

Minutes: 2016 Annual Meeting

7/9/16 @ St. Helen's Parish Hall, Chasm Falls

President Jim House called the meeting to order at 9:20 am. Other Board members present: **Kathy Goodwin, Jeff Hardy, Malcolm Kilgour, Vickie Lambertsen, Craig Livernois, Dani Rapier** and **Wayne Rickert**.

Total shoreline members present: 40

Total shoreline members paid: 62

Quorum established (20% of 2016 paid members)

Muster List and Moment of Silence:

Maryclaire Sherwin, Irv Caplan, C. Joseph Maguire, Marjorie Boynton Upham, Clarabell Warner, Grace Carkey and **David VanNess**.

Secretary Report - Vickie Lambertsen

A motion was made to waive the reading, and to approve the 2015 annual meeting minutes. (Kathy Goodwin/A. Pickett). Motion passed unanimously.

President's Report – Jim House

A motion was made to waive the reading and to accept the report (Carl Sherwin/Gordon Warner). Motion passed unanimously. The President's Message is available in the Equinox.

Committee Reports:

Membership/Welcome: - Laura Van Deusen

New members welcomed to the lake in the Fall of 2015 include: Gordon and Susan Childs; Denis Hayden; Bryan "Bubba" and Lisa Boyer. New members welcomed in 2016 include: Mary Scarf and Boyce Sherwin; Dan Clark; Don and Mary Jane Darrow; Curt and Regina Darling; and Bill and Dee Tock. Incoming new members: lot owners Larry and Diane Friedman and Franz Fredericks.

Equinox/Website - Phil Parker, Muffy Charlebois

Phil encouraged members to contact them with information/ideas. This has been the 3rd year for the website, and feedback has been very positive.

Hiking and Trails

The trails seem serviceable, but the view from Elephant's Head is increasingly blocked by tree branches. Thanks to **Wayne Rickert** and **Rick Van Deusen** for fixing the dock at Immortelle.

Navigation - Betsy Suatoni

No major incidents to report. Betsy Suatoni reminded members of the boating equipment requirements, especially lights for operating at night. Several members expressed concern about speed and situational awareness, especially by personal water craft (PWCs or jet-skis). Betsy asked PWC owners to consider the fact that many people are here for peace and quiet – she asked that when operating a PWC, limit high speed operations to the center of the lake and to be constantly

aware of other watercraft. The legal boating speed on the lake is 5 mph within 100' of the shore, dock, etc. Another area of concern is the lack of visibility of kayakers and paddle boats. The Navigation Committee could use additional members; anyone interested can contact Betsy Suatoni directly or via the LTPA website contact link: <http://ltpa.mylaketown.com/contact>.

Lake Quality - Andy Pickett

Andy discussed our participation in the Adirondack Lakes Assessment Program run by Paul Smiths College. Copies of the report are available at the meeting and full report is on the website. He noted clarity was down a little bit but lake water quality continues to be good. Please remember, the lake ecosystem is fragile; be careful with fertilization run-off, keep the tree buffer along shoreline, and upgrade septic systems. He also encouraged testing existing septic systems, and it was suggested that dye packets be available at the Breakfast Walk.

Historical - Muffy Charlebois

The Committee is always looking for suggestions for historical research topics. "Our Lake Titus" book and companion supplement are out of supply, but more can be printed if the demand is there (a poll will come out soon). Muffy questioned whether to publish the books or try an electronic document. Camp owners are encouraged to update their picture and/or story in "Our Lake Titus." Copies of the coloring book, "Color Me Lake Titus," are still available.

Forestry and Land Management - Malcolm Kilgour

A number of interesting documents on forestry and tree planting, some quite old, are now available on the LTPA website. The last cut was 16 years ago, and the general consensus among experts consulted is that the next logging activity is still 10 years away. If anyone has historical information or info regarding previous logging activity, contact Malcolm through the LTPA website.

Breakfast Walk - Wayne Rickert

The 2015 Breakfast Walk had the 2nd highest attendance in recent history. 187 people were served, netting a profit of \$447. This year the Breakfast Walk will be on Saturday, August 6th from 8:30 to 11:00. Volunteers are needed - contact Wayne Rickert directly or through the website link.

Treasurer - Dani Rapier

94 of the 114 shoreline property owners paid in 2015, the same as 2014. To date, 62 have paid for 2016. Money from the dues goes to support preservation of undeveloped land; dam maintenance; the docks in common areas; the newsletter; and property taxes and insurance. The 2015 financial summary was available to members at the meeting and on the website.

Old Business

Internet Access/Broadband: Liz Fessenden advised the South Belmont Project of internet provider SLIC is moving forward toward providing lines on both sides of the lake. Service could be available as early as summer 2017.

Dam Remediation Project: a PowerPoint summary of the history of events leading up to the present status of the project was reviewed. Mark Fitzsimmons has recently re-inspected the dam and found that while it is still basically sound, there has been further deterioration since the baseline inspection six years ago. \$143,350 has been collected in donations at the time of the meeting toward a goal of \$210,000. The Board is recommending that the membership approve, by petition, use of up to \$63,000 in Endowment Fund principal to provide the balance of funds needed for the project upon culmination of fundraising efforts this fall. The petition was circulated at the meeting and many signatures were obtained. Additional signatures will be sought throughout the summer; at least half of the current membership must sign for the measure to be approved. Additional cash donations and contribution of items for the auction fundraising effort are welcomed and appreciated.

Proceeds from the auction will go towards the Dam Project. Contact Muffy Charlebois if you have an item(s) to donate.

New Business

Liz Fessenden asked that the Board look into the possibility of the State rescinding the Fisher Act.

Bylaws amendment: A motion was made to change the name of the Newsletter Committee to the **Communications Committee**, to reflect the communications media now available to complement the Equinox. (Liz Fessenden/Stephen Todd). Motion passed unanimously.

Moonlight Paddle: the remaining dates for the year: July 19 and August 18. Members meet in middle of the lake around 9:00 and paddle up and around towards Immortelle. Bring your own light.

Hicks Cup: the sailing regatta will be held 2:00 on the afternoon of the Breakfast Walk. Commodore Andy Pickett encouraged everyone to join in the regatta and the party afterwards at his boathouse.

Riley Golf Tournament: Dan Riley reported that 48 people participated last year. Tee times start at 12 noon Sunday, August 7th, the day after the Breakfast Walk; contact the clubhouse or Dan Riley Saturday afternoon

for your tee time. A buffet reception at the clubhouse will follow. The cost to play is \$10 plus green fees, in a scramble format.

Election of Trustees:

The nominating committee, represented by Sherb House, recommended the following slate:

- For 2nd term: **Jim House, Malcolm Kilgour, Wayne Rickert and Vickie Lambertsen**
- For 1-year term: **Maggie Cardinal**, after which she would be eligible to run for a full 2-year term. (The purpose of this recommendation is to balance out the election rotation; this issue to be addressed through a clarifying Bylaws amendment at the next annual meeting.) Maggie will be replacing Craig Livernois who is finishing his 2nd term. The Board thanked him for his service.

A motion was made to accept the slate as presented. (Andy Pickett/Gordon Warner). Motion passed unanimously.

Deer Ticks: **Carl Sherwin** cautioned that the deer tick population is growing, please use caution.

Use of LTPA Land: There was a discussion regarding non-members using LTPA land. It was emphasized that only members in good standing (shoreline owners current in their dues of \$100/year) have access to LTPA land and facilities. Associate Members have the privileges of shoreline property Owner Members except that they have no voting rights. Friends of the Lake are entitled only to the Equinox and non-member portions of the website.

Wildlife: Members were asked not to feed the gulls. Please educate family, guests and renters.

An Author in our Midst: **Dan Riley** has authored an autobiography/memoir, which is available on Amazon.

Adjournment: A motion was made to adjourn the meeting at 11:25 am. (Andy Pickett/Larry Spaulding). Motion passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Victoria Lambertsen, Secretary