

Minutes of the LAA Annual Meeting  
August 13, 2016  
Town Meeting Room, Canton, ME

President Biff Atwater called the meeting to order at 9:35 AM. It was determined a quorum was present. The association needed 15 members to attend. There were 25.

Mr. Atwater then called for a moment of silence to remember a LAA Member who passed away since our last meeting: Mr. Gary Hinkley.

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

**Treasurer's Report:**

Mr. Dougherty then presented the Treasurer's Report.

Total income was \$2,738.51; total expenses were \$1,848.09 leaving a balance, of \$890.42 at the end of our fiscal year June 30, 2016

Total assets as of June 30, 2016 were \$8070.86, an increase of \$890.42. There are currently 92 members. Details of the report will be provided on request.

Mr. Dougherty continued by provided details on the budget for 2016. Budgeted incomes are: Dues \$1000.00, Unencumbered \$800.00, Water Quality \$250.00, Dividends \$20.00, and Fundraising Events \$1300.00.

Budgeted expenses include newsletters \$200; insurance \$800; Annual Report Secretary of State \$200; Membership Dues Maine Lakes \$200; Contribution Tax Exempt Org \$200; LAA Website \$200; and Special Projects \$1000. (Other smaller items are not listed here.)

We are budgeted for the upcoming fiscal year to bring in \$3,370.00 and spend \$3330.00, leaving a balance of \$40.00.

A motion to accept the treasurer's report was made by Mr. John Taylor, seconded by Ms. Tim Kirwan, and approved by a unanimous voice vote.

Mr. Gray thanked Mr. Dougherty (as well as past treasurer Ms. Judy Hamilton) for his work as treasurer in this as well as past years. This was greeted by a round of applause from the attendees.

**Dam Donors Update**

Ms. Liz Rothrock indicated that the board was moving to install a plaque at the dam site to thank those who made monetary contributions to the LAA Dam Fund (as was promised when they contributed). She described the process and next steps and passed around a list of donor to confirm the spelling of their names and donor levels. There was a question from the attendees regarding what amount qualified the donor for inclusion on the plaque. (\$100 was the response.)

**Plants of our Lake**

Mr. Atwater announced that no invasive plants have been seen in the lake this year. Although some were reported last fall, they proved not to be invasive. He made available a handout on lake plants. Mr. Atwater also mentioned an organization call Lakes Environmental Association (LEA), which is similar to LakeSmart, and the possibility of taking a tour of their building and/or scheduling one of their speakers. Ms. Mary Atwater announced that there would be a snail-collecting contest as part of the Lake Days celebration. She reviewed the rules and indicated that there's a possibility the shells can be sold.

### **Boat Inspections**

Mr. Gray described the boat inspection program and indicated that boat owners have been very open to having their boats inspected. He indicated that more LAA volunteers are needed and can easily be trained. Attendees inquired as to whether there was an area where the boats can be hosed down, and if the neighboring Turnbull family might be able to notify the boat inspectors when boats arrive at the boat launch.

### **Water Quality**

Dr. Tom Hamilton stated he does measurements the first and third week of each month when the water is open. The average Secchi Readings (that measure water clarity) for August and September are up slightly over those of the same time last year. Dr. Hamilton also presented and discussed data on the Temperatures and Dissolved Oxygen levels at various depths. July trend is still on a downward slope from 1998. Readings in May were up, below 1999 levels and trending up since 2012.

Dr. Hamilton checked for Chinese mystery snails and found them to still be confined to the Canton Beach end of the lake. Attendees living in close proximity to the Canton Beach indicated they have seen snails or snail shells on their properties.

Dr. Hamilton shared data on total phosphorus for 2014 and 2015. He indicated that the numbers are good and fall well within the average for Maine Lakes. He found this to be "good and encouraging news for the water quality of our lake." He advised that the following can release phosphorus into the lake and should be avoided: lawn fertilizers, removal of trees and tree stumps; cutting and removal of brush; failing septic systems; bathing with soap or shampoo; dumping of leaves and trash; animals urinating or defecating in the lake; road erosion; dumping sand on the shoreline to create a beach.

Dr. Hamilton asked for approval to buy a new piece of equipment, which was approved.

### **Watershed Survey**

Mr. Atwater gave a brief description of the watershed survey. He indicated volunteers would be needed and training would be provided. He said the survey would begin with a mailing to everyone in the watershed asking for permission for the survey team to come onto their property. Those who object or do not respond will have their properties surveyed from a distance. A sign-up sheet was routed and the following people indicated they could volunteer for "several hours on two weekends—one weekend for training, one for implementation." They are: Biff Atwater; Polly Bussiere (except for during VT graduation); John Taylor (845-489-4386); Paul Barron; Judy Hamilton; and Gary Dougherty.

### **Membership Report**

Mr. Dougherty announced that there are currently 92 members of the LAA—equitable to this time last year. 2016 dues will continue to be collected for the remainder of the calendar year.

### **Nominating Committee**

Your Board of Directors puts forth the following slates:

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

- Mr. William Atwater, President
- Mr. Gary Dougherty, Treasurer
- Ms. Liz Rothrock, Secretary

Suggestions for others were requested. Receiving none, Dr. Dick Williams moved to accept the slate. Ms. Carolyn Gray seconded. A vote voice was called for and accepted unanimously.

For the Board of Directors:

*To serve one year:*

- Ms. Elaine Ferland
- Mr. Mike McCluskey
- Ms. Diane Ray

*To serve two years:*

- Mr. Shawn Henderson
- Mr. Tim Kirwan
- Mr. Mike Lara (and Lissa)

*To serve for three years:*

- Ms. Polly Bussiere

The President called for other nominations. Receiving none, Ms. Mary Atwater, moved the Board proposals be accepted, Mr. Taylor seconded the motion. A voice vote was called for and passed without dissent.

### **Unfinished Business:**

Attendees were invited to look at the 2015 Photo Contest Photos posted around the room. It was added that the winning photos were posted on the bulletin board.

### **New Business:**

There was no new business to come before the members.

### **Awards**

The following members were presented with a 10-year (Loon) certificate for continuous membership:

- Jerry & Darlen Marstaller (not present)
- Armand & Barbara Rouleau (not present)

The following members were presented with a 20-year (Eagle) certificate for continuous membership:

Paula Marsters (not present)

Mr. Atwater called Ms. Bussiere to the front of the room and she was presented with the LAA Service Award. He read a list of Ms. Bussiere many efforts for the Lake Association, then presented her with a certificate and a book about loons.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:48 AM and followed by a presentation on Maine owls by Sarah Daniels from Chewonki of Wiscasset, ME.