



Silver Lake Association (SLA)

MEETING TYPE: Annual
MINUTES TYPE: Proposed

August Meeting Minutes

Date: August 14, 2021
Time: 9:00 AM – 11:30 AM
Location: Charcoal Corral

Call to Order

Meeting called to order at 9:00 am by Bob Capurso, President

Meeting Attendance

Roll Call

Executive Committee

President – Bob Capurso
1st Vice President – Open
2nd Vice President - Open
Secretary – Brian Kinsman
Treasurer - Ro Donohue
Assistant Treasurer – Cathy Volk

Tract Directors

Karen Norton **Walt's**, Bonnie Bright **Sutton Tract**, Betsy Kent **Palmer Grove**, Karen Cecchini **Luther/Wheaton**, Dave Boersma **Country Club North**, Jim Musclow **Tucker**, Bob Martin **Traber South**, Bob Capurso **Private Drive #3**, Mike Bellamy **Traber North**, Barb Petrie **Fairview North**, Bernie Hartman **Silver Grove**, Larry Bauer **Austin/Shearman**, Wayne West **Fairview South**, Randy Steltermann **Old Orchard Beach South**, Judy Baumer **Waltz Tract**, Jill Knitter **Silver Lake Institute**, Jeff Miller **Eberstein Tract**, Wilma Herman **Walker Tract**, Ro Donohue **Old Orchard Beach North**, Kevin Colburn

Alternate Tract Directors

Chuck Kent **Palmer Grove**, Ron Norton **Walt's**, Pete Balcom **Silver Lake Institute**, Tim Herman **Walker Tract**, Kathie Musclow **Tucker**, Sally Capurso **Private Drive #3**, Allan Cecchini **Luther/Wheaton**, Sue West **Fairview South**, Sandy Bauer **Austin/Shearman** Kelly Paganelli **Waltz**

Guests

Tom Szczesny, Ruth Lavin, Peter Lavin, Mark Emmerson, Don Starner, DJ Starner, M Hanzly, Jacquie Billings, Rick Hauser, Peggy Phillips, Keith Fournier, Tom Abbott, Nancy Abbott, Jean Trost, Ken Trost, Stan Klein, Quinn Bellamy, Bob Connolly, Harry Adams, MA Adams, Sandy Wojtaszczyk, Lisa Wojtaszczyk, John Wojtaszczyk, Jerry Kelly, Sheriff Greg Rudolph, Jane Eliaz, Ben Gajewski, Grace Davis

Voting Directors/acting Alt. Dir./Exec. Comm. – 31
Others - 28
Total in attendance – 61



Pledge of Allegiance/Prayer for Rich

Gust list/agenda and speakers

- SLA Awards – Ruth Lavin, Mark Emmerson, Ro Donohue
 - Ruth Lavin: Past President and multiple offices throughout the years. Thank you for the years of service to the SLA.
 - Mark Emmerson: Past President - thank you for 7 years of service as President
 - Ro Donohue: Treasurer for "the longest time"
- Directory Cover Award – Wojtaszck Family
 - \$50 gift card to the Charcoal Corral
- Jim Brick – Town of Perry Supervisor
 - Dredging - trying to move forward with that plan through the county and collaborative effort between Castile, Perry (village and town) and Wyoming county
 - lots of DEC hoops and permits to jump through
 - everything in lake may go into the DEC protected wetlands, outlet moved away and dewatered
 - biggest thing is funding - just beginning waterfront revitalization grant - Jeff Smith from Leroy is the grant writer
 - county putting money into it through the grant writer
 - SLA and Castile, Perry has put money into it and now the county is more heavily involved
 - Questions:
 - What is estimated timeline to actually do something? Hopeful timeline is approx 5 years. Next year would be grant applications and then proceed from there
 - New governor Kathy Hochul has done a boat tour of silver lake and is sympathetic to its needs
 - If project drags on 5 years will they grandfather in the sampling? The hope is yes based on how long it has taken to complete the process as the DEC has been the hold up with permits and permissions to act on the project
- Greg Rudolph – Wyoming County Sheriff
 - Dave Richardson is the boat patrol on Silver Lake as well as Tom Cunningham and Matt Felix



- Boat out on Friday and Saturday and park police on Sunday used to have overlap with park police and DEC now there is limited overlap and an attempt made to maximize coverage
- 7 days a week is difficult but we always try to accommodate the events that require coverage
- has been a quiet summer, no major incidents the biggest thing was a few weeks ago was when the lake was shut down into a no wake zone would like to continue the SLA and use their judgement in situations when the lake levels become too high
- it is difficult to enforce because we are not out there 24/7 but the intent is to limit damage
- will look into signage at boat launch for when the booth is not staffed
- Boat Certification - Dave Richardson will stop people and check certifications and boating licenses. Currently given a warning and documentation if stopped.
- What rights as landowners do we have for boaters right around docks and lake front? No rights to urge them to move away as no one owns the water
- Hours of coverage are dependent on the weather
- Stan Klein – Town of Castile Supervisor
 - o Supervisor Brick updated on dredging to the current status of the project
 - decades long project to encourage better lake control, cleanliness, etc.
 - hope is to be inside of the 5 year window we are very anxious to push this through
 - good progress is happening as people are beginning to see Silver Lake as economic driver of the county
 - Rich Elias spent decades in service to the planning board, zoning, town of Castile, SLA, etc. He is irreplaceable as there isn't a line of people wanting to do it. His volunteerism made Silver Lake a better place to live.
 - Water: the town of Castile is interested in expanding the Gardeau water district to the south of the village of Perry. There is demand that would like additional water from the farm out there. They want it as an auxiliary source to try to get it to the permitting process. There has been some talk of bringing water around the north end of the lake and up the west side and to the south state park. Steve Perkins took that request but current understanding is that it is not a popular idea but studies and letters will be written to every property owner that it would affect and an opportunity would be provided to discuss with town board if they are interested. If property owners don't want it we will not expend the dollars.
 - Tim Richards is new sewer and water employee local roots



- Sewer system has a right of way attached to it. 10 foot on either side of the pipe that is in the front yards. Over time encroachment has occurred. If we can't get equipment down that right of way to handle emergency at pump station or other issue to mitigate sewage into the lake due to fences, sheds, structures, etc those structures will be removed
- New sewer operator is to develop a list of properties that have encroachment issues. He is going to send out letters so that your property will be made aware that there is an issue with the right of way on your property. Over a period of time in the next 12 months or so these properties will be monitored and visited eventually leading to some type of enforcement and action if needed.
- Is the garbage moving to bin system effective January 1?
 - It is in the contract with waste management that we will look into it
- Rick Hauser – Village of Perry Mayor
 - Thanks to Supervisor Klein and Supervisor Brick which leads to good fortune of having two supervisors at the county level
 - a few target issues at the village level:
 - Thanks to Rich Eliaz - first met 25 years ago when Rich was on the library committee. Always involved and at the table to dedicate time and experience on comprehensive plan steering committees, silver lake trail, beach project, and countless others
 - Trustee Jacquie Billings from village is here
 - Public safety: long term plan to update the fleet of fire vehicles to replace 1980s era ladder truck to replace several pieces of equipment. Truck costs over 1 million dollars. Town of Perry and Castile adjusted fire contract to adjust funds we use to pay for these things. Created fire apparatus reserve fund. Work with developers to ensure new developments and projects contribute to fire apparatus fund/emergency services at village and town level. Ongoing process to build framework to support needs. New to Perry ladder truck was acquired recently.
 - Clean Energy Communities Program - the county did this in an earlier round NYC-ERTA led program to make investments in reducing carbon footprint and energy use. It has gotten more momentum with resiliency planning, storm water management, etc. Benchmarking current usage initially, then replacing all street lights with LED lamps to decrease electrical usage, our police fleet is another big carbon footprint item. We are ordering electric police vehicle with plans to acquire a second in the near future. All of these things are items that pencil out on paper with good ROI



- Performance contract with engineer and contractor to identify ways to decrease usage of mechanicals at village hall. Use cost of improvements to be offset by other projects that lead to energy savings.
- community solar projects very early in the process with NYCERTA
- DRI - downtown revitalization initiative through the state to secure dollars in funding to go towards public and private projects to main street areas. Would like to document regional support from the area stakeholders
 - would like a letter of support from SLA in the future for this endeavor
- Dam Gate - slow leak is being monitored. It is under warranty. GASKet issues causing slow leak. Similar process this time around is to stop the flow and dry out around the gate so that we can fix it. Will continue communication with SLA about lake levels and removal of boats
 - Can't touch any of the material to be dredged during the fix of the gate because it is all controlled by the DEC in terms of where the material will go
- Arts Council - continued excellent art work, photographers, etc. Ongoing exhibits and storytelling about the local area
- Quinn Bellamy – Silver Lake Marine
 - Thanks for continued support of Silver Lake and specifically Silver Lake Marine
 - Thanks for allowing us/our family to be serving the Silver Lake community since 1979 over the last 43 years
 - Lots of work goes into keeping our lake a great place to be
 - Reminder that we have Breonna's Law that requires every boater to eventually be licensed through NYS
 - can be in person or over the internet
 - flyers at the marina and to be left with the SLA on how to access the boater's safety course
 - by 2025 everyone has to have gone through the safety course (went into effect about 2 years ago rest transitioning slowly)
 - When someone purchases a boat from SLM we take great pride in making sure that owner and family members spend about an hour on the boat on the lake getting a thorough orientation and run down of their boat, the laws, the lake, safe boating practices, etc.



- o we do rent pontoon boats - under the law the renters are not required to go through the course but SLM does take responsibility making sure that the renters are aware of best practices, laws, etc.
- Have worked with the sheriff's department over the years to find a vessel to keep at Silver Lake - we house the sheriff and state park police vessels to store and service them over the years and thanks to dealing with Perry HS to work with Todd Shuskey that they use for research on the lake
- Thanks to Mike Bellamy for reintegrating into the Silver Lake community making up for lost time for all his efforts in the community and Silverlaken, etc.
- Ethanol blended fuels are common at all gas stations - ethanol is corn derivative and lessens dependence on foreign fuels.
 - o this is not good for boat engines - it does not stay stable as long and can have derogatory effects on gaskets, seals, etc.
 - o Even SLM for a while could not get ethanol free but over the last 7-8 years have found a good supply and we will continue to utilize this as long as possible
 - o For any engine that is not run close to daily try to use non-ethanol fuel (boat, jet ski, lawn mowers, snow mobile, etc.) as the longer it sits the more harm the gas can do to your engine
 - o Newer engines can handle it better without damage but continue to use non-ethanol fuel as much as possible
 - o silverlakemarine.com under additional services and boater safety lists websites to go to for boater's safety course
- Ben Gajewski – Genesee Valley Conservancy based out of Genesee
 - o GVC is a not for profit planned trust for land conservation work since 1990. Headlines recently in Perry and Castile. We have worked with Stan Klein and his family to protect their farm land. We work through 7 counties and have so far protected 24,000 acres of land. Conservation easement restricts use of land to agriculture. Allows it to remain as successful farm but prevents future development into residential areas.
 - Stan's farm is 350 acres on west side of lake
 - focus is to protect the most productive soils
 - one of the side benefits to this program is water quality and scenic benefits, etc.
 - Have also protected true family farm just north of village of Perry - conservancy is recipient of 7 million dollar series of grants to protect some farms in Livingston and Wyoming county



- farm land is 1/3 of mission but also want to protect habitat and open space which is where silver lake watershed comes into play and we can ensure that this helps aide water quality
 - can protect wetlands, corridors, stream filters, etc.
 - can also own land (nature preserves) for wildlife habitats, public use (trails, education, etc.)
- newsletters mention Klein project and an updated one Friday that features True project in Perry and highlights future events and projects
- as an organization significant experience in easements, stewardship, protecting land, etc.
 - not significantly connected through the Silver Lake area but interested in growing base here to protect the lake
- Grace Davis - Boat Steward - State Park
 - o program used to be run by NYS Parks - not partnered with SUNY ESF through their research foundation. Boat stewards placed at public launches throughout NYS to ID invasive species, educate boaters, etc. "Clean, Drain, and Dry"
 - stewards there 8-6:30 Fri-Mon and try to talk to every boater that comes through
 - clean off the boat, drain bilge, live wells, etc. and let it dry before it enters another body of water
 - Lake Ontario and Lake Erie struggling with invasive species
 - make boaters aware cause and effect of invasive species
 - o This year's steward (5th year of coverage for silver lake)
 - 954 total boats were interacted with
 - 99.3% acceptance rate for the inspection (all inspections are voluntary - other lakes are more rigorous or are mandatory to enter water body (ex. Lake George). In our region of NY it is optional participation)
 - 13% of boats surveyed were "dirty" does not mean invasive species can just mean dirt, debris, grass, etc.
 - 2 invasive species were identified - curly leaf pond weed and eurasian milfoil which were already known and these were exiting the lake when identified
 - Curly Leaf Pond Weed is seasonal is already beginning to die
 - Frog Bit in alcove is an invasive species that was not previously known to this water body
 - iMap invasives to map out invasive species



- HAB entire shoreline of state park (Frog Bit can lead to HABs) earlier in the summer possibly from the heavy rains and run-off
- HABS not good for dogs, not good for humans either but more dangerous for dogs
 - brochures available to pick up on HABs and invasive species, what boat stewards are handing out, including towels, sunglass straps, keychains, etc.
- Funding for next year is not fully secured but if it is we will be here. Requirements for steward:
 - Some college related to ecology, environmental science, etc.
 - full training provided, paid position usually from Memorial Day to Labor Day
 - program funded by EPA grants (assisted by State Parks to secure those funds - contract runs every 5 years. This year was not funded but used reserve grants from prior years)
- If someone is found to have invasive species they are asked not to enter but cannot be required. The plants are removed and questioned on where they have been how long ago they were in the water (2 weeks + are mostly dead). We can't ask that they don't go into the lake like in Lake George.
- Jacquie Billings – Letchworth Craft Show
 - Representing Letchworth Arts and Crafts Show - community liaison
 - It is being relocated to Perry this year
 - Letchworth State Park after year off from festival realized the high population wanting the park Columbus Day Weekend and did not wish to have the Craft Show Back
 - It is the primary fundraiser for Wyo Co Arts Council Budget for the year
 - 220 arts vendors, 10-15 food vendors
 - Some parking at Charcoal Corral, Peripheral parking lots around village and shuttles offered. Streets closed to local traffic only. Perry Rotary and Fire Dept will run food vendors and parking as fundraiser for them
 - October 9, 10, 11 (Sat, Sun, Mon) at Village Park
 - This is a one-year trial to be considered in the future as well
 - Map will be available online in the future for road closures
 - Signage at the Park, online, etc. will all direct people this way instead of usual location at the park



- need strong volunteer base to reduce costs for the arts council and to help verbally educate people on what we have to offer here and how to get there

Welcome-Bob C.

What's New Around the Lake

No new updates

Approval of July 2021 Minutes – 5 minutes – Thank you Brian Kinsman

Motion: Randy Steltermann 2nd: Frank Bright
Motion: Ayes: All Nays: Zero Motion: Accepted

Treasurer's Report - 5 minutes – Cathy/Ro – Thank you Cathy and Ro

See attached financial summary - only large expense is to CLEAN

Motion: Bob Martin 2nd: Randy Steltermann
Motion: Ayes: All Nays: Zero Motion: Accepted

Flares/Ring of Fire – Return Flares – 5 Minutes – Bob C.

if you have leftover flares you are accountable for those (either turning them in or paying for them). please return flares so CLEAN can be reimbursed their .87\$/flare

plaques have been ordered more are coming

Water Quality – 15 Minutes – Frank - see attached water quality report

- Golf tournament was a success. Generated about \$2400 in revenue for the SLA and CLEAN (about what it has been in the past) half of that money came from hole sponsors, other was donations for baskets, raffles, etc. Thanks to those who donated and participated
- Watershed planting effort is scheduled for later this month a two stage approach
 - Friday Aug 27 remove non-native plants from site to be removed and disposed of at Cathy Volk's farm
 - invasive plants will be bagged and disposed of by Wyo County. Wyo Co officials will be on site that day. It is occurring Friday because it is a work day for soil and water
 - Other Friday October 15th planting day is because nurser will be there Jim Engle to advise and assist in planting
 - Sign Up Sheets are up front for both dates. Volunteers are needed for both dates



- Will have trailer on site starting August 23rd if you want to stop by beforehand and dig some plants out on your own before 8/27. There will be pink flags to stay between for what plants are being removed. The instruction is "don't pull the cat tails" the rest is considered invasive.
- just like previous years - clear one day and plant another day
- see HABS URL to check for HABS in Silver Lake. This bloom water steward mentioned was 7/17
- photo uploaded to website, DEC looks at it and deems it harmful or not but it is not actually tested. No one is contacted to test it
- metadata with photo indicates that the photo may actually be from Conesus
- there was something down there but the image accompanying it is the wrong image highlighting issues with NYS reporting system
- have not had a lake-wide HAB in 10 years. Local pockets of blooms in areas of where water does not move well.
- Whole system is based on money. Costs them \$500 to test sample so they take a photo and guess whether or not it truly has enough concentration to to qualify as HAB
- Flares: head to head July 3rd chemical burning flares vs. LED flares
 - look the same chemical vs. LED. Pros and Cons to both. LED is battery powered and in long run are more economical to use battery powered flares
 - Wegmans in Geneseo sold 500 LED flares to Silver Lake residents (CLEAN received 1\$/flare)
 - SLA/CLEAN needs to decide which direction they want to go with flares
 - CLEAN can exist without the money from flares in the long term as the golf tournament generates enough revenue to do what they need to do
 - current chemical flares 20-30 minutes, LED flares 90-100 hours

future discussions to determine what we want to do

Old Business – 5 minutes each

Please turn in unsold directories to Bob Capurso and flares to Sally

New Business – 20 Minutes –

Executive Position Voting –

President - Bob Capurso

Motion: Ro Donohue 2nd: Frank Bright

Ayes: All Nays: Zero Motion: Accepted

