



Keoka Lake Association
Fall Board Meeting Minutes
October 7, 2022
Waterford Library and Zoom

Board Members Present: T'ing T'ing Doore, Ginger Eaton, Joanne Eaton, Jim Flynn, Brenda Hambleton, David Johnson, Jo Lynne Johnson, Ginny Raymond, Charlie Tarbell, Melissa Tarbell

Board Members (ZOOM): Richard Orr, Andy Tabor

Guests Present: Doss Hasson, Dylan Hasson, Susan Plume, Tom Schaefer

Board Members unable to attend: Joe Abbiati, Tom Hammett, Arne Klepinger, Bill Robichaud, Al Struck, Kim Struck, Dan Treadwell

Observers/Reportees unable to attend: Paige Nalipinski

The meeting was called to order by Rich Orr at 7:02 pm.

Given the hybrid nature of the meeting, Rich asked everyone to introduce themselves.

Secretary's Report:

Jo Lynne Johnson moved to waive the reading of the May 27, 2022 minutes as they are posted on the KLA website and to approve the minutes.

Motion was seconded by Rich Orr. Vote: unanimously approved.

Treasurer's Report:

Dan Treadwell's Treasurer's report was recapped by President, Rich Orr.

- The operating balance YTD is half of 2021; '21 books sales and CBI income account for the difference but CBI income will increase by the \$3,400 grant from the town (due before 12.31.22) which will bring the Operating Balance in line with 2021.
- Book sales – lags behind projections; 2022 KLA merchandising opportunities plus additional social media may/should increase the numbers sold.
- KLA50 Administrative expenses (party expenses occurred in 2020 and 2022). This will not be a recurring expense line item after 2022. The board approved KLA support of up to \$1,000 at the October 8, 2021 board meeting; thus the party 'loss' (\$496.04) is 'within range'.

Resolution to transfer to Maine Community Fund (MCF) – to move the remainder of the KLA50 Capital Campaign contributions received to date (\$23,141.96) to the KLA50 Fund at MCF:

“RESOLVED that KLA’s Treasurer is directed to transfer \$23,141.96 from KLA’s operating account to the KLA50 Fund at Maine Community Foundation.”

Motion to accept Resolution – Moved: Brenda Hambleton, Seconded: Jim Flynn.
Vote: unanimously approved

Maine Community Foundation –

David Johnson reported that MCF is the 12th largest community foundation in the U.S. and it consistently outperforms its benchmarks in both good and bad markets. KLA has two accounts at MCF – an unrestricted fund and the KLA50 Capital Campaign fund (known by multiple names – Milfoil Reserve, Legacy Fund, etc – but the recipient of all the KLA50 Capital Campaign contributions). David suggested that the MCF funds be viewed as KLA’s IRA/401k and should not be tracked daily.

End of year surplus:

Charlie reminded the board that our practice has been to authorize the President and the Treasurer to adjust reserve balances at the end of the year. The board approved continuing past practices.

Motion to accept Treasurer’s Report: Brenda Hambleton, Seconded: Jim Flynn.
Vote: unanimously approved

Invasives

- Courtesy Boat Inspections (CBI)
 - Charlie Tarbell reported that the bill for 2022’s CBI coverage is now up to about \$9,000. The increase reflects the increase in minimum wage and worker’s comp costs. The question is the growth in costs vs the growth in hours. There needs to be CBI coverage, especially on busy weekends. He suggested that he and Dan do an analysis for a couple of years to evaluate alternatives for additional funding such as 1) pulling some of the additional costs from the endowment earnings and/or 2) raising dues.
 - In 2022, there were no ‘catches’ of plant material going into Keoka but there were ‘catches’ of the Keoka Curly Pondweed leaving the lake. There have been ‘catches’ of milfoil in lakes nearby.
- Plant Patrol
 - In Arne Klepinger’s absence, it was reported that everything is copasetic.
- Plant Patrol training with Bear Pond
 - Rich Orr reported that Bear Pond has reached out to KLA to co-sponsor an Invasives Training. Rich had brought it up at the Annual Meeting. The training (classroom and on the water) would be on Bear Pond and would require participants to use their own personal kayak/SUP.
- LEA divers – lake survey
 - Charlie Tarbell reported that on September 7, 2022, LEA divers surveyed 5 different areas of the lake. No invasives were found and there was ‘very little plant life’ compared to other lakes. Divers surveyed at 5’, 10’ and 15’ depths; the survey

costs \$375 annually. Charlie suggested that it be done every year. Doss Hasson asked about whether any survey was done in the very shallow areas (i.e. around the delta that has now formed at the mouth of Kedarbrook)? That area is too shallow to require divers, but note Tom Hammett's report below.

- Milfoil/Invasives Response Plan –

- Charlie recapped that while KLA has known about milfoil for ~20 years, there has been no 'Response Plan' for what happens when milfoil (or an invasive/environmental problem) is discovered. In the past, the tacit approach has been to follow the DEP plan as KLA had no money to develop a plan of its own.. Thanks to the KLA50 Capital Campaign, KLA now has the funds and should develop a Keoka specific Response Plan. Charlie has done the first draft of such a plan. A question was asked as to whether this plan was milfoil specific or applicable to any other invasive/environmental threat to Keoka. Rich responded that because Milfoil is the most likely threat, it makes sense to do a plan specific to that and then later develop a more 'generic' version to address other situations. Charlie indicated the draft of the 'Plan' was out for review and when he has a revised draft, it will be forwarded to the board for comments.

Water Quality

- Water Testing
- Charlie indicated that there was a mid-summer water quality report that was highlighted in an online KLA Newsletter. The annual report will be available from LEA in mid-January/February.
- Stream Survey
 - Ting Ting Doore prefaced her report (attached) with a report on the summer drought. On August 25, 2022, Oxford County was assessed as 'abnormally dry' but in September, there was 2.5" of rain. She reported that she and Kim Struck had begun their fall 2022 'stream walks':
 - Sucker Brook – (9.12.22) – there is medium flow out of the culvert; there continues to be high tannin color; there is trash that needs to be picked up all along the stream.
 - Kedar Brook – (9.24.22) – flow is higher than normal due to recent rains; no evidence of algae ("flowing green stuff on the rocks") and very little debris downstream of the Struck's home; there are deeper pools closer to the lake, but not much change in the cut banks despite the rain flow.
 - Stone Cove – (9.29.22) – Mouth of the brook is comparable to other years up to the tree that straddles the brook; thereafter the brook dwindles; very mossy from the frequent rains in September. Above the tree, the brook loses definition as it becomes a vast carpet of moss covered rocks and tree trunks; no garbage along the brook.
 - Lenassi Brook – (9.29.22) – Despite the heavy rains, there isn't any discernible build-up of soil in the brook; there are several deep holes where tannin is noticeable; "bankings" are not undercut any more than usual.
 - Johnson Brook – remains to be 'walked'.

- Upland Efforts

- Tom Hammett was unable to attend the meeting but distributed a report. He reports that he was the only KLA member to participate in the two-hour Lakes Environmental Association (LEA) Water Quality Workshop held on Keoka Lake on August 10, 2022. It was directed by Shannon Nelligan (LEA Educator and Field Technician). He recommends KLA sponsor a similar workshop next summer.
- At the end of the program, LEA offered to look at any problems/opportunities on Keoka and Tom showed them the changed area around the mouth of Kedar Brook. After the beavers changed the channel so that Kedar Brook no longer flows directly into the lake and the deep water that once harbored fish feeding on the nutrients brought in by the brook. LEA staff members agreed the situation was a problem and warrants attention to put the brook back to its original flow.
- Tom continues his self-education work on the watershed (trying to develop our understanding of the importance of watershed). Again, he recommends a KLA 'field trip' to the LEA watershed demonstration area in the Highland Research Forest near North Bridgton. Tom toured this area with Colin Holme in late 2019 and suggests this be a discussion item on the agenda for the May 2023 board meeting. It would be a half day trip but would need to be scheduled early while there is still space on the LEA calendar. Tom suggests later next summer (2023). He requests a few possible dates now to see if they are workable with LEA.

- LakeSmart

- Ginger Eaton reported that the LakeSmart committee (Doss Hasson, Priscilla Treadwell and Ginger) have concentrated their efforts on 'at risk' properties. They have delivered 30 'packets' of information on LakeSmart this summer. Two new LakeSmart awards and one renewal were given this summer:
 - New: Alan & Patty Graves, Antoinette and Charlie Tarbell
 - Renewal: Wilma Johnson
- Ginger indicated the committee is looking to create a long-term plan to get more participation/surveys done.

Education & Outreach

- Education Efforts

- Ginger Eaton reported that nothing was done in 2020 and 2021 due to COVID and nothing was done in 2022 due to her focus on LakeSmart but she and Tom Hammett are working on plans for events during the summer of 2023. A suggestion was made to use the Plant Paddle model and come up with a scavenger hunt type event for kids starting from Keoka Beach Campground (KBCG).

- Membership

- In Paige Nalipinski's absence, Rich Orr suggested focusing on membership dues and communication. Several things are 'in the works':
 - To change the 'dues year' requires approval at the Annual Meeting. Rich suggested choosing a set date by which annual memberships should be renewed, (i.e., July 1st of each year) – An alternative could be Annual Meeting date – but that varies year to year.

- Creating online capacity for members to be able to pay their dues online. There was full board support for this capability as was available for the Betty Miller memorial donations.
 - Sophisticated membership tracking requires a data base and KLA's website does not have that yet, so there was an appeal for a volunteer to develop a database.
 - Suggestion – get a small group to talk about online platform needs/requirements and what it is that KLA is trying to accomplish.
- Communications Update
 - Brenda Hambleton reported that the lighted boat parade upped KLA's access because it required 'registration' (and thus we obtained additional email addresses).
 - Currently, the KLA newsletter is mailed to ~200 email addresses; about 150 open the emails and of that, about 50% 'click through' to read the particular article.
 - She indicated the need for a database person. Dylan Hasson 'volunteered'.
 - Andy Tabor suggested that KLA needed a relationship membership tool, not unlike Salesforce.com.
 - Not everyone is 'on board' on the need to put memberships online.
 - Brenda will do the 'requirements docs' for short and long-term development of online dues payment and membership information.
 - Social Media
 - Melissa Tarbell thanked everyone for the pictures they are sending in but she would like more pix from the 'other side' of the lake.
- Merchandise Sales
 - Joanne Eaton indicated that they have new registrations for the Fall Foliage 5k and hope for additional 'day of' registrations. Her merchandising efforts this year are based on items she had picked up/had embroidered during the two-year shut down due to COVID. So far, she has sold \$2,700 of t-shirts, caps, etc.; she has sold some mugs but no books; she has Venmo/PayPal available as a means of payment. The question was asked if she used a square; she has an old one and will explore that possibility. Brenda volunteered that her daughter wants to help.
 - A suggestion was made to consider selling THE BOOK from the KBCG store.

Water Safety

- Dam (including winter water level)
 - Charlie reported that the dam was set the beginning of May and with no rain, there was no adjustment to the dam. By late August, the level was up and the dam was opened for ~4 days to drop the lake level. There was a question of dam 'exposure' due to the opening of the Dood Trail and the concerns for liability (kids playing near the dam, etc). He indicated monitoring the dam during the winter is harder, especially if there is rain, but that he and Al Struck (and a potential third person) share the responsibility.
- Water Safety, Signage
 - Andy Tabor indicated things had been calm after the 'loon nest issue' last spring. He reported that in the middle of July, kids had dragged the swim buoys to the middle of the swim area but he was able to restore them to their correct position. Over Labor Day, the red buoy turned up over by Rt. 37.

- Town Beach Dock Removal
 - The boat launch docks will be pulled on Saturday, October 8, 2022 at 1 pm. All hands are welcome.
- Regatta Update
 - In Al Struck's absence, it was reported that the day of the regatta had 'crazy windy weather'; lots of participants and it was great to watch. There is a YouTube video available, thanks to the efforts of Dylan Hasson and his drone. It was suggested that going forward, the course route be published in the KLA newsletter with potential 'viewing' areas marked on the map.
 - Winners for both the 9th Annual Bud Lazott Memorial Race and the KLA Camp Cup are posted on the KLA website.

KLA50 Report

Jo Lynne Johnson reported on the multi-year KLA50 Celebration Committee efforts:

- KLA50 Capital Campaign – while donations are always welcome, the KLA50 Capital Campaign is no longer soliciting donations but is working to close out those 5-year pledge payments (through 2024). She and David will continue to send out pledge reminders/invoices in a timely manner.
- Book Sales – books were donated as follows: 2 to the Waterford Library, 2 to the Waterford Historical Society, 1 to the Maine State Museum and 1 to the Maine Historical Society in Portland.
- About 180 books remain to be sold – at either KLA merchandising events or at the library.
- Waterford Historical Society retrospective – was open at WHS all summer.
- Quilt Raffle – brought in \$935 (\$140 in Venmo sales at the party); winner was Martha Eaton.
- KLA50 Celebration –
 - Committee decided to keep ticket price @\$25 despite increases in vendor costs, thus each ticket purchased resulted in a small loss; Goal was 140 RSVPs; over 190 RSVP's received.
 - Second order of mugs was needed for gift bags; independent 'creative' accounting pushed all freight charges to KLA50 Party ledger leading to a loss on the party of just under \$500. KLA had committed \$1,000 against any shortfall so the final outcome was well within what had been authorized.
 - Remaining mugs are available at KLA merchandising events, Waterford Library and/or contacting Joanne Eaton (no mail orders) at \$15 ea/2 for \$25.
 - Overall – it was a perfect July day; the venue was awesome; the music was wonderful and people really seemed to enjoy themselves. It was a fun party!
- David and Jo Lynne concluded by noting that other than pursuing the pledges, their work was done. On behalf of the board and KLA, Rich thanked them for their efforts and service to KLA and KLA50.

Boat Parade Report

- Brenda Hambleton reported that Bill Robichaud had the original idea and it was a huge success. There were 16 boats registered and several that were unregistered. In addition to boats decorated with lights there were docks decorated as well. Prizes were jointly

sponsored by KBCG and KLA (costs covered by a donor). Suggestions for next year included: 1) to get the date and criteria out early with a map showing the route (and possible viewing areas) 2) consider a contest for decorated docks.

New Business

- Friends of City Brook (FCB) request for an interpretive sign
 - The City Brook Walk was dedicated to Dood Haynes on August 11, 2022. The trail was cleaned up and Charlie served as the docent at the dam on the day of the dedication.
 - Bob Spencer of FCB had approached KLA for an interpretive sign. Rich felt it should NOT be on the dam because of the issue of liability/possibility of kids playing around the dam or people tromping around the dam, etc but it could be somewhere along the trail. Brenda suggested a small sign with a QR code that would take the walker to the KLA website section on the dam.
 - Given what else is of priority for the KLA board, Rich indicated he was open to this if someone wants to take it on, but for now, he would notify Bob Spencer that this is not something that KLA can do at this point in time.

- Additional Items:
 - Updates for 2022
 - There was a discussion of the need to move into the technology age and embrace Venmo/PayPal payments, online payments, etc. in order to engage with the next generation of KLA membership. This will be taken under advisement and discussed at a future meeting.

 - Signage approaching the boat ramp.
 - Ginny Raymond indicated a need to request a sign warning of the boat ramp and the need to slow down. The sign must be requested of the state by the Town of Waterford. Charlie indicated he would go to the Selectboard meeting and request the sign.

Motion to adjourn made by Jo Lynne Johnson; Second: Brenda Hambleton;
Vote: unanimously approved.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:56 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Jo Lynne J. Johnson
Secretary