

LAA Drinks on the Lake Meeting: Minutes August 30, 2026

This LAA meeting took place in the home of Stan and Kathy Soloway who graciously offered to host this year's end-of-season gathering, "Drinks on the Lake" in the event of rain. Our sunny day host, Alice Wellington hopes to offer her place for the event next year.

Kathy Soloway, LAA Board President, convened the meeting portion of this social event at 4:30 PM with a view to updating the LAA membership on the various activities and plans that were discussed by the LAA Board this summer.

1) LAA wins and keeps herbicides out!

Kathy expressed her thanks to the entire LAA membership for their individual participation in the effort to keep herbicides out of our lake environment. Special thanks go out to Linda Kline whose leadership in mobilizing everyone led to the success of this campaign to keep NH Electric from spraying herbicide underneath the power lines. There will be no clear-cutting around powerlines for 8-10 years. As power lines need clearance, we can help keep this problem under control by trimming tree seedlings that sprout up.

2) Phragmites update: The phragmites infestation will be treated on September 15th this year. All abutters have been notified. In the event of rain, the treatment will be scheduled on the next weekday with optimal weather. Many thanks to Linda Kline who has worked tirelessly to research, troubleshoot and organize this much - needed remedy for an invasive species.

Kathy pointed out that phragmites are brought in with the dirt in new construction. People are encouraged to consider discussing clean fill with their contractors or to ask where the dirt is coming from for any new construction projects.

3) Boat Parade: Beth Wellington described the Third Annual Boat Parade as a continued success with the same number of boaters as last year with a number of new members joining the flotilla. Thanks to those who turned out dockside to greet us with musical instruments, applause and encouragement... and homemade doughnuts! Special thanks to Weston Wellington for serenading and singing "Happy Birthday" to anyone born in the summer. Paddle boarders encouraged to join us next year! Some old photos from yesteryear may be posted soon on the LAA web site, stay tuned!

4) Financial update: Kate Merritt reported that while donations are solid, we are short by \$1000 in dues. Online payment encouraged! So easy now!

- 5) White Mountain National Forest: Stan read out the following report from District Ranger, Brooke Brown regarding the Lake Tarleton Project, forwarded to him by Bob Dennison:

Here is the status of the project implementation:

- Lake Katherine aquatic habitat restoration (chop-and-drop) has been completed.
- Scots pine removal is ongoing. Because it is an invasive species, this work will be a continuous effort for the foreseeable future.
- Wildlife opening management will also remain an ongoing responsibility.
- Improvements to the user-created boat launch at Lake Katherine will be completed as staffing capacity allows.
- The timber sale was offered and sold this summer. This is a five-year contract, and the purchaser will notify us when they plan to begin operations.

- 6) Lake Host Update: Lisa McGiffert has a new Lake Armington sign for the Boat Launch that looks brand new thanks to the incredible artistry of Anita Hennessey who managed to refurbish the old, faded one. The bulletin board was also redone, and the dead tree was removed---all good news for the boat launch area. There was feedback from our Lake Host, Peter Alford regarding the lack of signage for public access at the entrance to the boat launch. A small sign may be reinstalled.
- Search for a second host inspector: At present we have one lake host but could use a second person. The lake host schedule this year has been on Saturdays and Sundays and this will run through September. There will be no coverage on Columbus Day weekend. In addition to contacting community and senior centers, Beth Wellington suggested leaving Lake Host job opportunity flyers with the folks who work at the Warren Dump.

Kate Merritt pointed out the importance of keeping up this good work, reminding the membership that the LAA is a non-profit organization whose mission is to protect and preserve the purity of Lake Armington. She also shared excellent news from Mike Poole who tested the lake for E.coli and found that it was well under the levels for the State of New Hampshire.

- 7) Thanks were exchanged all around for a terrific season of membership participation, and for the Board members who always made a point to showing up to discuss issues and plan events. Those present clapped back acknowledging Kathy Soloway's warm and solid leadership as President of our Association.

The meeting adjourned at 5:10 PM with enjoyable drinks and edibles in the Soloway's cozy home near but not by the lake. Maybe next year!