

DLIA General Member Meeting  
July 9, 2022  
Minutes

The DLIA July General Member meeting was held in the Deering Town Hall and was called to order at 9:02am, by President Betsy Holmes. There were about 47 members in attendance. We opened the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance. Deb took notes as our secretary was away.

Minutes from the May 28<sup>th</sup> meeting had been emailed and it was moved by Carmella Courtemarche, seconded by Glenn Clark to approve them with no corrections.

Treasurer Scott Adams was away, and Betsy presented the Financial statement. We are in the black.

Nominations for the DLIA Council for 2022-23 were presented. All current members are staying on. It was moved by Carl Theime, and seconded by John Rudd, to accept the slate, which will be voted on in September.

Glenn Clark reported that the next Roadside Cleanup is on Saturday, July 23<sup>rd</sup>.

The VLAP testing was done on June 21<sup>st</sup>; results are not yet back, but will be posted ASAP. The next testing will be on July 19, attended by a biologist from the State. Glenn was asked if they test in multiple areas of the lake and he responded that they do test all over the lake including all the major inlet areas, which would help determining where any pollution is coming in. They test for turbidity as well as pH, pollutants, etc. The testing crew is Glenn, John Henry Bozek, and 2 members of the Deering Conservation Committee. We now own our testing gear.

Glenn reported that the Lake Host program is going well. It is run by Stacey Hernandez. He read a note from Liz Shannon, one of last year's volunteers, thanking the DLIA for her year-end gift, and saying how much she enjoyed being able to spend days at the lake. The program is going well, though a couple boats did get in without inspection.

On a related topic, the town beach parking is now free, as the state ruled that Deering cannot charge people to park there. This often means the beach is full, parking is full, and sometimes the boat trailer parking is also full. It is not all Deering residents, but others. Glenn has seen groups as large as 30. There are no trash barrels, and Glenn and others are picking up the trash. To solve this, the Town needs to negotiate with the state to make this a resident's only beach when the lease renews in a couple of years. Meanwhile, the portable toilets were full and Glenn had to call to have them serviced in time for the busy July 4 weekend.

We have 2 healthy loon chicks in the North Cove. The loons nested May 14, and the chicks hatched out June 10.

The south end pair nested late, May 25, and the eggs did not hatch. One egg went missing, perhaps rolled out of the nest. The other has been collected on July 8<sup>th</sup>, and will be sent to the LPC for analysis. We do not know what went wrong, perhaps inexperienced parents, since they did seem to be on and off the nest. The NH Loon Census is on July 16<sup>th</sup>. We may have a rogue loon or two at the south end of the lake.

Jennifer Battistello reported that the Weed Watcher program is underway. Please call her with any questions if you spot a suspicious weed in the lake. We have had high growth this summer, but so far, all native species. We have a lot of bladderwort, which can resemble milfoil, but is native and normal. Jenn could use one or two more weed watchers. Email her if you would like to volunteer.

Jenn also noted that although we may get a green algae bloom, it will not affect water quality, and it is safe to swim in the lake when there is green algae.

Carl Theime showed a weed watcher tube he had. He suggested we consider buying them for our team. Cost is around \$90. Glenn noted that we have a similar device for use by the water testing team already.

Betsy commented that based on what she learned at the NH Lakes Conference, we are ahead of the curve, with far better water quality than many NH lakes.

VP Barbara Larmond reported on the Directory project. She was handing out temporary directories at the meeting. She said the committee will continue to gather information and they will hopefully have a final version next year. Thanks to Lilian Carter, Barbara, and Donna Raoust for their work on this. If you have an update, contact Barbara or Lilian. Also of note: Olivier Raoust has made it possible to pay dues online on the DLIA website.

Donna reported for the Social Committee that the Spring Fling on June 4<sup>th</sup> was very successful. Thanks to Cameron (Lewis?) for providing boat chauffer services. The next event is the Deering Diners Club on July 30<sup>th</sup>. There will be a Pop-up Wine Tasting on August 19<sup>th</sup>, 5-7 at the Raoust's home. Bring a favorite wine and an appetizer to share. Harvest Happy Hour is September 24<sup>th</sup>.

Donna had two raffle baskets, Carry me back to Old Virginy, and Leisurely Lake Life, and the winners will be drawn at the September meeting. There is also a suggestion basket.

Betsy commented that the social events help make us feel like more of a community and encouraged folks to get involved. You do not need to be on the Council to help with an event.

Steve Avery presented the LakeSmart program. It works in conjunction with the Lake Hosts and with homeowners to help keep our lake clean. The program helps owners learn how to prevent run-off and make their property more "lake friendly". The LakeSmart team will evaluate septic and leach field, driveways, recreation areas, shoreline vegetation, or lack of it, and features of the home, especially roof driplines. They do not report anyone, regardless of what they see, and are not a state agency, but rather a resource for home owners. If interested, go to the

NHLAKES website and take a self-assessment. Our team was the first in NH to do LakeSmart, and we will be doing 6 home evaluations on July 28<sup>th</sup>. We would love to do more! Evaluators are needed and welcome.

At this point we had a “7<sup>th</sup> inning stretch” and Charlie Hambrick-Stowe led us in a get to know you exercise called “Everyone has their own Deering”, in which we went up to someone we did not know, and told them “one special moment on the lake for me this year was.....”

Our speaker was Patrick Fitzgerald from the Non-Game Species division of NH Fish and Game. He talked about NH turtles. NH has 7 species of turtle and 4 are endangered. The presentation, with slides, was VERY interesting and entertaining and we all learned a lot about turtles, where they live and how we can protect them. If you see a turtle, you can report the sighting to [raarp@wildlife.nh.gov](mailto:raarp@wildlife.nh.gov). They want to know about any reptiles or amphibians you may encounter, even common ones. There was a lively question and answer period at the end of his talk.

Cameron talked about boating etiquette and a serious near miss his grandfather, Bob Carter, had recently on the lake, resulting in a large wave dousing his passengers damaging his pontoon boat. Please be aware of other boaters and respect Marine laws about who has right of way and speed. Also, jet skis, those small ones that only hold 1 or 2 passengers, are not allowed on Deering Lake.

On the community calendar, the Deering Summer Faire has been canceled, but there is a Summer BBQ on June 23<sup>rd</sup>.

Our next meeting will be held on Saturday, September 3 at 9am.

Adjourned at 10:47am.

Respectfully submitted,

Deb Degan