



**Minutes of the Lake Anasagunticook
Association (LAA) Annual Meeting
Saturday, August 11, 2018
Town Meeting Room, Canton, ME**

President William Atwater called the meeting to order at 9:35 AM. It was determined a quorum was present. The association needed nine members to reach a quorum. There were 30 people present.

Mr. Atwater then called for a moment of silence to remember LAA Members who passed away since our last meeting: Conrad Hutchinson, Rob Turnbull and Betty Dwyer.

Following the silence, a call was made to review last year's minutes. There were no questions and thus no discussion.

Treasurer's Report:

Acting Treasurer Mr. Atwater presented the Treasurer's Report. Total income was \$4,063.86; total expenses were \$4,780.62, putting us \$716.76 over budget at the end of our fiscal year, June 30, 2018.

Total assets as of June 30, 2018 were \$6,323.18, a decrease of \$716.76 over the previous year. Details of the Treasure's Report will be provided upon request.

Budgeted incomes are: Dues \$1,200.00; Unencumbered Donations, \$400.00; Water Quality Monitoring Fund; \$275.00, Dividends \$15.00; and Fundraising Events \$1,750.00.

A question was raised about the LAA's donation to the Lake Stewards of Maine. It was noted that our organization's name did not appear on the roster of paying organizations at their annual conference. Mr. Atwater indicated that the donation had been made.

Budgeted expenses include Insurance \$800.00; Membership Dues Maine Lakes \$200.00; Contribution Tax Exempt Org \$200.00; Special Projects \$550; and Water Quality Monitoring Fund \$300. (Other items are budgeted but not listed here.)

We are budgeted for the upcoming fiscal year to bring in \$3,640.00 and spend \$3,426.00, leaving a balance of \$214.00.

A motion to accept the treasurer's report was made by Pete McCluskey, seconded by Polly Bussiere, and approved by a unanimous voice vote.

Committee Reports:

Membership

Mr. Atwater announced that there are currently 76 members of the LAA. 2018 dues will continue to be collected for the remainder of the calendar year.

Water Quality

Dr. Hamilton gave a slide presentation on his water quality readings. These are taken twice a month (on the first and in the middle of the month), May thru November, at the deepest part of the lake. He has data from the past ten years. He does Secchi, temperature, and dissolved oxygen (DO) tests. The Secchi readings are obtained by lowering a disk into the water and measuring the depth at which it can still be seen. These readings measure clarity. The temperature and DO readings are important to the fish and other vertebrae, as they reduce the size of the area in which the fish can breathe. If the DO readings are 0, 1, or 2 part per million, we'd need to worry.

Dr. Hamilton reviewed the phosphorus test results. This test is done annually and is measured in parts per billion. The results have been fairly consistent on our lake. Dr. Hamilton asked for approval/funding to do a phosphorus reading again this year (\$135). It was noted that the Town of Canton approved \$200 for water testing. Receipts will need to be turned into the town for reimbursement.

Dr. Hamilton mentioned that the flushing rate of Lake Anasagunticook is 2 ½ years. Our lake is currently an Oligotrophic (i.e., quite clear) lake—versus a Mesotrophic or Eutrophic lake. He reported on the ice-outs based on looking at the lake from the Road Shore (Canton Beach) and noting the date that he can no longer see any ice. He said his dates were similar to other lakes in our area.

Dr. Hamilton discussed and showed a photo of Gloeotrichia, which is about the size of a pencil point. It is a blue-green algae. There are some traces of it in our lake. He also showed a photo of the invasive plant Milfoil—currently not found on our lake. He suggested doing boat inspections as a preventative measure. Mike McCluskey said that he is doing inspections at the boat launch, but there have only been about two per three-hour visit. Mr. McCluskey mentioned he is concerned about boats being launched from the beaches and private properties. It was suggested that signs be posted on the town beaches and at Pine Shores, and that education be done of the owners of properties who allow boat launches

Dr. Hamilton also provided a diagram of where the Chinese Mystery Snails appear on the lake. He also showed photos of native and invasive crayfish. He said they are getting into lakes because they are being used as fishing baits. He said if you see a non-native crayfish, you should remove it, send a photo to him, and freeze it.

Dr. Hamilton responded to questions from the attendees. Judy Hamilton asked if there might be volunteers willing to work with Dr. Hamilton on this effort.

Lake Smart

Diane Ray mentioned that several people had signed up to have a Lake Smart review done of their property. If your review is more than 10 years old, she would like you to sign up as well. It was mentioned that the Lake Smart belongs to the property owner, so if you sell off a portion of your property, recommend to the new property owner that they schedule a Lake Smart review.

Watershed Survey

Tim Kirwan said that the last watershed survey done on our lake was 16 years ago, and announced that the next one would be held on Saturday, 18 May. Training will be at 9:30 a.m., and the survey—mostly done via road access—will begin at 11 a.m. Problems will be photographed and documented, and later, grants will be pursued to resolve the problems.

Wildlife

Polly Bussiere mentioned the problem with geese on the lake. She also said that she has seen only one loon chick this season. The chick was not born on the platform as a storm removed all the foliage that was placed on the platform. She did mention that there are other loons on the lake and reported seeing as many as 11.

Invasives – Snails

Mary Atwater provided a description of Snail Removal Day held on July 8th. The event resulted in the retrieval of close to 2000 snails—more than twice that of the previous year. Ms. Atwater mentioned the names of the participants and discussed the methods they used for removing the snails.

Nominating Committee

The Nominating Committee put forth the following slate:

For Officers (*elected to serve for one year*):

Tim Kirwan, President
Mike McCluskey, Vice President
Diane Ray, Secretary
William Atwater, Treasurer

For the Board of Directors:

To serve one year:

- Polly Bussiere (re-elect)

To serve two years:

- John Blancato (re-elect)
- Elaine Ferland (re-elect)
- Cyndi Phillips (re-elect)

To serve three years:

- Mel Barron
- Marilyn Bittner
- Tony D’Ambrosio
- Bill Gray
- Shawn Henderson (re-elect)

Unfinished Business:

There was no unfinished business to come before the members.

New Business:

Insurance Bill - A motion to pay the insurance bill was made by John Taylor, seconded by Bill Gray, and approved by a unanimous voice vote.

Change to LAA By-Laws – Mr. Mike McCluskey explained the two changes to the LAA By-Laws up for consideration. They are as follows.

1) Regarding forming an Executive Committee:

Insert it under Article Four Officers and Duties as paragraph number 6.

At times when a quorum of board members is not available to meet, the four duly elected officers of the association shall serve as the executive committee. The authority of the executive committee will be the same as the board except 1) when authority is limited by resolution of the board; 2) when considering an expenditure exceeding \$500; 3) when publicly discussing a policy or position; and 4) when modifying the existing By-laws of the organization.

2) Regarding providing indemnification to the LAA Board:

Add it to the By-laws under Article Five-A: Conflict of Interest and title it Article Five-B: Indemnification.

The Association shall have the power to indemnify and, without formal action by the Directors or other persons, shall indemnify any Officer or Director, in respect of any and all matters or actions for which indemnification is permitted by the laws of the State of Maine, including without limitation, liability for expenses incurred in any threatened, pending, or completed action, suit, or proceeding, whether civil, criminal, administrative, or investigative. Indemnification under the preceding sentence with respect to persons other than Officers and Directors, such as employees, agents, or other persons acting for or on behalf of the Association, may be made only upon the affirmation vote of the Board of Directors in specific instances.

A motion to accept the first change by Mr. Taylor, seconded by Dick Williams, and approved by a unanimous voice vote.

A motion to accept the second change by Elaine Ferland, seconded by John Blancato, and approved by a unanimous voice vote.

Election of Officers – The new slate of officers as presented was approved by a unanimous voice vote.

Election of Directors - The new slate of directors as presented was approved by a unanimous voice vote.

Question for and Answers from Our New President - Mr. Kirwan introduced himself and said that the board will meet in September. He mentioned his plans to do a survey of the membership to determine the top 3-5 priorities for the LAA to focus on. Mr. Kirwan also mentioned his desire to work more closely with the towns and complete the watershed survey.

Awards

The recipients of the 10-year (Loon) Awards were: Emily Bourassa, Priscilla Campbell-Wyman, Ngan and Denise Chow, and Gary Dougherty.

The recipients of the 20-year (Eagle) Awards were: Joanne & Gayton Bartlett and Carolyn & Bill Gray.

Mr. Atwater called Ms. Ray to the front of the room and presented her with with an LAA Service Award. She was given a gift of a crystal loon sculpture. Mr. Mike McCluskey presented Mr. Atwater with a plaque recognizing his 10 years as president of the LAA. Both presentations were met with a round of applause.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:50 AM and was followed by a presentation on “Reptiles and Predators” by the Chewonki Foundation.