



Keoka Lake Association
Spring Board Meeting Minutes
May 26, 2023
Waterford Library and Zoom

President Richard Orr called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm

Board members present: Ting Ting Doerr, Ginger Eaton, Joanne Eaton, Jim Flynn, Brenda Hambleton, David Johnson, Jo Lynne Johnson, Richard Orr, Ginny Raymond, Bill Robichaud, Al Struck, Kim Struck, Charlie Tarbell and Melissa Tarbell

Board members on Zoom: Tom Hammett, Liz Stockwell, Andy Tabor, Dan Treadwell

Board members not attending: Arne Klepinger

Non-board members attending: Paige Nalipinski, Denny Raymond, Tom Schaefer, Brendan Killian

Reports

Secretary's report:

Secretary Jo Lynne Johnson reported the Fall 2022 Board Meeting minutes have been posted to the KLA website. She moved that the reading of the minutes be waived and that the minutes be accepted as posted to the website. Motion seconded by Brenda Hambleton.

VOTE: unanimously approved

Maine Community Fund (MCF) report:

David Johnson attended the MCF webinar in February to hear the new CEO, Deborah Ellwood, Brendon Reay, VP of Investments and Liana Kingsbury, Director of Nonprofit Agency Funds discuss the current state of investments at MCF. While 2022 was not a good year for the financial markets, MCF investment objectives continue to be 1) attain a 5% inflation-adjusted return; 2) maintain a diversified portfolio of stocks, bonds, real property and cash; 3) minimize long-term risk of permanent capital loss and 4) conduct due diligence to ensure its investments meet MCF objectives. Despite the market, MCF's investments performed better than either the market or the benchmark funds with an all-in loss of 14% for 2022. Historically, over the last 20 years (including 2022), MCF outperformed an index of 56 community foundations. Brendon indicated MCF is cautiously optimistic for 2023. David cautioned that KLA's investment held at MCF is a long-term relationship, not unlike 401ks and/or IRAs many people have.

Treasurer's report:

Treasurer Dan Treadwell presented the current balance sheet and income statement. In response to a question, expenses for replacement chain/buoys were included in 2022. Motion to accept the Treasurer's Report was made by Jo Lynne Johnson and seconded by Brenda Hambleton.

VOTE: unanimously approved.

Treasurer transition:

After presenting the Treasurer's report, Dan Treadwell resigned as a KLA board member and as the Treasurer of KLA. President Richard Orr discussed the succession in light of the timing. Liz

Stockwell was nominated to the KLA Board to finish out Dan's term and to serve as Treasurer until the 2023 Annual Meeting by the Board adopting the following resolution:

"BE IT RESOLVED that Elizabeth ("Liz") Stockwell of Scarborough, Maine shall be and hereby is elected to serve as a Director of the Keoka Lake Association effective immediately, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that said Elizabeth Stockwell is hereby elected to serve as the Treasurer of Keoka Lake Association effective immediately.

Motion to accept the resolution was made by Al Struck and seconded by Charlie Tarbell.

VOTE: unanimously approved.

(Note: Later in the meeting, the Board made nominations for Directors and Officers to be elected at the Annual Meeting. Liz was nominated for a full 3-year term and nominated to continue as Treasurer of KLA.)

At the close of the KLA Board Meeting, a certified copy of the Resolution was signed by Richard Orr, President, and Jo Lynne Johnson, Secretary, to allow signature changes to occur early the following week.

Invasives

Courtesy Boat Inspector (CBI) program

Once again this year, the CBI program is supported by a grant from the Town of Waterford (\$3400), a grant from DEP (\$1800 – up from \$1600 in 2022) and the balance comes from KLA dues. LEA 'manages' the CBI program on Keoka, doing the hiring and scheduling of inspectors and the backroom duties (payroll, etc). Hourly wages for CBIs have increased over last year, but the goal is to have 500 hours of CBI coverage, including all of the 4th of July week and Friday-Sundays through the summer and into the fall.

Richard Orr attended the Maine Summit on Invasive Aquatic Species (formerly the Maine Milfoil Summit) in April and reported the following topics from the Summit: 1) a presentation by a representative of Brunswick, Nova Scotia on the invasion of zebra mussels which are virtually impossible to eradicate. (About 5 years ago, zebra mussels were found in Norway Lake – attached to an invasive plant.) 2) there is a DEP app to track the date, time and location of CBIs throughout the state, (That analysis will allow individual lakes to allocate resources to the busiest times) and 3) wakeboard boats present well-known risks to the lake if they get too close to shore or operate in water that is too shallow. Their ballast tanks are also a potential means of transporting invasive species because the tanks must be filled to operate the boat and then emptied. The problem is that the tanks are never fully emptied and cannot be thoroughly cleaned, creating a problem if wakeboard boats change lakes. Pieces of invasive plants and animals like zebra mussels can get into the ballast tanks and thus spread from lake to lake.

LEA divers – lake survey

In August, 2022, LEA divers did a survey of Keoka Lake. This was a supplement to KLA's volunteer Plant Patrol. There were three divers at three different depths (surface, 5 feet down and 10 feet down) who surveyed 5 separate areas. For information on the results, the KLA website has a newsletter article about the survey (Blog Post, March 13, 2023). Joanne Eaton motioned that KLA invite LEA to do another survey this year (2023); seconded by Charlie Tarbell.

VOTE: unanimously accepted.

Volunteer Plant Patrol

Arne Klepinger has 'divided' the Keoka Lake shoreline into sections and has assembled a group of volunteers who have committed to monitoring a piece of shoreline for invasives/anything that 'doesn't look right'. That map is posted on the KLA website. In preparation for a joint event with Keoka Beach

Campground (KBC) in July, Ginger Eaton arranged for Mary Jewett of LEA to do a zoom training of the KLA Plant Patrollers.

Rich Orr reported he was contacted by a Bear Pond shore owner (Carol Rothenberg). In that Bear Pond does not have a lake association and shore owners want to become more educated about invasives, Carol asked if KLA would be interested in 'helping' secure the minimum number of people (10) required to have Lake Stewards of Maine (LSM) present an 'on-the-water' training this summer. Part of the training is on land and part is in the water, requiring KLA attendees to transport their kayaks/paddleboards to Bear Pond (and inspect them going in and taking them out). The tentative dates are July 26, 27 or 30. This will be on the agenda for the Annual Meeting with more information and a sign-up for anyone who is interested in participating. Participants unable to transport their own kayak should be able to get transportation help from other patrollers or borrow a kayak already on Bear Pond.

KLA Milfoil Response Plan

Up until now, KLA has relied on the basic Milfoil Response plan provided by the Maine DEP, which contains no phone trees/nothing personalized for Keoka, etc. Charlie Tarbell has written a Milfoil Response Plan for Keoka Lake; Mike Nalipinski (retired from US EPA Emergency Management) and Nick Archer (retired from Maine's DEP as the head of their northern region) have reviewed the draft of the plan and Colin Holme, Executive Director of LEA, has also looked at it. It will ultimately be posted to the KLA website. Still to be determined is where divers/invasive 'mitigators' can secure access to the lake. Conversations will be held re: cooperation with shore owners to allow quick and easy access to Keoka when there is an issue that requires mitigation efforts.

Water Quality

Water Testing

Water testing focuses on clarity, phosphorus and chlorophyll. The 2022 report for Keoka showed clarity was up (good); phosphorus was down (good) and chlorophyll remained about the same. *Gloeo* levels are a little higher. However, deoxygenation in deeper water remains a problem, especially for fish species like trout and salmon. The winter readings were affected by the 12.23.22 storm and the recent spring readings were definitely affected by the 4.78" of rain in the May 1st storm. Charlie Tarbell indicated he was writing an article for the next newsletter highlighting the impact of the storms and the fact that both storms/wind and the wakeboat high wake levels create erosion on the shore which causes shoreland debris to fall into the lake.

Stream Survey

Kim Struck and T'ing T'ing Doerr have completed their spring 'brook stomps', finding the streams very high and tannins up largely due to the heavy rains on May 1st and a subsequent wet month. The good news is that the state of Maine is now nearly 100% drought free! The bad news is that the brooks were radically changed by the May 1st storm. There has been a lot of overbanking of streams (as well as undercutting). One concern moving forward, especially for the Upland Efforts, would be to try to stop some of the overbanking. Watch the KLA newsletter for more details.

Upland Efforts

Via zoom, Tom Hammett updated his mission to educate and then raise awareness of upland stakeholders as to the part they play in maintaining the quality of the water in Keoka Lake. He plans to organize a ½ day field trip in mid-August or a weekend in early fall to Holt Pond Preserve to see watershed management at work. To include 2-3 board members and open to sign up by KLA members, the trip would help to educate attendees as to opportunities to manage upland properties to preserve water quality. Future goals include devising a plan for Keoka Lake's watershed and ultimately to work with stakeholders to apply for grants to do any mitigation work identified. More information will be forthcoming.

LakeSmart

Ginger Eaton has created a spreadsheet of all lakeshore properties to be able to monitor/plan LakeSmart inspections. Last summer, she created a packet of materials to be handed out to shore owners, explaining the LakeSmart program and how it works in an effort to guide shore owners to be good stewards of the lake, water quality and shore vegetation. She, Doss Hasson and Priscilla Treadwell visited with 14 shoreowners last summer and distributed packets for them for their consideration to having their property reviewed by the committee. The expectation is that 18 packets will be distributed this summer as this is an ongoing educational effort.

Education and Outreach

Invasive Plants Training – Event with KBC – July 8, 2023 – 2-5 pm

Ginger Eaton has spearheaded a joint social/educational effort with Keoka Beach Campground (KBC) that will take place at the campground on the afternoon of the Annual Meeting (Saturday, July 8th). With Mary Jewett's (LEA's Director of Education and Invasives Prevention) assistance, KLA Plant Patrollers were trained by zoom this spring.

The event will include a presentation on invasives and then attendees will be invited to board one of (currently) 7 pontoon boats, staffed with two Plant Patrollers per boat, for a survey of 5 high risk areas on the lake. Depending on the number of attendees, there may be multiple rounds of surveys. To conclude the afternoon, Chris Searles of KBC has invited attendees to return to the beach for wrap-up and socializing. Attendees will need to pre-register; boat capacity will be limited; boats will observe good water safety practices.

Membership

Paige Nalipinski maintains the membership and dues payment spreadsheet. Dues remain at \$25/year. From a review of 2021 memberships, there were 109 members of which 41 did not pay their 2022 dues. Gift memberships are available at any time. For 2023, there is a recommended dues payment due date of July 1st because most expenses are incurred during the summer.

Plans are underway to provide the opportunity to make dues payments online. Both Dylan Hasson and Dan Treadwell have agreed to work with Brenda Hambleton to "build out the back room" in the hopes that online payments will be available in 2024. In the meantime, membership dues forms can be printed from the KLA website and checks can be mailed to the address on the form. In addition, dues can be paid at the KLA Annual Meeting on July 8th and at any KLA merchandise opportunities during the summer/fall.

Communications Update

Brenda Hambleton reported that the KLA website is readership-based with an attempt to post interesting articles by a variety of people. Anyone who would like to write a short piece (especially with pictures if possible) is encouraged to submit them through the Contact link on the website. Registrations for the 2022 lighted boat parade provided additional email addresses. Kudos to the Newsletter team (Claire Pendergast, Priscilla Treadwell, Charlie Tarbell & Melissa Tarbell) for their great work! Some statistics for 2022, 60-79% of recipients opened the link to the Newsletter, depending on the article content; less than 33% read 'further'.

Melissa Tarbell reiterated that she is always looking for pictures to post on social media.

Merchandise Sales

Joanne Eaton had gotten a new proposal for 2023 merchandise just before the meeting so had not had time to review it. She has placed one order (~\$600) for shirts/hats, etc in the hopes that it will cover merchandise sales through summer 2023. KLA50 books are still available at \$35 each.

Water Safety

Dam (including winter water level)

Charlie Tarbell reported that the 12.23.22 storm saw heavy rain on top of frozen ground thus there was water over the spillway so the dam was opened up all the way and left that way for the balance of the winter, trying to anticipate another similar event. Then came the May 1, 2023 storm. There was serious under banking on the north shore of the lake and twice a day, the dam needed to be cleared out due to debris (that washed from the shoreline) building up in front of it. There is currently one log across the spillway but Glen Merrill is going to get that cut up. Al Struck is retiring from the Dam Committee (damn!).

Water Safety, Signage

Charlie indicated there is a sign missing on the dam and he will check with Glen Merrill. Andy Tabor indicated it would be 3-4 weeks before he can get all the buoys in due to repairs that need to be made. The loon nest was put in place on 5.6.23 but because of the May 1st storm, the water was cloudy and so high, he was only able to locate the anchor for one of the loon buoys. The chain on the nest was barely long enough to reach the anchor! The repairs to the swim buoys will begin this weekend; others to follow. The Rock Island buoy chain broke last fall and will also be replaced this spring. The purchase of replacement chain last fall (2022 budget year) was fortuitous as the price has doubled!

Town Beach Dock Install

Andy Tabor reports that the boat ramp 'blew out' along one side in the 12.23.22 storm. Following requests from KLA, the town fixed the erosion damage the day of the Board meeting. The dock install is to take place Saturday, May 27th at 1 pm (ed: a crew of ~20 volunteers raked the entire beach, installed the docks and hauled 3 trailer loads of debris to the transfer station on 5.27. Thanks to all who worked so hard!)

Old Business

Regatta – July 29, 2023 – 1 pm – Keoka Beach Campground

Al Struck distributed a report before the meeting stating that the annual Bud Lazott Memorial Regatta is scheduled for July 29th beginning at 1 pm. Special trophies have been commissioned to celebrate the 10th anniversary of the race and all participants will receive a commemorative token. Details are posted on the KLA website.

KLA50 Report

Jo Lynne Johnson noted that the KLA50 Capital Campaign closes out on December 31, 2024. Of the 100 total donations/pledges to the campaign, only 11 pledges still have payments due between now and the close of the campaign (for a total of \$7,800 outstanding). Pledge 'invoice' letters are mailed twice a year as a courtesy reminder and David and Jo Lynne have committed to communicate/monitor those outstanding balances until the end of 2024. All KLA50 Capital Campaign funds are being invested in the Maine Community Foundation (and earning dividends/interest). Earnings are currently accruing for a total of KLA50 Restricted fund balance of \$151,487 as of 5.18.23 (+ \$710 currently at Key Bank that will be transferred to MCF (per past practices) in October along with any other pledge payments received in the coming months).

Boat Parade Report

Bill Robichaud reported that the 2nd Annual Keoka Lake Lighted Boat Parade will be held August 5th and will this year also include a Lighted Dock category (judged by those boats participating). Co-sponsored by KLA and KBC, there will be prizes for gas/food/beverage/merchandise from The Store at KBC. The parade starts from the Town Beach/Boat Launch at 8 pm and will circumnavigate the lake in a counterclockwise direction. The entire parade will be a light parade. Registration will be required; watch for flyers and instructions/information/rules on the KLA website.

Bill and Brenda Hambleton are coordinating the KLA efforts for the parade. There is an opening for a KLA volunteer to serve as a judge (judging station at KBC).

Following the parade, KBC has offered to host a Post-Parade Rendezvous/celebration with music; boat parking provided. Voting will take place for Best Dock; awards will be given out and KLA will be selling the first edition of the annual Keoka Lake Lighted Boat Parade t-shirts. There is no rain date.

Highway Warning Sign for Boat Ramp

Charlie Tarbell has spoken to the town office and while the Boat Launch belongs to the town, the road is a state highway therefore signage is under state jurisdiction. The state requires 10 parking spaces for vehicle and trailer in order for the state to accept jurisdiction for a Boat Launch; thus it is the Town of Waterford's Boat Launch. Charlie indicated he's persisting, but 'we're not there yet.'

New Business

Board Size

Rich Orr reviewed the Bylaws which states the KLA Board of Directors should not exceed 15. With the resignations of Joe Abbiatti (Fall 2022), Dan Treadwell (at the spring Board Meeting), Ginny Raymond (following the 2023 Annual Meeting) and David and Jo Lynne Johnson (following the 2023 Annual Meeting), the Board stands at 16 so he doesn't feel there needs to be a Bylaw change to increase the board size.

Board and Officer nominations

As required by the Bylaws, the board nominated Directors to be elected to a three-year term and Officers to serve a one-year term. KLA membership will vote at the Annual Meeting in July. Joanne Eaton motioned (second by Al Struck) to nominate the following to the class of 2023-2026:

- Ginger Eaton
- Jim Flynn
- Tom Hammett
- Bill Robichaud
- Liz Stockwell
- Kim Struck

Riley Hasson (to serve the balance of an unexpired term for 2023-2025)

VOTE: unanimously approved

Likewise, Joanne Eaton motioned (seconded by Jo Lynne Johnson) to nominate the following as officers for 2023-2024:

- | | |
|------------------|----------------|
| Richard Orr | President |
| Brenda Hambleton | Vice President |
| Liz Stockwell | Treasurer |
| Riley Hasson | Secretary* |

*due to the resignation of Jo Lynne as Secretary effective with the 2023 Annual Meeting, Riley would finish out the remaining 2 years of Jo Lynne's term and then be able to stand for her own 3-year term.

VOTE: unanimously approved

LEA request for water testing/donation to LEA

LEA does annual water testing and requests KLA approval for the service and the cost. Each year KLA pays for that service. Rich reported that based on information he had received from Colin Holme at LEA the morning of the meeting (in response to questions from Rich), he determined that the

appropriation approved at the annual meetings was actually one amount that covered two different things: (a) the cost of the annual water testing as requested by LEA and (b) the appropriation or donation for general support of LEA which is not requested by LEA but is a voluntary contribution by KLA. Rich pointed out that because the two were combined, there was no transparency as to how much was spent on water testing nor how much was a donation.

The effect has been that in recent years as the cost of water testing went up, the effective donation unintentionally went down. In 2019, the appropriation was \$1400. In 2022, the comparable appropriation was \$1,150 (that number excludes a one-time donation of \$300 as compensation for providing a band for the KLA50 Anniversary Celebration event).

Rich recommended that the Board take up these issues in three steps:

1. Separate the cost of water testing from donation. The cost of water testing is a fee for service, and thereby a 'business expense' rather than a 'donation'.
2. Review the water testing request from LEA for approval.
3. Decide on the amount of the donation.

First, Rich asked for a motion to treat the cost of water testing as a fee for service and to separate it from the donation.

Motion made to separate fees for service from donations was made by Al Struck; seconded by Joanne Eaton.

VOTE: unanimously approved.

Second, Rich asked for a motion to approve LEA's May 25, 2023 request for approval of its proposed water testing program, the bulk of which remains the same as services provided in 2022 (\$1,050). LEA also requested approval to provide an additional service. The LEA request stated they had acquired specialized instruments to partially automate algae identification and quantification. LEA's proposal requested KLA's support to pilot a sampling and analysis program for algae on Keoka Lake in the summer of 2023. The pilot program would entail four water samples analyzed over the summer for an additional cost of \$600.

Joanne Eaton moved that KLA approve LEA's May 25, 2023 request. That request is for LEA to do their standard testing (2 winter monitoring trips for ice/water quality conditions, deployment/retrieval & data analysis from the temperature sensor buoy and obtaining 5 fluorometric chlorophyll profiles/data analysis - \$1050) plus the additional pilot program for algae sampling and analysis (\$600) for a total approval of \$1,650 with a note that "KLA would be delighted to be part of the pilot program"; seconded by Jim Flynn.

VOTE: unanimously approved.

At the Annual Meeting, the members are asked to approve donations to a variety of community organizations, including LEA and those amounts have been carried forward year after year. In the past, the LEA appropriation combined both the fee for water testing and a donation but did not separate them. In an earlier vote at this meeting, the Board was asked to separate the fee for water testing from the donation. Accordingly, Rich asked for a motion to recommend to the Annual Meeting that KLA include a donation to LEA for \$1,200 in 2023. That is a slight increase over 2022 where the donation was effectively \$1,050.

The motion was made by Jo Lynne Johnson and seconded by David Johnson.

VOTE: unanimously approved.

A list of donations for 2023 will be prepared for approval by KLA membership at the Annual Meeting. Joanne suggested that the \$1,200 donation to LEA be included in that list "out of respect for all the work LEA has done over the years and their support of Keoka Lake and KLA".

Membership: Individuals vs couples

Richard Orr opened the discussion of how to equitably handle the existing discrepancy between the Bylaws that provide for individual membership and our long-time practice of allowing membership by couples and the associated issue of how many votes accompany those memberships and who gets to vote.

There was a far-ranging discussion, including a request to refer to a 'dual' membership not a 'couple' membership; how to handle 'family/association/LLC' memberships; voting by 'active' members only, etc. Tom Hammett moved to table the discussion and set up a subcommittee to address the issue and report back to the Board. Jo Lynne seconded but before a vote could be taken, additional discussion on the motion ensued and Tom withdrew his motion. The discussion continued, specifically regarding the Board's responsibility to enforce the Bylaws, and the question of proxy voting which is not provided for in the Bylaws (members must be present to vote). Brenda Hambleton indicated she would not be willing to build out the platform to handle on-line dues payment if there was an unresolved issue as to whether KLA would apply the '\$25/person membership' provision of the Bylaws. The timeline, as presented by Brenda, was for the 'build-out' to occur over the next year so that it is ready for Board action at the 2024 Spring Board Meeting.

Tom Hammett moved to let Brenda design a payment system for \$25/person membership, per the Bylaws as written. Jim Flynn seconded the motion.

VOTE: For: 15 Opposed: 1 The motion carried.

Cost of CBI projected to exceed income

This topic was raised for preliminary discussion only. Charlie Tarbell continues to manage the CBI program for KLA, including filing the applications for funds from the town and from DEP. He reported that the DEP grant which helps fund the CBI inspectors may be at risk in the future. A DEP official told him recently that he expected DEP to change its focus from prevention to remediation of lakes that already have an infestation. With limited resources, this would likely lead to a reduction (or even the elimination) of the grant KLA gets from the DEP. That revenue shortfall might require KLA to do one or more of the following: 1) reduce inspections, 2) increase dues and/or 3) use a portion of the income from the funds at the Maine Community Foundation. Because of the lateness of the hour and because no action is required in the near term, there was no substantive discussion of the alternatives.

Motion to adjourn made by T'ing T'ing Doerr; seconded by Jo Lynne Johnson.

VOTE: unanimously approved.

The meeting adjourned at 9:35 pm!

Respectfully submitted,
Jo Lynne J. Johnson
Secretary