

**Keoka Lake Association
Box 97
Waterford, ME 04088**

**Board of Trustees Meeting Friday, October 11, 2019 – 7:00-9:00 pm
The Wilson Homestead, Waterford Village (Home of Tom & Lisa, Doss & Jonathan)**

MINUTES

Unable to Attend: Arne Klepinger, Peter Morse, Kim Struck

Present: Joe Abbiati, Ginger Eaton, Joanne Eaton, Jim Flynn, Brenda Hambleton, Tom Hammett, Jonathan Hasson, David Johnson, Jo Lynne Johnson, Charlie Mason, Chip Mason, Michael Nalpinski, Richard Orr, Tom Schaefer, Bob Spencer (representing Friends of City Brook), Tom Stockwell, Al Struck, Andy Tabor and Charlie Tarbell

Charlie Tarbell, President, called the meeting to order at 7:01 p.m.

Secretary's Report – Kim Struck, in absentia

It has been posted to the website. Motion made to waive reading; seconded; unanimously passed.

Treasurer's Report – Chip Mason

Chip reported that the Balance Sheet does not reflect expenses for the repair/ replacement of the Boat Launch but does include income from the Town of Waterford for the boat launch project (as approved at 2019 Town Meeting). Money from the Town of Waterford for the CBI program is still pending. There is also income shown from the Quiet Phase of the KLA50 Capital Campaign that will be invested with Maine Community Fund.

Motion made to end the year with <\$2,500 in the surplus account and any other monies would be moved to the Milfoil Reserve account now invested at MaineCF; seconded; unanimously passed.

Invasives

- Courtesy Boat Inspections – Charlie Tarbell
 - There were 262 inspections this year; 3 'catches' (all outgoing) which were all non-invasives; 384 hours which is down from previous years due to increase in pay scale for CBI's. Ideal hours would be 450-500 hours of CBI coverage. In the LEA area, there were two invasive 'catches' – Eurasian Milfoil was caught going into the SLPS Boat Ramp and Variable-leafed Milfoil was caught going into Long Lake.

- Plant Inspection – Arne Klepinger, in absentia
 - The Plant Patrol is working well; the website shows the map of individual plant patrollers coverage area. The water maintained good clarity through the summer. In late July, the LEA Sonde Boat mapped out Keoka Lake; the compiled data is not yet available but will be posted to the website when it is.

Water Quality

- 2019 Water Testing – Charlie Tarbell
 - While the report from LEA is not due out until November, the sense from the person at LEA who does the testing was that the water was beautiful and clear, but it was good everywhere due to the summer weather conditions and the lack of torrential rainstorms. There is consideration that the elevated levels of *Gloeo* may have been due to the run-off at the old boat launch. With heavy rains, run-off from the road eroded the beach and carried nutrients into the lake. The *Gloeo* testing site was off the Kilburn/Peterson property – in a direct line with the Town Beach. Hopefully 2020 testing will show improvements.
- Stream Survey – Kim Struck & Tom Hammett
 - Stone's Cove Stream – is completely dry of running water; it is very mossy but there is no debris.
 - Lenassi Brook – There are pockets of pools, lots of deer tracks, still lots of debris and so many frogs (which may be an indicator of water quality?). There are undercut banks.
 - Perch Brook – Difficult to locate; reduced to a trickle; overgrown and very buggy!
 - Mud Brook – still has many blockages.
 - Remainder from the July report: Kim has begun stream surveys. Sucker Brook had three tires removed and a bag of trash. There are three major obstructions of big logs that should be removed. Anyone with a chainsaw and work gloves is invited to help with the removal. Johnson Brook was running clear with a couple of debris removals of small logs. Kedar Brook downstream was flowing with little debris. Upstream Kedar Brook saw removal of trash and an opportunity to speak with landowners about the health of the brook and how to help maintain the brook's health. The remaining brooks to be surveyed by the fall KLA Board Meeting are Perch Brook, Stone Cove Stream, Neimi Stream and Young's Brook.
- Upland Efforts – Tom Hammett
 - There was discussion of expanding vigilance beyond the shoreland of Keoka – i.e. down City Brook (to South Waterford) and to include the 'watershed'. Tom met with Colin Holme and referenced the Highland Preserve as having good educational value. He raised the question of starting a dialog with LEA re: changing the focus to the watershed to include run-off of sand/salt from roads, of fertilizer/pesticides from lawns, developed areas, etc. Colin was happy that KLA had come to LEA with the suggestion and, over the winter, will address the process of how to move forward.
 - Tom did a presentation on climate change at the Wilkins House early in October as the opening session of their year-long monthly series of discussions on Climate Change. He was impressed with the high level of interest from the Waterford area and was pleased to see unanimous support for what lake associations are doing to maintain the health of the lakes.
- LakeSmart
 - Jim Flynn would like to find a way to get younger people involved in protecting the watershed; perhaps involving them in doing LakeSmart inspections with a credit for service hours? He would like to establish a team of volunteers to help

him complete the LakeSmart inspections. KLA has received the gold award for having 15% of lakeshore properties having successfully completed the LakeSmart inspection program; a suggestion was made that a notice of the award could be posted at the boat launch.

Education/Outreach

- Education Efforts – Tom Hammett & Ginger Eaton
 - This year's focus was to create a 'rack chart' for KLA specifically targeted at increasing the membership from KBCG. This flyer would augment, but not replace, the general membership flyer that was re-created in spring, 2019 by Brenda. Copies were handed out; they are/can also be placed in display racks at the Town Offices, Melby's, the Library, etc.
- Membership – Ginny Raymond
 - Currently, there are 93 members. In 2018, there were 105 members; in 2016, there were 107 members. The fall newsletter has not gone out and that usually brings in more memberships. In looking at the (new) map of lakeshore properties, 90% are members of KLA - which is a very high percentage! Members are encouraged to talk to their lakeshore neighbors and friends about joining/supporting KLA and LEA.
- Website Update Discussion – Brenda Hambleton & Joe Abbiati
 - Since the 'soft' introduction with the Board Meeting agenda, there have been 15 visits to the site that is available on both desktop and mobile devices. Brenda is working on the Administrative Guide for Bloggers; anyone can blog to the site. Still to be explored over the fall and winter are the Maintenance issues (online membership forms, credit card/PayPal/Venmo payments, email marketing campaigns, email notifications of website updates, etc). She suggested using #KeokaLake for Instagram posts.
 - Website specifics: Board bios are listed under resources; they are optional. Bloggers need 'permission'; blogs can be self-posted or sent to Brenda and she will post for author. Feedback/problems – email Brenda. There was a discussion of the photo gallery and access to all pictures from the old website (ed., 'glitch' has been fixed and all photos are now available). Captions/titles can be added to pictures – it just takes time/knowledge.
- Sales – Joanne Eaton
 - The paddleboard raffle will be held Sunday, October 13, 2019 on the Waterford Common after the 20th Annual Fall Foliage 5k and Chili Fest. To date, \$2,100 has been raised on raffle tickets and t-shirts this summer. Joanne currently has a low inventory due to production delays and she is still exploring options for future production needs. Tom Hammett and Brenda Hambleton will sell KLA merchandise on the common on Sunday while Joanne is doing race registration.
- LEA Membership – Charlie Tarbell
 - Charlie reiterated the importance of the work that LEA does and how valuable a resource they are, not just to KLA, but to lake health in the state of Maine. He

encouraged membership in LEA as well as gift memberships to LEA. Currently 21% of Keoka Lake shore property owners belong to LEA.

Water Safety

- Dam – Al Struck
 - The dam has been open all summer in anticipation of the boat launch repair that was finally complete Sept 13-14, 2019. Then there was no rain, so the lake level is very low. Bob Spencer (City Brook Association) has work that needs to be done downstream of the dam, so the dam will be closed up tight Oct 21-30, 2019.
 - Bob Spencer reviewed the City Brook work to be done. The Walker Falls dam was breached in 1998 and it needs to be repaired. During the 10-day period in October 2019, they will 'de-water the site', do the requisite concrete work on the backside of the dam, repoint the dam and they hope to have the waterfall back for the first time since 1996.
 - Even if the Keoka Lake dam is closed tight, Keoka can absorb about 3 storms which is unlikely during the 10-day period. When the work is done, Keoka's lake level will be allowed to return to winter levels.

- Water Safety, Loon Nest – Andy Tabor
 - Andy shared the Navigational Aids – Annual Report that he sends to the State of Maine (copy posted to the website). The list of Inspection Reports is lengthier this year due to the work on the docks. One dock is broken and he will repair that in the spring. KLA now has responsibility for the docks that border the new boat launch pad/buoys.
 - The loon nest will be relocated next spring to a spot closer to Tom Schaefer's for better oversight. The new loon buoys have been picked up and will go around the loon nest in the spring.
 - Andy has the large sign re: removing plants, etc and he will install if someone has a posthole digger. (Joanne does).

- Boat ramp project update – Charlie Tarbell
 - The boat ramp was shut down Sept 13-14 in order for it to be replaced. Jeff Ward was invaluable with his equipment, expertise and support. There is a new concrete ramp, realignment of the access to the ramp and creation of a plunge pool to handle run-off from the road (so as not to cause the channel across the beach). All that remains to be done is some paving work at the top of the ramp/edge of the road and that will be done sometime this fall.

- Town Beach Dock Work & Future – Andy Tabor & Charlie Tarbell
 - Currently, there is a significant drop-off at the end of the boat launch ramp. If it still exists in the spring, after the ice has moved things around, Andy will install small warning buoys at the outside edges.
 - The cost of the Boat Launch Replacement project is estimated to be around \$7,200. In addition to the monies committed by the Town of Waterford at the 2019 Annual Meeting and the KLA match of the town's grant (donated by an anonymous KLA member from KBCG), there was a grant from the State of

Maine, so there may be some monies going back to the Town of Waterford which would be a wonderful goodwill gesture.

- The Plunge Pool will require maintenance; it needs to be dug out periodically.

New Business

- KLA50 – Jo Lynne & David Johnson & Charlie Tarbell
 - We are still in the Quiet Phase of the KLA50 Capital Campaign; the Public Phase will launch in the spring of 2020. All KLA50 Capital Campaign funds are invested with the Maine Community Fund (MaineCF) as voted by the BOT at the Spring 2019 meeting. There is a celebration of Leadership Gift Donors at Jim and Diane Flynn's on Saturday, October 12, 2019 for those who wrote a check and/or completed a Pledge Form/Letter of Intent by October 1, 2019.
 - The KLA 50th Anniversary Celebration will be held the summer of 2021. In the interim, two related projects are well underway. The Waterford Historical Society will host a retrospective look at the 50 years of KLA history during the summer of 2021. Nancy Marcotte, at the WHS, is actively collecting artifacts, photos and stories and the board was encouraged to consider lending same to the exhibit. It is possible to take pictures of items/photos if that is preferable. In addition, Nanci Eaton, at the Waterford Library, is collecting stories of the histories of the Keoka lakeshore properties. These stories will be edited over the winter; a book will be available in time for the KLA 50th Anniversary Celebration.
- Mason parcel & Dam – Charlie Tarbell
 - Charlie Mason is donating ~ 17 acres around the dam. KLA will retain ~400 sq ft at the dam and the remainder will be donated to the Western Foothills Land Trust. The details & paperwork should be wrapped up by the end of 2019.
 - Bob Spencer noted that there is now a cleared $\frac{3}{4}$ mile walk into the dam (1.5 mi round trip) with informational signs with historical points posted; the section from the Cross St. Bridge to the Bear Mountain Inn will be done next year. There are signs up to ID mill sites, etc.
- Waterford Dock Standards update – Charlie Tarbell
 - The Waterford Planning Board is taking up the subject of dock standards. Does Waterford need dock standards? There has been no decision yet, but if there were to be a change for 2020, they would have to go to the Town Meeting in March (and be in the Warrant which is published in January, 2020). There is a state ordinance, but it is only tepidly enforced!
- Succession discussion – All
 - Charlie is looking for 'job descriptions' for key board members (President, V.P., Treasurer, Secretary, Membership, etc.) and will reach out to individuals for that information.

Meeting adjourned at 8:53 p.m.