

Keoka Lake Association
Box 97
Waterford, Maine 04088

Board of Trustees Meeting, Friday, October 9, 2020 – 7:00-9:00 pm
Zoom Call

Present: Joe Abbiati, Ginger Eaton, Joanne Eaton, Jim Flynn, Brenda Hambleton, Tom Hammett, David Johnson, Jo Lynne Johnson, Arnie Klepinger, Charlie Mason, Richard Orr, Ginny Raymond, Tom Schaefer, Tom Stockwell, Al Struck, Kim Struck, Andy Tabor, Dan Treadwell, Charlie Tarbell

Unable to attend: Chip Mason, Peter Morse, Bill Robichaud

Charlie Tarbell, President, called the meeting to order at 7:04 pm

Secretary's Report – Jo Lynne Johnson is taking minutes for this meeting

The Spring 2020 board meeting minutes will be posted to the website. Motion was made to waive the reading; seconded and unanimously approved.

Treasurer's Report – Dan Treadwell

Dan has changed the format of the Treasurer's Report to separate income into operating income and other income. This will allow us to better track the normal flow of funds vs. extraordinary funds, such as in KLA50 funds. The timing of income (Waterford and DEP grants for CBI program) results in the Income Statement showing an operating loss YTD for 2020. This is expected to reverse in the fourth quarter. In addition, he has simplified the reporting of the KLA50 Capital Campaign income reporting (and subsequent transfers to the Maine Community Fund).

Motion made to allow the president and treasurer to set the year-end 'surplus' at de minimus as they agreed to be prudent; seconded and unanimously approved.

Motion made to accept Treasurer's Report; seconded and unanimously approved.

Invasives -

Courtesy Boat Inspection program – the first line of defense to maintaining the health of Keoka Lake. During summer 2020, there were 329 inspections made; there were 3 plants (non-invasive) found on boats LEAVING Keoka. LEA has invoiced KLA \$6,915 for 461 hours of labor which will be offset by the grants from the Town of Waterford and the DEP. The balance will be borne by KLA. Charlie intends to request another grant from the Town of Waterford for summer 2021 for the CBI program.

Plant Inspection -

Arne Klepinger reported that Amity Shlaes-Lipsky has joined the Plant Patroller group and will focus on the shallower areas near the Stone's Cove beach. Despite the uncertainty of whether the Plant Patrollers would actually be 'in residence' on Keoka this summer, the program is going well. LEA plans to do a plant survey. The idea of a plant survey by LEA was discussed and the timing was not known. Since the meeting, the survey report was received. The survey was completed on 10.1.2020 and no invasive plants were found.

Water Quality -

Water Testing

Charlie reported that LEA is wrapping up compiling the results and it is still too early for conclusions. However, it appears that Ph & chlorophyll are in line with the long-term trend; SECCHI disc readings have been inconsistent due to intense rain events. The full report with the supporting data will be available in early 2021. There is a question as to whether uncontrolled storm water run-off might be of more concern than milfoil, given how we are managing the milfoil situation.

Stream Survey & Upland Efforts -

Tom Hammett reported that what happens in the “upland areas” (watershed) greatly affects Keoka Lake and there is a need to educate stakeholders. Watershed management is a long-term project and is just now being addressed locally. More data is needed (acreage, proximity to streams) and the stakeholders include owners, LEA, State of Maine Extension Service and the town. He would like a sub-committee on the board to research/plan for the future. The committee would work collaboratively to survey/map the watershed, develop materials, etc. If any board members wish to serve on the sub-committee, they should email Tom Hammett. Tom Stockwell volunteered that in 2000, there was a Project 319 done to 1) ID hotspots and 2) perform mitigation efforts. Phase 1 identified the hot spots and Phase 2 did mitigation work in conjunction with Waterford, the Oxford County Soil & Water District and Maine DEP. It's time for another survey!

A question was raised about the beavers on the lake. A motion was made to authorize the president of KLA to spend up to \$1,000 to engage a trapper to live-trap the beavers and remove them from Keoka. If the monies needed exceed \$1,000, Charlie will come to the board for additional funds. Tom Hammett and Al Struck agreed to pursue 'execution' of this plan through their existing contacts with the Beavinator. The motion was seconded and unanimously approved.

Kim Struck reported on the Stream Surveys she has done:

- Lenassi Brook –
 - There is standing water
 - Some of the pools are deep (are they spring fed? It's been a dry summer)
 - There is high bank erosion in places
 - There are downed trees
- Stone Cove Brook –
 - There is standing water at the mouth of the brook, then it's dry
 - There was lots of garbage
- Johnson Brook –
 - There are beavers at work (witness a maple that is too girded to be saved)
 - There is a good head of water
 - Following upstream leads to the horse farm (Kim & Ginger to visit with owners)
- Sucker Brook –
 - There are a lot of alders which Kim has cleared out
- Kedar Brook –
 - Question of the oily substance on the surface (it is from the muck, not engine oil)
 - Smells as the water is stagnant because of too much sediment at the mouth.

Kim is finishing up her LEA training to be certified with Stream Smart over Columbus Day weekend.

LakeSmart -

New team of inspectors (Ginger Eaton, Doss Hasson and Priscilla Treadwell) awarded 3 more LakeSmart awards this summer (Hambletons, Huffmans & Schellengers). There will be a new "StreamSmart Award" in the future which will coordinate with LakeSmart. Ginger recommends everyone watch the LakeSmart training video (<https://vimeo.com/285498243>)

Education -

Tom Hammett reports that the Education efforts have taken a different turn this year due to COVID and social distancing protocols, etc. LakeSmart proved to be a very good educational experience for both the inspectors and the client properties' owners. It is hoped that interactive Educational programming can continue in 2021.

Membership -

Ginny Raymond reports 80 paid memberships so far in 2020. In 2019, there were 98 and in 2018 there were 102. There are 6 new members this year and 18 have not paid in at least 3 years. There was board discussion about the latter and personal contact attempts will be made to reach out to these 18. Some of these were gift memberships from family members that were not then picked up and paid by the 'kids'. Without Point Of Sale (POS) opportunities this summer and fall, it has only been the newsletter and the website that brings dues to people's minds. A dues form will be mailed with the Fall 2020 newsletter.

Ginny asked that when one check is sent in for dues that a notation be made as to the number of memberships (and for whom) the amount includes.

Website -

Brenda noted that there were an average of about 200 sessions/month with 150 unique visits. In addition, a monthly newsletter will be distributed through the website. Topics will include such subjects as safe watercraft operation, run-off prevention, ice fishing, loons, plant patrol, water quality 101, LakeSmart, in addition to the twice annual editions of the KLA Newsletter. These 'newsletters' will be emailed through the marketing/communication part of the website so it is important to secure email addresses for all members. The next newsletter will be on the 'murder' of the loon chick, authored by Chris Brennan.

Sales -

Joanne indicated there were no POS opportunities in 2020, but she has been searching for (and finding) 'stuff' to be embroidered. Some of the items for 2021 will have the KLA50 logo on them. Andy Tabor indicated he had about 100 white/stone-colored hats from previous KLA sales efforts. Joanne indicated that January/February is generally a slower time for the embroiderer so she will pursue new items for 2021 at that time. A question was raised about possible sale through the website- timing to be determined.

Water Safety -

Dam

Al Struck reported that it is working well. Andy Tabor 'greases' it annually. He also wished to thank Glen Merrill for working to clear out the dam of the beaver's work. In early June, after lots of rain, the lake was so high the dam was opened up all the way. It is now at ½" as there has been no rain and the lake level is 'very low'.

Water Safety/loon nest

This is the 16th anniversary of the dam, according to Andy Tabor. It is also the 21st year of a water safety program on Keoka. Andy indicated he'd filed the Navigational Report with the State of Maine. He put out an appeal for 22 of the large size white Chlorox bottles (all others don't hold up to the UV rays of the sun) as he needs to replace the bottles on all the moorings on the lake next spring. In addition, the swimming buoy line needs to be replaced in the spring. The loon nest was repositioned this spring; the loon nest buoys were not installed until after the chicks were hatched due to the winds on both weekends he tried to put them in before the loon pair nested on the raft.

Boat Ramp -

Charlie reported that the asphalt 'provider' died during the winter so the asphalt apron has yet to be installed between the highway and the boat ramp. Jeff Ward will do the work; Charlie will 'supervise' and then apply to the state for a grant for the project. This will repay the Town of Waterford for their expenses.

Boat Dock at Town Beach -

Andy and Charlie put out a call for help to pull the dock for any who are willing, available and in Waterford on Saturday (Oct. 10th) at 1 pm. (The dock was pulled – thank you volunteers – Tony & Jess Fenenc, Bridget Stockwell and her friend, Ari, Charlie Tarbell and Andy Tabor).

KLA50 – Anniversary Committee - Capital Campaign

Jo Lynne Johnson reported that after the original goal of \$25,000 was raised to \$50,000 during the Quiet Phase, the Public Phase began July 1 and 'closes' on Columbus Day. Given the COVID situation, there have been delays in wrapping up some of the final paperwork/pledges/donations. A final figure for the Campaign will be announced at the Anniversary Celebration. She indicated that the Capital Campaign is not at risk of not meeting its goal!

Waterford Historical Society Retrospective

Planned for the summer of 2021, Nancy Marcotte is gathering artifacts, copies of pictures/newspaper articles, scrapbooks, memorabilia, etc that could be 'borrowed' for this exhibit.

Quilt Raffle

Tickets for the queen-sized Windows on Keoka – Seasons of the lake quilt are available and sales will continue up to and into the Anniversary Celebration. A sheet of tickets will be mailed with the Fall 2020 Newsletter or they are available from kla50.2021@gmail.com The winning ticket will be drawn at the KLA50 Anniversary Celebration – whenever it occurs!

Anniversary Celebration

Planning is well underway for a 50th anniversary celebration, currently scheduled for the afternoon of July 10, 2021. Contracts have all been signed and the committee is monitoring the COVID situation. A go/no-go decision will be made the beginning of March and, if necessary, the party will be moved to 2022. The committee will err on the side of conservatism if there is still concern for COVID spread. Stay tuned to the website for updates! The party will feature light hors d'oeuvres, anniversary cake, cash bar and music by Second String. Second String is LEA President Colin Holme's band and they have agreed to donate their services for our Anniversary Celebration party. The Anniversary Celebration Committee is looking for some sponsorship(s) to 'host' the band and their wives (i.e. to feed them! Four band members + 4

wives @ \$25 ea = \$200). Anyone wishing to help, please send a check to Charlie (made out to Keoka Lake Association) and write 'band sponsorship' on the Memo Line.

KLA50 Book

Charlie and Brenda Hambleton reported that the original concept had been to prepare a 'history' of properties around the lake, but more compelling have been stories that have been coming in. So the concept has 'morphed' into a larger book compiling these stories accompanied by a picture of each property. Brenda is researching publishing options and indicated that there has been discussion of pricing (~\$30), survey or pre-sales to help establish potential interest to determine order quantities, the potential for Venmo for pre-sales, two-tier pricing (member/non-member), etc. These details are still under discussion. Each person submitting a story will be emailed a draft of the text for review early in 2021. The book will be published next spring.

Maine Community Foundation

Richard Orr and David Johnson reported on their conversations with the MCF, specifically how to separate the Capital Campaign funds from the legal reserve/KLA budget surplus funds. Rich, David, Charlie and Dan Treadwell developed a policy to govern the MCF funds. A draft of the policy outlining the separation of the two monies along with an explanatory memo from Rich that had been distributed to board members prior to the meeting. A brief discussion followed. A motion was made to accept the policy; seconded; and unanimously passed. Charlie and Kim Struck, Secretary, will sign the policy once Rich provides them a non-draft copy.

To date, \$60,000 has been transferred to MCF, but Rich cautioned that depending on when the KLA50 Anniversary Celebration party is held, within the next 12-18 months, there will be some large expenditures that KLA will be advancing ahead of the actual ticket sales and receipts of pledge payments (namely the contract with the caterer, the upfront cost to publish the books and any other contracts that need to be paid before the actual events). With no POS sales in 2020, income has been limited to dues and donations. To that end, a motion was made to not transfer additional monies to MCF until after the Anniversary Celebration. It was seconded and unanimously approved.

New Business –

Mason parcel and dam – Charlie Tarbell advised that 'we are on the 1-yard line' and he expects the transfer to be complete by the end of the year.

The meeting adjourned at 9:10 pm

Respectfully submitted

Jo Lynne J. Johnson, Acting Secretary