

NLIA 2026 Kick off Meeting - “Status of the Lake” February 5th, 2026

The regular meeting of Northlake Improvement Association was called to order at 5:30 pm on February 5th, 2026 via Teams Meeting.

Attendance:

Robert Ochs- President	Megan Thomas
Donna Rodio- Vice President	John Pack
Preston Gibson- Treasurer	Susan Price
Sharon DeLeo - Secretary	Jason Zubris
Board Members:	Chelsea Guyon
Clay Cadwalder	Michael Guyon
Ted Dwyer	Olivia Guyon
Gene Lucas	Edward Dwyer
Brian Thomas	Caren Jones
	Carol Troy
	JR Evans
	Dan Jones
	Brian & Mary Andrews
	Fred Frey
	MartiAnn Fairbanks
	Allen Hall

Introduction: Provided by Bob Ochs.

1) Water Quality Report Presentation: provided by Aqualink representative, Ed Moleski

- a) Quality of water from 2024-2025 showed positive outcomes.
- b) In 2025, Aqualink installed 13 state of the art air diffusers, updated airpods, monitored water quality three times over the year, and composed a water quality report.
- c) They utilized a hybrid-approach to treat the water. They discussed equipment and devices used to monitor lake quality. The lake was treated five times in 2025, consisting of Microlife Clearmax and copper sulfate treatments. The use of copper sulfate was primarily used around the perimeter of the lake.
- d) Data in 2024, under the Clearflow program was compared to the Aqualink program in 2025. Highlights include decreased nutrient levels and an effective aeration system a eutrophic lake was achieved. In addition, clarity of water improved from approximately 3 feet to 6-7 feet. In 2024, the blue green algae was 7,300 to now, virtually none, there was also an increase in beneficial algae.

2) Aqualink Proposed Treatment for 2026

- a) monitor water quality 3x year
- b) Continue use of hybrid treatment approach
- c) continue with current diffusers
- d) develop plan for aquatic plant control (water lilies, etc.)

3) Questions to Ed Moleski, Aqualink

Q1 -“You showed that you did three different tests per year, but you broke it down into only one test for the year?” -Brian Andrews

A1- The average values of the three tests were shown in the data.

Q2- “Did the lake get better or worse over the course of the year?” -Brian Andrews

A2- The lake quality held it’s own over the course of the year. There were no significant changes throughout the 2025 seasons.

Q3 -“When talking about aquatic treatments, was this surface plants or from the bottom of the lake? We saw a significant increase in the plants growing from the bottom of the lake which attracted waterfowl.” -Brian Andrews

A3- This treatment was to only control the water algae. If the water was green, this is what treated that. It won’t touch the aquatic plants as of now. There is an option to treat that if decided.

Q4- “Is the frozen over lake a positive for the lake quality?” -Donna Rodio

A4 - Yes, the colder water with ice and snow restricts the sunlight getting to the plants and algae, restricting growth.

Q5- “Would you be able to provide a brief summary on the Palms Grant and why we were not selected?” -Brian Thomas

A5- It was very competitive and nutrient activation did not score high. Evasive plants seemed to be the focus. We will try again in 2027 for further funding.

Q6- “What is the cost for 2026?” -Karen Jones

A6- This will be discussed later in the meeting. See summary.

Q7- “When should we put the aeration system (bubblers) back on?” -Donna Rodio

A7 - I recommend turning them on April 1st through October and running them 24/7.

Q8- “We have three ultrasound units from last year. Is it recommended that we use those, is there a downside?” -Allen Hall

A8- They are not recommended by Aqualink, as they feel they are ineffective. There is no downside, so the organization may use them at their own discretion.

Q9- “Is there someone to help us identify other funding options, besides the PALMS Grant?” -Brain Thomas

A9- There may be some money at the county level. Ed will discuss with Lily Lake, clarify more details and get back to us.

4) NLIA Business:

1) 2026 Budget Ratification/Discussion

- i) The 2025 Actual Expenses/2026 Budget was previously distributed with the Introductory Kickoff letter via email and was reviewed high level in the meeting.

(i) 2025

1. End of year 2025, there was approximately a \$14,500 balance in all accounts
2. In 2025 we spent \$33,195 , \$28,000 +/- for Aqualink services
3. 2025 total fundraising was \$29,039, hence approximately \$4100 was funded from existing accounts/assets

(ii) 2026

1. 3 Components comprise the proposed 2026 Budget
 - a. Admin/Facility Costs - \$5680
 - b. Aqualink Proposal is \$25,820.
 - c. Proposed Capital Reserve Funding - \$2,500
2. Hence the goal is to raise \$34,000 thru memberships, donations, fundraisers etc.

(iii) The aqualink proposal is fundamentally the same proposal as 2025, but includes maintenance of aeration system vs replacement of diffusers.

5) NLIA Business Questions:

Q1- "We did not fully support the budget last year. Aqualinks budget seems high. How will we support the budget this year if we ran into deficit last year? Dan Jones

A1 – We indeed as an organization and lead by the Fundraising Committee will need to work diligently to secure the targeted funding objective. There is a reason a total yearly budget has been established early and we are communicating such to all. While we would ideally like to reduce Aqualink costs further there is continued yearly maintenance needed on the diffusers/aeration system. Some of this maintenance effort was previously completed by Ken Price at no cost to the association. - Bob Ochs

Q2- "What is the maintenance needed?" -Donna Rodio

A2- Oil change, filter change, cleaning of each diffuser and properly inspecting/replacing them. - Bob Ochs

Aqualink's charge last year appeared to have a limited labor cost. They offered a better price to win our business. -Brian Thomas, Preston Gibson agreed

6) Membership Discussion/Approval:

a) 2026 budget ratification and Approval of Aqualink proposal pursuant to securing funding.

Motion was made by Megan Thomas and seconded by Preston Gibson to vote on this 2026 budget proposal and engage Aqualink for the 2026 season

b) The 2026 NLIA budget and engagement of Aqualink was approved unanimously.

c) NLIA Committee Status – membership was invited to join/participate in committees

1. Water Quality, Bob Ochs - chairman.

Current Members, Preston Gibson, Gene Lucas, Ted Dwyer, Jason Zubris, Joh Zoltak. Meetings will be held as needed.

2. Fundraising/Membership, Brain Thomas - chairman.

Current Members, Megan Thomas, Sharon Deleo, Karen Jones. Encourage members to join. \$8,200 raised to date. 13 current memberships to date. 35 letters sent to members outside of email list. A letter with a brief report of

2024-2025 water quality progression was suggested by Karen Jones to promote membership involvement. Plan to meet end of February.

3. Administration/Executive, Donna Rodio- chairman.

Initial assignment is to continue refinement of bylaws/voting rules.

d) 2026 Summer General Meeting Schedule - to be decided, posted to website

e) Palms Conference – February 25/26 at State College

i) Any members who would like to attend should contact the Board

ii) Current potential attendees are Preston Gibson, Jason Zubris, Bob Ochs

Sharon Deleo

Secretary