

LAKE ARMINGTON ASSOCIATION  
ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING  
September 11, 2021  
Beth Wellington's cottage

Approximately 40 people gathered at Beth Wellington's cottage at 4 pm for wine and delicious hors d'oeuvres.

President Lynn Dennison called the meeting to order at 4:40 pm. She began by acknowledging the September 11 attack on the USA and remembering all those who died in the event. Lynn thanked Beth for so kindly hosting the event and thanked those who brought all the delicious food.

TREASURER: Kate Merritt Mentioned that 2020 income (dues and donations) was \$1300 less than budgeted. Expenses were on target, but donations were under budget. Had budgeted a deficit of \$1504, but incurred a \$2857 loss--\$1353 more of a loss than budgeted. Lake Host comprises 92% of LAA budget. Covid impacted LAA. For 2021, budgeted a surplus of \$1046. Targeting \$6,000 in donations and \$1800 in dues. Expenses are increasing, e.g. website hosting up to \$506, a big increase from a few years. Overall expenses from 2011 to 2016 averaged \$3261; from 2017 to 2021 averaged \$8424—two and a half times the previous four years. Largely, this is attributable to the increased Lake Host coverage. The Association needs to increase its dues and donations to maintain this level of Lake Host activity.

The Ann Soloway Fund is at about \$12,000. Lynn explained that this fund was started by the Camp to honor Ann and to protect the lake, a goal of hers. It is a rainy-day fund that we have not had to touch. The Camp does an annual appeal that brings in some Ann Soloway funds.

LAKE HOST: Lynn DeMerchant Program has gone smoothly this year. Hours were cut at times throughout the summer to adjust to inclement weather. In 2020 there were 500 inspections and so far in 2021 there have been 270. There have been 15 "saves" in New Hampshire this summer with none on Lake Armington. When NH Lakes looks at how much they will grant the Association next year, they look at boat inspection numbers, volunteer hours and some other factors. Because the Camp was unable to volunteer at the boat ramp this year, our volunteer hours will be down some. Lynn thanked Laurie Gramlich for her volunteer hours in compiling the boat inspection data and doing payroll every two weeks. Kathy Soloway has volunteered to help Lynn with Lake Host for the next year, too. Polly Tafrate mentioned that having people stop by the boat ramp is

beneficial for the Lake and the Lake Association. Greeting people nicely can go a long way.

Joyce Tompkins mentioned that they had found a good Lake Host for Lake Tarleton this year. He is from Plymouth and has agreed to return next year. We expect our current Lake Hosts to return next year.

WEED WATCHERS: Linda Kline. Linda acknowledged and thanked the many weed watchers present and those who were not—Lynn DeMerchant, Kathy Soloway, Lisa McGiffert, Wendy Cahill, Lynn Dennison, Tim Donelon, James Jensen, and Ken Settel (covered by Linda Kline). The Lake remains invasive weed free. There was discussion about the increase in “American pond weed.” The fish love it, but it makes swimming difficult. Kate asked Linda to discuss with her contacts at Dept of Environmental Services (DES) what can be done to lessen these native plants.

WATER QUALITY: Mike Poole Tests for clarity for this year and last are all good. June 2021 was the best transparency in 3 or 4 years. July and August readings, because of the rain, and wind, were not so good. For the past three years transparency has been 5.4, which is better than the 4.38 in 2017. Mike mentioned a DES study that has noticed lakes browning in the Lake Sunapee area. This causes poorer transparency. It could be coming our direction. Lynn mentioned that Alice and Mike had worked over the winter to put the updated Water Quality Report for 1987-2019 on the website. It is very well arranged and has a lot of good information (oxygen levels, pH, water quality, etc.) Mike noted that there is a measuring stick by the dam. It was put in this spring by DES for a study by NASA and UNC. Every 9 days or so Mike or Tim Donelon reports the numbers to the DES. This measuring device is in some way reporting to a satellite. This is a Citizen Scientist Project.

Lynn noted that Mike was named Volunteer Limnologist of the Year by DES, a well-deserved recognition.

WHITE MOUNTAIN FOREST PROJECT: Bob Dennison The Final Environmental Impact Statement and Findings are to be issued in the winter 2022. There may be another public meeting before then. The project will take five to ten years from 2023. Bob does not think there is any negative impact of this on Lake Armington. Lynn Dennison believes the Association must be vigilant in its observations of the project. The project will make a legitimate access to Lake Katherine, some tree clearing and the creation of a tree barrier between 25C and Lake Katherine. The U.S. Dept. of Agriculture will oversee logging, and Bob feels this ensures protection of water bodies around which there will be a 75 foot buffer .

HATS: Lynn DeMerchant Hats were available for sale at the meeting for \$20 each.

ICE OUT: Lynn DeMerchant An anonymous donor had given the Association 3 Tiffany glass sun catchers that were to be given to this year's Ice Out Contest winners. Lynn explained how the time is determined of actual ice out. There was concern that a battery is released into the lake during the process. There were some suggestions as to how to prevent this from happening. Todd Langley sets the clock up each year. This year's winners were :

1<sup>st</sup> place Scott Nicol—Loon sun catcher accepted by Shirley Nicol

2<sup>nd</sup> place Cindy and Ernie Jette—Owl sun catcher

3<sup>rd</sup> place Sam Rounds—Hummingbird sun catcher

DIRECTORY: Lynn Dennison Alice Wellington sought help in updating the directory. Neighborhood captains were asked to contact people in their neighborhoods to gather information. All the information will be given to Alice Wellington and Arline Cochrane who will produce the directory in printed form for the spring of 2022. Lynn encouraged people to include information of family members and lake friends as well.

RECOGNITION OF DEPARTING LAKE ARMINGTON BOARD MEMBER: Polly Tafrate Barbara and Carlos Manrique have been long-time summer residents of the Lake. They are now unable to return and have had to sell their home. Polly asked that members who knew them write a note or a card that she would gather and send to them in recognition of their participation in the community. In addition, Polly asked Alice to take a photo of their cottage. The framed photo of the cottage will be included in the package to be mailed on Sept. 15. Polly noted that there were cards at today's meeting people could write on to be included in the package

BOARD ELECTIONS: Shirley Nicol is stepping down after 25 years. Lynn thanked her and gave her a plant from the Board.

The office of President is being handled in a slightly different way. Three people will share the position for the next term.

New Officers:

Presidents: Lynn Dennison, Polly Tafrate and Alice Wellington.

Board Member for an additional term: Lynn DeMerchant

Board Member: Lisa McGiffert

Board Member: Kathy Soloway

As there were no further nominations from the floor, Kate motioned and Linda Kline seconded the motion to accept the slate of officers to serve the next two years. There was unanimous approval.

## SUMMARY

Lynn Dennison said this had been a good summer, but the weather had not been great. There had been no issues with the Camp that had a full season.

She thanked Board Members and Project Leaders for their service.

Hopefully, next year the Association can return to a July LAA gathering and an early Fall one.

Alice reminded Lynn that 2022 is the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Association.

The group applauded Lynn Dennison for her service to LAA.

Kate motioned and Linda Kline seconded the motion to adjourn the meeting at 5:20 pm.

Respectfully submitted

Sam Rounds