today collected about \$102,000 from property tax. After expenses (\$11,000 for Bob Johnson Report and \$15,000 for septic management) only leaves about \$76,000 for weed treatment which is no longer enough. Lamoka weed treatment this year cost \$119,000.
 - Recommending Increase of 50%. If own < 80' lake frontage will increase from \$90 to \$135, > 80' from \$120 to \$180, and access from \$60 to \$90.
 - With increase in 2017 tax bill will generate about \$153,000 in future revenue per year. Dennis presented to both counties and they agreed. There will be a public hearing in November where increase will be presented as part of each county's budgets which need to be approved by county legislatures.

Elections held - Sean

- Officers
 - President – Terry Allison (W) nominated, seconded and approved
 - VP – Jay White (W) nominated, seconded and approved
 - Treasurer – Corinne Julian (W) nominated, seconded, and approved
 - Secretary – Mary Tucker (W) nominated, seconded and approved

- Board members with terms expiring in 2017 (BOD 2 year terms)
 - Ron Dixon (L)
 - Al and Heidi Gerth (L)
 - Dene Karaus (W)
 - Kevin Morris (W)
 - Ed Sharpe (W)
- Board members expiring this year that were nominated, seconded and approved for another term
 - Kurt Bischoff (L)
 - Cartha Conklin (W)
 - Gary Gray (W)
 - Chuck and Joan Rybak (L)
 - Gordon Shafer (L)
 - John Thatcher (W)
 - Carolee Thatcher (W)
 - Al Buckland (W)
 - Andy Strawhand (L)
 - Rich Stewart (W)
 - Sean Fitzpatrick (W)
- New board members nominated, seconded and approved
 - Patrick Allison (W)
 - Tom Webb (W)
 - Ray Stebbins (W)
 - Barry Pappas (L)
 - Jamie Gensel (W)
 - Claude Gingrich (L)
 - Calvin Barnstead (W)
 - Rick Game (L)
- After nominations were opened to the floor one last time, the election was complete.
- New board members please fill out new board member application. Next Board meeting on 3rd Saturday of September.

Suggestions/Questions/Comments from floor

- Schedule Pancake breakfast with public meeting to maybe get more people.
- Save postage by using email for membership and newsletter mailing
- Only give magnet to people who come to meeting
- Can we treat lake earlier and take weather forecast into consideration when lower lake?
 - A lot of interplay with DEC and NYSEG to make decision on treatment and lake level.
 - DEC requested that drop lake a foot this year but Dennis wrote a 26 page document to argue to only bring lake down 6 “ which is what was done.

- The LWLA worked with DEC and NYSEG to create a FERC legal document to protect the lake related to lake levels and roles and responsibilities
- 2003 was the only year the lake was brought down a foot for solar treatment and it did come back,
- The water evaporates 1.25 “ per week with no rain
- NYSEG, which is owned by a company in Spain, controls the Dam. It costs them \$1000 every time they send someone to the dam.
- Someone commented they felt that people who come to meeting should be able to ask questions without being thrown under bus. They felt that the conversation above about lake level was heated. Everyone agreed.
- When do we lower lake? Answer after October 15. No need this year

Free Raffle

- Several people won the raffle and had a choice of a Tee Shirt or books.

Terry ended the meeting saying she appreciated everyone’s comments and that the input helps the board.

Meeting adjourned - 11:37am

Respectfully submitted, Corinne Julian