

**LTPA Annual Meeting
St. Helen's Parish Hall**

**July 6, 2019
Chasm Falls, NY**

President Rick VanDeusen called the meeting to order at 9:04 am. Other Board members present: Kathy Goodwin, Maggie Cardinal, Vickie Lambertsen, Dani Rapier, Meg McGovern and Regina Darling. Excused absence: Jeff Harding.

Total shoreline members in good standing: 63

Total shoreline members present: 30

Quorum established: 48% (minimum 20% of members paid for 2019)

Muster List and Moment of Silence:

Guy Marshall, Nancy Hale, Patsy Hanna and William "Bill" Kilgour.

Secretary Report - Vickie Lambertsen

A motion was made to waive the reading and approve the 2018 annual meeting minutes as published in the Equinox. (Wayne Rickert/Louise Murtagh). Motion passed unanimously.

President's Report – Rick VanDeusen

A motion was made to waive the reading and accept the report as published in the Equinox (Laura VanDeusen/Andy Pickett). Motion passed unanimously.

Committee Reports

Membership/Welcome: - Laura VanDeusen

As a member of the Committee, Laura welcomes new shoreline owners to the lake. This year, she welcomed 2 new members: John and Lisa Clahane (McClain Camp); and Phil and Kathy Durkin (Carkey Camp).

Communications/Equinox/Website - Phil Parker

Equinox: Phil and co-editor Muffy Charlebois expressed their appreciation for all the comments they have received regarding this year's Equinox. He also acknowledged previous editors who did a great without the technology available today.

Ice Out Contest: There is a change in the contest rules, turning it into a fund raiser for LTPA: \$5 per guess, maximum 3 guesses. Winner(s) will receive 20% of the entire pot, with a minimum guarantee of \$100. You can sign up today or at the Breakfast Walk; it's a "Pay Now Guess Later" contest.

Phil reported that we have a new website, and it should be up and running by July 7. The link is the same, LakeTitus.org. You will have to create a new password to access the classified pages, which are available for LTPA members only. Those pages contain information regarding LTPA members, Board members, finances, etc. Phil described the new email system and texting capabilities. Members who would like to receive texts must first give their permission, and a sign-up sheet was provided at the meeting. The annual cost for the website will only be \$110.

Dam Committee – Rick VanDeusen

Rick advised that he and Bob Smallman have performed a check of the systems at the dam and everything is working properly. Mark Fitzsimmons also went down as well, and found no discrepancies. Bobby Smallman did a great job over the winter, keeping the lake at an appropriate level. During the summer, Rick will be the primary gate tender.

Lands and Trails - Rick VanDeusen

Dave Goodwin came down with his "crew" and worked with Rick to clear the trail on Immortelle. Last year the road leading to the upper parking lot of Elephant's Head was re-done by the State and both trails were marked by volunteers.

Navigation - Betsy Suatoni

The Committee, comprised of Betsy Suatoni, Carl Sherwin, Liz Fessenden, Harmon Banning, and Andy Pickett, has met to discuss boating safety and etiquette. They canvassed other lake associations to see how they handled unsafe boating practices and found that they handle those situations by approaching the people who might be involved (whether knowingly or unknowingly) and respectfully discussing it with them. It is recommended that we do the same. The Committee also feels that it is important to remind members of NY State law regarding navigation, particularly the 5 mph wake zone when boating within 100' of shoreline; and the requirement that people operating boats and personal water crafts (pwc's) apply for and receive the State certification. Members were urged to get

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this certification, and there is a link on the LTPA website that directs you to the site. In order to reach out to all the owners/visitors/guests on the lake regarding boating safety and etiquette, the Committee is working on producing a one-page letter that can be prominently displayed in every camp on the Lake. Of primary concern is the high speed of some of the pwc's, which puts swimmers, paddlers, water skiers and wildlife at risk. Laura VanDeusen mentioned that the NYS Boating Safety Booklet is in the Welcome Packet she distributes to new owners and Betsy advised that pamphlets are also available at the Breakfast Walk. Betsy also discussed some of the things not to do, as a matter of courtesy: avoid circling the loons, especially when they are with their newborn; don't circle or joy ride in one part of the lake for too long; refrain from playing loud music on boats or at camp; refrain from scanning the shore with bright lights; and be aware of low lying boats and swimmers.

It was recommended that a sign be placed at the boat launch advising members that they must have NYS certification in order to operate pwc's on the lake.

Lake Quality - Andy Pickett

Andy reported that the lake is in great shape overall ecologically. He contributes the good lake quality to a number of things, keeping the tree buffer along the shoreline, upgraded septic systems, and 4 stroke motors. To monitor the quality of our lake, we participate in ALAP (Adirondack Lakes Assessment Program) through Paul Smiths College, along with 100 other lakes. Andy takes water samples in July, August and September. Last year, the transparency of the lake was 15 – 16 feet, which is very good. A forum will be held on invasive species on July 10th and Meg McGovern will be attending a water quality symposium in August. Members are encouraged to check that their septic systems are working properly. This can be done with dye test kits, which are available through LTPA. The kits will be available at the Breakfast Walk.

Historical - Muffy Charlebois

Muffy advised they are always looking for topics to research, and she welcomes ideas and suggestions from members. "There's history every day."

Breakfast Walk - Wayne Rickert

Wayne reported that the 2018 Breakfast Walk was very successful. With 209 campers attending, it was 5 shy of the 2011 record. Wayne has now turned the Chair over to Regina and Curt Darling. A volunteer signup sheet was passed around. Since last year's event netted \$730 from food sales, tickets will be the same price this year. Thanks to Ralph Child who donated 50 lbs. of prepared potatoes; Bubba Boyer for providing bread for toast and mini donuts; the Smallmans for providing blueberries; Price Chopper for discounting the fresh food; and the many volunteers who helped set up, cook and clean up. The biggest improvement has been the reduction of trash. Please remember to bring your own table service again this year. The boat parking crew were very appreciative of the tips. Please remember to bring extra cash for the crew and the raffle.

Fire Safety – Scott Smith

Scott mentioned there were a few fires near the power lines this year, and one fire almost reached a camp. The best way to prevent these fires is to prevent trees from falling on the power lines. There is a 75' utility easement under the power lines which is kept clear by a tree cutting company contracted by National Grid. Scott urges camp owners not to discourage the tree cutting company from taking down trees that they feel are at risk. Rick added that if you need to take a live tree down on the LTPA access road for safety reasons, please let the Board know beforehand.

Treasurer's Report - Dani Rapier

Dani reported that even though we have less investment income due to the dam remediation project, LTPA continues to be in sound financial condition. Therefore, the Board has recommended that we keep the annual dues at the same level this year. She added that donations made to LTPA can be designated for the operating account, as opposed to the endowment fund, thus ensuring that the operating account is adequately funded. Annual expenditures run approximately \$13,000.

Donations are still being accepted for the dam remediation project. Those donations will go towards building up the Endowment Fund.

Kathy Goodwin advised that an audit was performed last year by the Audit Committee and everything is in good

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Old Business

Internet Access/Broadband: Carl Sherwin has been in touch with SLIC and they say they will start offering Broadband service to residents on the lake in 3 to 4 weeks. Everyone on the lake who has power will have access to Broadband.

Clean-Up South Beach: Bruce Barker proposed cleaning up the beach area last year and was asked to submit a formal proposal to the Board. The matter has been tabled.

Maple Tree Tapping: a proposal to tap trees on LTPA land on Maple Hill was sent to the Board from L. White. Rick and Malcolm reviewed the proposal and referred the matter to the Board for further review. After careful consideration, the Board did not accept the proposal, citing concern for the impact it would have on Marshall Road, the exposure to owners who travel that road, and the damage to trees that would decrease their value for logging.

New Business

Proposed by-law amendment: a motion was made to amend the by-laws as follows:

Article VIII – ENDOWMENT FUND Section 1 Subsection 2:

All cash assets held by the Fund shall be invested in securities deemed appropriate by an Investment Committee and approved by the Board of Trustees. In developing its investment strategy, the Trustees acknowledge that the overall investment objective of the LTPA is to maximize the return on invested assets while minimizing risk and expenses. This is generally done through prudent investing and planning, as well as through the maintenance of a diversified portfolio.

(Louise Murtagh/Stephen Todd). Motion carried unanimously.

Breakfast Walk Raffle: The Breakfast Walk raffle was a very productive fundraiser and some items are on display today. Tickets were available at the meeting and can be purchased any time by contacting Kathy Goodwin or Vickie Lambertsen. Contact them as well if you would like to donate items for the raffle.

Hicks Cup – Andy Pickett: the sailing regatta will be held 2:30 on the afternoon of the Breakfast Walk, with an after party at the “Lake Titus Yacht Club” (aka Orange Boat house). Everyone is invited to participate in the regatta.

Riley Golf Tournament – Bob Riley: the tournament is held the Sunday of Breakfast Walk weekend. Starting times will be late morning. Look for further details on the LTPA website. You can pay Bob through PayPal or directly to Dan or Bob Riley. Last year there were 48 participants.

NEW BUSINESS

Election of Trustees:

The nominating committee, represented by Sherb House, presented the slate of candidates for election.

A motion was made to accept the recurrent 1-year positions:

Recurrent 1-year secretary: Vickie Lambertsen Recurrent 1-year Treasurer: Dani Rapier
(Wayne Rickert/Betsy Suatoni) Motion carried unanimously.

A motion was made to accept Maggie Cardinal for a 2nd 2-year term.
(Wayne Rickert/Laura Van Deusen). Motion carried unanimously.

A motion was made to accept the following candidates for 1st 2-year term vacant seats:

Louise Murtagh Stephen Todd
(Wayne Rickert/Dan Riley). Motion carried unanimously.

Ice Out Contest Winners – Muffy Charlebois

The ice was officially out on April 23. Gifts were presented to the winners:

Louise Murtagh Kathy Goodwin Dee Tock Kathy and Kaitlin Parker

Adjournment: A motion was made to adjourn the meeting at 10:34 am. (Laura Van Deusen/Scott Smith). Motion passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted, **Victoria Lambertsen**, Secretary