



LAA Board Meeting Minutes, June 9, 2019
Canton Town Hall

Attendance: Tim Kirwan, Mike McCluskey, Biff Atwater, Bill Gray, Cyndi Phillips, Mary Atwater, Elaine Ferland, Diane Ray – by limited phone connection, apologies of other attendees not noted.

Welcome and Quorum: President Kirwan officially opened the meeting at 1:37 with a statement of quorum and a reminder for proper motion protocol.

Treasurer Report: Treasurer Atwater shared a report (see end of document) and provided brief commentary on grant monies received for the Watershed Survey and monies actually paid out leaving us with a small addition to our treasury. There may be more costs in reviewing the Watershed Report.

- Checking balance as of 5/31/19: \$833.48
- Savings balance as of 5/31/19: \$5,567.75
- Amount of the above dedicated to Water Quality Fund: \$358.99
- 50 paid members as of this date (out of 94 last year); Biff handed out a sheet with those past members who had yet to pay and encouraged members to remind their neighbors
- Ray Bussiere won the ice-out contest and was returning the \$ to LAA; Biff moved that LAA accept the \$80 and use \$30 of that to cover the Bussiere's membership dues. The motion was seconded and approved.

Polly B Update: Tim and others shared their latest news on Polly's progress and expected "coming home" date. Prayers and support are welcome.

Communications: (Ray)

- Thank you note from Canton Historical Society to LAA was received for a recent donation.
- Newsletter Town of Hartford, Newsletter town of Canton: see notes below
- Web site viability - general discussion was this is still important as a repository for data and links to resources.

Water Quality: (Atwater/ Kirwan) Dr. Tom Hamilton is publishing monthly reports on the lake quality, with measures showing about normal for this time of year after an early time with a lot of murkiness – clarity has rebounded. This data is submitted to the State and published on the “Friends of Lake Anasagunticook” Facebook page. Fishing appears to be good quality, lots of perch being caught – anecdotally they are abundant; Mike McCluskey shared that the state only stocks trout in the fall.

Invasive Plants: Biff supplied a “quick key” with easy pictures to help water inspectors determine if a plant is invasive. There are 25 of these available – see Biff. Biff/Mary will inspect their end of the lake for invasives, Tim and his team will inspect Canton Beach to Sparrow Brook, Diane and the Grays will work on the railroad bed side. Reports should come back to Biff. Pine Shores and Bartlett Cove needs a responsible person. Biff has scopes available as well.

Lake Animal Life: Lots of sightings of Eagles, Loons, Herons and more ☺. McCluskey neighbors have built and launched the Taj Mahal of loon nests.

Watershed Survey 5/18 next steps: The survey was conducted with 6 teams auditing 6 sectors; all but a few sites being successfully audited. Schools were contacted and interested in supporting however the date did not actually work out well. The raw data is being compiled by Liz Rothrock and Judy Hamilton. The LAA submits the overall report, then selects prioritized sites to use as the focus for pursuing grant funds for mitigation. General hot-spots are connected to roads as was the same in the previous study. The survey is the first step, next is the report, then the priorities, then seeking funding sources.

Some people opted out of a property inspection as is their right but for the most part, residents were receptive and open to learning what they could do. Not every property needed mitigation. Some properties currently under construction come under the aegis of the Code Enforcement Officer rather than the survey inspectors. *An aside: Bill Kennedy, Hartford CEO, will be leaving his position at the end of the year.*

Some dirt roads with culverts that have been in place for many years are now challenges as roads are being widened. Lots of conversation about sites where work has been done and it didn't last. Some sectors found 5 or 6 sites that needed mitigation, other sectors has 12+ sites. The old railroad bed is more highly trafficked than in the past and needs work as well. Keep in mind actual waterfrontage is being cut right to the ground with grass/mowing taking place right up to the water.

The report is eagerly awaited! Thank you for ALL the survey volunteers who helped mitigate costs.

Education: (Kirwan/Ray)

- Lake Smart outreach netted 3 people who signed up – now trying to make it happen. Have all Board Members been certified?

Nominating Committee: Mike McCluskey reported on the process for nominating. Board members for 5(?) year terms, Board Officers for 1 year terms. Currently Polly is the only board member whose term is expiring. One suggestion was made that we *don't* pursue additional board members as it is challenging to obtain a quorum. By-laws allow for a few as 4 and as many as 12. Tim suggested we have as many board members as possible to encourage engagement and even representation from both towns. Pine Shores needs to be more strongly represented. Tim would like to attend the annual meeting of Pine Shores – will pursue this opportunity. Overall, we should work to recruit some younger people into the LAA. The nominating committee will work to create a slate of nominations – currently Liz Rothrock and Polly Bussiere with Bill Gray will work to create a slate of nominees.

Lake Days: Ray and Polly are still planning to host Lake Days – further check-in will keep everyone posted.

- Raft Race (incl. judges and awards): Cyndi offered her lawn for race watching – will depend on schedule. A lot of work to do providing enough notice, securing judges, prizes, etc. Liz Rothrock has said she will take the lead on this. Hope is that this will be a much bigger event during the bi-centennial. Great opportunity to get 4-H, grandchildren, etc.
- Canoe race – may be easier than building a raft. Blindfolding one person in the front of the canoe? Release paperwork will be needed – Liz has this already.
- Raffle Prizes –Mary and Cyndi (not sure this is correct) will help coordinate, Tim will bring some items to the table for the raffle, Mary has some items to bring as well (check with Biff first 😊), a GRAB BAG idea may work,
- Snail Connection: Mary and Diane will plan a date and invite participation.

Meeting Schedule: Tim is proposing the following schedule for 2019 - 2020:

- Fall Meeting – October 20th, 2019 being proposed
- Winter Meeting – informal at the time of the Ice Festival
- Spring Meeting – April/May TBD
- Meeting prior to Lake Days
- Lake Days
- Annual Meeting

Annual Meeting 2019: (McCluskey)

- Chewonki presentation confirmed – Mice to Moose, some live animals, need publicity to get attendees, we spend about \$375 so would like to get the most attendees, this is a very high quality program
- We are willing to rotate but schedules are the challenge

Focus for Next Meeting: Membership Growth is the focus. Not sure how to push this other than keeping the LAA visible and individuals talking to friends and neighbors. Suggestion to have a welcome basket to new property owners with lake outreach. **Diane to make this welcome packet visible using materials we already have.** The Perry's – in Pine Haven are an example. Suggestion to have a central focus – the Dam served this purpose in the past, perhaps Watershed Mitigation projects could be a future focus. Discussion is to suggest off-spring, next generation, become members- this fosters engagement as well as a bit of revenue.

Lake Height: Managing the dam is going well. Thanks Malcom Ray for posting notices on the LAA page and on town social media.

Schedule for Future Meetings

August 11, 2019 (1.p.m.) Location TBD

August 18, 2019 Annual Meeting (9 a.m.) Canton Town Hall

October 20, 2019 (1 p.m.) Hartford Town Hall

Social:

Lake Days August 17, 2019

Gray Friday Night Social August 16, 2019 (confirm Friday night)

New Business:

- Wilder Waters Community is the work of a new family in town – they are foragers, botanists, with a lot of fantastic information, we should consider further involvement and possibly having them as speakers for the next Annual Meeting
- Questions about the boat launch with a dock for loading and unloading – elderly and handicapped access – who is responsible for this? This is a state managed facility and Canton has the oversight. **Mike will take the next step of contacting the State.** What if nursing home residents wanted to go for a boat ride?
- Town trash cans were removed in favor of Carry-in and Carry-out; there is simply not enough staff to keep up with the garbage. LAA members will monitor.
- Trash bags were handed out during the watershed survey; suggestion is board members carry trash bags during walks and other events to help clean up as needed.
- Lee Holman, Liaison to Hartford, former raft race judge, in response to inquiry about Hartford beach passes it was determined that Pine Shores Covenants do not allow the Town of Hartford to sell beach passes to non-citizens. There are random parking lot checks looking for a pass but not sure if anyone is inspecting boats. Lee says, the LAA would need to go to Pine Shore Association and work to change the covenants, *however*, people participating in swim classes get a free beach pass for the rest of the season- no matter where you hail from.
- 40 MPH sign heading toward the beach is being changed to 25 MPH – that is in the works.
- Advertising opportunity within the Canton Crier (new letter) should the LAA be listed in a business section of the newsletter? Tim to explore further. Articles are the best promotion. Liz, Mike, Biff, Tim and others have and can contribute to either town's newsletter. Past topics have been safety, invasives, watershed survey, home chemicals that can affect the water, snails, etc. Schedules are on the LAA calendar – let Diane know if you are interested in writing an article.

- Ice-out contest has previously been run by Ray, this past year Gary led the effort and others have declined to organize this. Lots of discussion of what is the official definition of “ice out”, e.g., object in center is submersed, boat from one end of the lake to another, ice out of the cove, no ice at all, it’s a bit vague 😊. Mac Ray may have had a 50 year running history. State is looking for tracking of ice-in and ice-out. Between now and the next meeting have a conversation of ice-out. The LAA made about \$80 on donations of \$10.
- Canton Town Meeting: Hartford has still to ratify their Shoreland Zoning Regulations, Canton has already passed the one; Ordinances will be very similar but differences in minimum lot size, etc. are under each town’s purview. Please report back any lake association topics at each town meeting.
- Discussion of an endowment process, within a 501-C3, was had. An example is \$1,000/year for 10 years, can be stocks, or other financial instruments. The LAA just has to set up a separate account. Tim reach out to Nestle who owns a lot of water brands and is working to improve their image – asking for \$5K per year. Opens the door to new revenue sources for the organization that move beyond membership only. Think about others beyond just LL Bean, let’s pitch them all.
- Retired scientist from UMF does CORE TESTING. This tells the history of the lake for 1000 years and predictability going forward of key trends. Tim will get materials together and send this out to the board to determine value. This may be worth pursuing funding and will tell us more than the data we currently track, e.g., acid rain example and surrounding forest data. Tom Hamilton and this professor will get back with whether this has relevance for a lake the size of ours. Mary shared that Lake Auburn has done this and she volunteered to do some research.
- Membership Collateral was shared.

Meeting adjourned at: 3:15

Respectfully submitted,

Diane Ray

As reported on June 9, 2019

2018-2019	Budget Annual	Actual YTD	Actual Jan	Actual Feb	Actual Mar	Actual Apr	Actual May
INCOME:							
Dues	\$1,200.00	\$1,160.00			\$45.00	\$570.00	\$60.00
Unencumbered Donations	\$400.00	\$479.00				\$125.00	\$46.00
Water Quality Monitoring Fund	\$275.00	\$125.00					
Specific Donations (animal contro- ACI)		\$500.00					
Special Projects (apparel)		\$20.00					\$20.00
Special Projects)(watershed survey)		\$1,080.00		\$60.00			\$1,000.00
Fundraising Events:	\$1,750.00	\$1,283.00					
Raffles		\$204.00		\$204.00			
Lake Days		\$515.00					
Calendar		\$564.00	\$169.00				
Dividends	\$15.00	\$10.73	\$1.89		\$0.94	\$0.91	\$0.95
Total Income	\$3,640.00	\$4,657.73	\$170.89	\$264.00	\$45.94	\$695.91	\$1,126.95
EXPENSES:							
Newsletters	\$35.00						
Memberships (MANP)	\$100.00						
Officer/Directors Insurance	\$800.00						
Annual Meeting Guest Presentation							
Annual Report to State	\$25.00				\$35.00		
Membership Dues (ME Lakes)501c3	\$100.00						
Contributions to Tax Exempt	\$200.00		\$200.00			\$100.00	\$182.00
LAA Website	\$50.00						
Conference Fees	\$100.00						
Office Expenses	\$500.00						
Sales Tax on Sales	\$16.00		\$28.16				
Purchases for fundraising	\$500.00						
Special Projects (AC & app)	\$550.00					\$238.69	
Special Project (watershed survey)							\$1,364.02
Water Quality Monitoring Fund	\$300.00						
Awards	\$150.00						
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$3,426.00		\$228.16		\$35.00	\$338.69	\$1,546.02

2018-2019	Budget Annual	Actual YTD	Actual Jan	Actual Feb	Actual Mar	Actual Apr	Actual May
Accounts:							
Checking Balance			\$743.19	\$907.19	\$917.19	\$1,273.50	\$833.48
Savings Balance			\$5,484.10	\$5,484.95	\$5,485.89	\$5,485.89	\$5,567.75
			\$6,227.29	\$6,392.14	\$6,403.08	\$6,759.39	\$6,401.23
FUND Balances:							
Unencumbered			\$5,868.30	\$6,033.15	6044.09	\$6,400.40	6042.24
Water Quality Fund	\$298.49		358.99	358.99	358.99	358.99	358.99
Enviro Adjustment							
			\$6,227.29	\$6,392.14	6403.08	\$6,759.39	6401.23
Members:							
			<u>1</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>6</u>	46	50