



Song Lake Property Owners Association est. 1956

Preble, NY

www.songlakewatershed.org

Songlakeassociation@gmail.com

“Watching out for our lake and bringing the community together.”

Song Lake Property Owners Association Board Meeting

Minutes

May 4, 2026

5:30 p.m. Zoom video conference

Present:

<u>Officers (2 year term)**</u>	<u>Board members (3 year term)</u>	<u>Other</u>
Tom Abrams (Pres.) (2027/2026)	Linda Metz (2028)	Cathy Merrill
Tarki Heath (VP) (2027/2026)	Carol Levine (2028)	
Martha Quinn (Treasurer) (2027/2028)	Jeff Merrill (2027)	
Mónica Abrams (Sec.) (2027/2028)	Scott Collier (2027)	

**** First year - Officer term; second year - Board member term.**

Absent:

	Tom Santurri (2027)	
	Rachel Musiker (2026)	

- 1. Roll call** to establish quorum (quorum - 6 members). Six board members initially present; quorum.
- 2. January 5, 2026** (Martha motion, Scott second) **and March 2, 2026** (Jeff motion, Martha second) - Board meeting minutes approved since we did have quorum.
- 3. Treasurer’s Report - Martha and Tom A.**
 - a) 2025/26 Membership fees and donations
 - i) Renewals – No change at 55 (counting lifetime honorary members)

ii) Include 2026 - 27 renewal reminder in next email.

Song Lake Property Owners Association	
Treasurers Report - May 4, 2026	
REPORT:	
General Fund:	
Carried over from 3/2/2026	
Membership Fund	
includes membership dues, water quality & tent donations	\$14,673.18
	<u>\$14,673.18</u>
Deposits:	
Membership & Water Fund	\$75.00
	Total Inflow: 75.00
Expenditures:	
Tarki Heath- GoDaddy Marketing	\$220.19
Tarki Heath- GoDaddy Site Renewal	\$90.76
	Total Outflow: \$310.95
	Account Balance as of 5/4/2026 <u>\$14,437.23</u>
	Last Bank Balance - March 31, 2026 <u>\$14,437.23</u>

4. Website - Jeff

a. Jeff posted

- i. Agenda for this meeting (5/4/26), will add approved minutes for two previous meetings (1/5/26 and 3/2/26)
- ii. Added banners on Annual meeting and 5/14 boat launch.
- iii. Added tab "Community Concerns" – has articles and other information (data storage, etc.). It needs to be maintained and kept current. At Annual meeting ask members what information they think needs to be put on tab, maybe change title to "Community Resources and Information".
- iv. Would be good to review website analytics to understand visitor patterns. Ask members to send Jeff any materials they would like to have posted – would like membership input.

5. Facebook – Scott C.

- a. About the same amount of people visiting site
- b. **Site is private!** If people do not answer couple of questions, can't join
- c. Scott has made some changes and added material
- d. Tom periodically shares Facebook materials from other sources – ex. CSLAP, ESF, Cortland, etc.

6. Committee Updates:

- a. *Nomination Committee* - Tarki and Mónica

- i. Tom A., Tarki and Rachel board terms are up in 2026 - all have agreed to continue (Mónica double check with Rachel) - will be voted on at June Annual Meeting.
- b. *Recreation Committee* - Tom S. and Diane
 - i. **Mid-winter potluck at Carol L.'s house on Sunday March 8 – 2:00pm.**
 - Luncheon at Carol's was a great success again, great attendance. Thank you Carol!!
 - ii. Any interest in doing something for Memorial Day weekend – it was decided there is no need.
 - iii. Flags
 - Have about 20 from last year that are in reasonably good condition. Need about 80 more.
 - Order Association labels for flags, order 100 labels – voted on and approved.
 - When do we want to distribute and pick up? Maybe email members week before 4th July that flags will be placed and collected a couple of weeks later in order to preserve flags to be used in following years. Will check with membership at Annual meeting.
 - Suggest ~8" x 12" flags with sticks >23" to avoid ground contact. Can order a bundle of 100 for \$140 + tax through Amazon - approved
- c. *Watershed and Environment* – Tarki and others
 - i. Lake level – high this year. Jeff said gage is underwater but water is starting to recede. There are 3 to 4 readings – results on website.
 - ii. Mifoil –
 - Nicole scheduled to do survey sometime in May; may need to delay because of high lake levels. Need to get back to her soon on weed conditions and when would be a good date to do.
 - NYSDEC permit approved/received.
 - Not much growing yet. Previous treatment done towards end of May.
 - Tom will reach out to her and see what she is hearing from Little York.
 - Tarki will see her at COFOKLA will mention it.
 - Protected lake cress – some seen floating, it looks healthy and growing.
 - iii. County Tree and Shrub Sale – No interest from residents so no order done.
 - iv. Harvester – Call with CCSWCD on 4/20 – 8 members interested.
 - Sounds like the \$350 - \$400 estimate sent to residents is still good. Rate is \$200/hour (2 hours per resident should be enough). No charge for mobilization or demobilization. However, they would like some costs covered for initial assessment of the lake situation (quick tour of lake locations, equipment launch and offload location(s)). Things that can add costs include equipment repairs (downtime only) and travel time to weed offload location.
 - Need to coordinate prework site visit.
 - Need to notify residents that prepay will be required – if cost on that day is less, member will be refunded on difference.

- Need to send Brandon resident contact information (phone numbers and emails). He will contact and coordinate with homeowners. He will need to know if there are any underwater obstructions they should be aware of.
 - Best to flag property boundaries at shoreline and if someone is available when harvesting is done. Eight locations may require more than one day.
 - Still need to finalize weed disposal location and when best to do. Person taking Tully Lake weeds may not be an option. Jeff has discussed Town location with Nate (organic debris). Tarki will check with Snavlin's farm.
 - This service is available to Association members only. If interested but not a member, request they join association.
- v. CSLAP
- Need to establish schedule. Try to coordinate 2-week intervals to work in DEC visit in August (Gillian).
- vi. NYSFOLA conference later this week on May 8th and 9th. Cathy on committee for September conference.

7. Shoal Markers and Sampling Buoy – Jeff

- a. Too high for shoal.
- b. Sampling buoy - Jeff will install.

8. Other

- a. Annual meeting –
 - i. Scheduled for June 6, 10 to 12 (only Saturday available). No charge. Conflict with Cortland Water Festival event. Need to try and avoid with future meetings.
 - ii. Need volunteers and items for raffle baskets (themes – coffee, wine, gardening, candles, reach out to local businesses, etc.)
 - Cathy will put together a pottery themed basket/item
 - Scott – donate a wine bottle
 - Monica – bring cash box and drop off letters to area businesses requesting donations for raffle.
 - Any basket themed donations will be greatly appreciated.
 - iii. Tom to coordinate with Tarki on presentation. Distribute to Board for comments.
 - iv. Speakers?
 - CCSWCD will be there from 10 to 11; conflict with Water Festival.
 - Tarki will talk to fishing guy (Tom Parks?) to see if he can present
 - v. Need microphone and maybe close captioning – Cathy will check with Colleen on microphone
 - vi. Any suggestions for improving or expanding – none at this time
 - vii. Refreshments – Tom will check with Tom S. to see if we can count on his gracious donation again this year (refreshments and raffle basket(s)).

- viii. Tarki has a cooler if we need one.
 - ix. Utensils and paper products – we have left over cups. Need napkins, plastic spoons, some plastic knives (spread cream cheese).
 - x. Preble Food Pantry – Ask members to bring donations of spaghetti sauce to meeting – there will be a receptacle. There will also be a container for monetary donations.
- b. Discussed draft annual budget - (e.g. CSLAP, social events, administrative costs, etc.).
 - i. We rely heavily on donations. The membership fee alone is not enough.
 - ii. Motion was passed to increase membership fee to \$50 pending membership approval.
 - iii. Everyone please take a look at the budget – will present at Annual meeting so membership can look at what we are spending on.
 - c. Boat Launch
 - i. 4 boat launches scheduled for 4/30; Tom A. to coordinate.
 - ii. 5 to 6 boat launches scheduled for 5/14; Jeff to coordinate
 - iii. All set.
 - d. Wind turbine updates
 - i. Pre-application anticipated by end of August. There are similar turbines in vicinity of Deer Lake (Windsor). Tarki plans on visiting.
 - ii. Most locations are agricultural. Discussed stormwater concerns.
 - iii. Important to communicate with Palmer Capital (local office).
 - e. Welcome packages – No change
 - f. Merchandise – No progress
 - g. Ornaments/magnets
 - i. Holding 2 magnets for Jeff McCauley.
 - ii. Three ornaments (\$13) and 2 magnets (\$13) left – will have at annual meeting.
 - h. Tax district – 95 parcels are categorized as waterfront. These are owned by 82 residents. Discussed option for establishing a tax district similar to Little York. This would require coordination with the Town, establishing an advisory committee (residents, Cortland County, and Soil and Water). Soil and Water would manage the funds. Funding use would be very specific and likely limited to managing water quality and lake vegetation. Tabled – discussion to be continued.
 - i. Banner - No progress

9. Action Items

a. Tom A.

- i. Add to budget GoDaddy expenses. Continue to Coordinate with Tarki and Martha on budget.
- ii. Email residents on:
 - Board position renewals.
 - Membership renewals.
 - Annual meeting Saturday, June 6. 2026 at 10 am at Girl Scout Camp.
 - Preble Food Pantry – Ask members to bring donations of spaghetti sauce to Annual meeting – there will be a receptacle. There will also be a container for monetary donations. Any type of donation is deeply appreciated.
- iii. Order labels for flags

- iv. Little Bear - Reach out to Nicole on survey timing
 - v. Send Soil and Water email and phone numbers for members requesting weed harvesting.
 - vi. Work with Tarki on annual meeting presentation
 - vii. Tom follow up with Tom S. regarding refreshments and baskets for annual Meeting
 - viii. Follow-up with Elizabeth on Song Lake merchandise. Look into hat, t-shirt, hoodie sweatshirt and mugs. See if song bird can be included. SLPOA typically doesn't do this to make money – it is a service to members and just try to break even.
- b. Jeff**
- i. Solicit input at Annual meeting regarding Community Concerns or Community Resources and Information.
- c. Tarki**
- i. Check with Snavlin's regarding disposal of weeds – maybe at their farm
 - ii. Work with Tom on presentation for annual Meeting
- d. Cathy**
- i. Check with Colleen on microphone
 - ii. Pottery themed basket/item
- e. Scott**
- i. Wine bottle – raffle
- f. Mónica**
- i. Check with Rachel if she would like to continue as Board member
 - ii. Donation letters to area businesses - raffles
 - iii. Cash box

Meeting adjourned at 6:55 pm

Next Meeting – Monday 6/1/2026 – Annual meeting preparations

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82030999704>

Meeting ID: 820 3099 9704

Passcode: SLPOA429

Future meeting dates –

- 6/1/26
- **6/6/2026 June Annual Meeting** – in person
- 7/6/26
- 8/3/26
- 9/14/26 (slide 1 week because of Labor Day; need to end at 6:30 to avoid conflict with Town Board meeting).
- 11/2/26 (last meeting for 2026).

Respectfully Submitted by: Mónica Abrams