

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

Board of Trustees Meeting – Friday, October 6, 2017 – 7:00 – 9:00  
Hammett/Hasson Homestead, Waterford Flat  
207.671.6962 (Tarbell Cell)

Unable to attend: Dave Abbiati, Dan Johnson, Arne Klepinger, Chip Mason & Peter Morse

Present: Ginger Eaton, Joanne Eaton, Jim Flynn, David Johnson, Jo Lynne Johnson, Richard Orr, Ginny Raymond, Don Rung, Tom Stockwell, Andy Tabor & Charlie Tarbell

Guests: Charlie Mason

The meeting was called to order by Charlie Tarbell at 7:01 p.m.

Secretary' Report:

The reading of the report was waived as it is posted on the website. Motion made to accept as posted; seconded and approved.

Charlie related that Dave Abbiati has resigned as Secretary due to his lengthy recovery from a fall. Charlie has someone in mind to assume the Secretary responsibilities which led to a discussion about land ownership changes around the lakefront and possible new (younger) board members.

Treasurer's Report:

There was a discussion of going to a Fiscal Year reporting that would allow a budget based on a more seasonal (active) year (i.e., April 1 – March 30<sup>th</sup>). Taken under advisement.

The Liability Fund has been capped at \$10,000. Discussion of scenario at the end of the calendar (current fiscal) year: if there is a positive balance of more than \$1,000, the board directed Charlie to transfer up to \$1000 to the Milfoil Reserve fund in anticipation of future needs should milfoil be discovered in Keoka.

Invasives Plants Program:

Boat Inspection – 233 inspections were conducted this year; one plant found; 503 hours of staff time supported.

Plant Inspection – Tom Stockwell and others reviewed experience this year and how important this activity is to the lake. On Aug. 9<sup>th</sup>, the LEA intern, Christian Oren, did a survey of the lake. – results: hot spots in shallow areas with heavy traffic. There is now a map of the topography at the bottom of the lake that will be posted to the KLA website.

Plant Patrol:

Arne needs other volunteers to conduct inspections to break up long stretches of shoreline. Areas needed to be covered are: Kokosing, Keoka Beach Campground, Stone's Cove, School House Beach and in the center of the lake/Rock Island (there's a Keoka Lake curly leafed pondweed infestation there). Ginny suggested that we add this appeal to the dues notice [done]

Long Lake Infestation: Discussion of the discovery of a  $\frac{3}{4}$  acre milfoil infestation in Long Lake in a private marina behind the high school. Charlie reiterated using education of landowners/lake users by getting volunteers to swim/check a section of shoreline off their camps. If milfoil is found in Keoka, it will be easier to treat because we have Plant Patrols in place so there's a record of what's here and it would be easier to survey Keoka to determine location.

Other matters – Peter Lovell will be retiring in 2018 and Colin Holme will be the new director of LEA.

#### Water Quality Program:

Prelim 2017 – Don Rung reported that the water quality numbers are way off (down 20%) from other years, but they are in line with other lakes. Due to July 1<sup>st</sup> storm with unprecedented flooding rains (and silt washing into the lake), the lake never recovered.

Rex Rounds has a late 1800s photo of the lake with no water in the lake(!); taken before the dam was built; it shows how shallow Stone's Cove is.

Gloeo testing trend? The readings were higher again this year.

Waterford Muni Hotspots – Continuing to monitor 'hot spots'; the risk for water quality issues is high in Keoka due to run off and naturally occurring phosphorus around the lake.

Streams update; Charlie & Jim Flynn walked 5 of the streams feeding into Keoka this year to determine if there is overbanking, change of streambed, obstructions which would cause the streams to divert, leading to silt, phosphorus(?), etc being washed into the lake. The remainder of the streams will be inspected in 2018. The intent is to reinspect every couple of years. Water quality in the lake is a concern of the Selectmen in Waterford. Tom suggested that we look at the new 'delta' at the mouth of Kedarburn brook.

Other matters – LEA has an upcoming trainin; need to mention in the next KLA Newsletter that there should be no Chlorine used for those on septic systems; consideration of including do's and don'ts of healthy septic systems on the website.

#### LakeSmart:

Key question Jim Flynn raised: "How to add new properties and not just re-inspect current member's properties?" In 2018, an effort needs to be made to educate landowners on the benefits of having a LakeSmart inspection conducted on their property. Discussion of state imposed expiry of LakeSmart designations and how to handle re-inspections.

Andy raised the issue of septic tanks that have not been pumped on a regular and timely basis. He indicated he'd taken an online Wiki course on how to measure septic tank layers which would show older/infrequently pumped septic tanks that could cause water quality problems for the lake. Charlie's winter project is to review septic permits, pumpings done, etc to try to identify aging septic systems that may be leaking and causing water quality issues. Those homeowners could be approached for LakeSmart inspections.

Charlie noted that Jim needs help to handle the inspections. Charlie is looking for a new board member to work with Jim.

#### Education & Outreach:

Ginger Eaton indicated she has built a good working relationship with Chris, owner of Keoka Beach Campground (KBCG). She organized a major event at the KBCG on August 5<sup>th</sup> (objective was: to love the lake, we need to keep it clean – i.e. trying to get everyone on the same page). Tom H. joined from Virginia and helped conduct this event - over 40 KBC folk participated! Sally Stockwell gave her wonderful loon talk (which the kids loved!); Joanne set up a table to sell shirts and KLA goods; and Charlie was on hand to help out.

The plans for 2018 are to do a more Keoka-centric program, working on a 3D model of Keoka. The suggestion was made to include an introduction to plant ID/plant patrol. VLMP has a plant ID activity (training video provided) that could be incorporated into this.

### Membership:

Ginny Raymond gave an optimistic report; she shared the following data:

- 2015 – 83 paid members
- 2016 – 104 paid members
- 2017 – 86 paid members (so far)
- 3 new members this year (including one from KBC)
- 4 renewals (had stopped paying dues but are now back)
- 18 gifts from 10 families
- 3 board members gave gifts
- 12 names need to be removed from our membership list
- We have about 90% of the lakeshore owners as members!

There was a discussion of the wording on the Dues Form that is on the website and is included with each newsletter. Decision was made to remove the list of paid members from the dues slip, increase the size of the font and add opportunity to volunteer for Plant Patrol

### Website Update:

Jo Lynne reported that Joe Abbiati had suggested trying feeding him updates as they come in. It seems to be working easier for him. Appeal was made for any new information/changes, etc. to go on the website after the meeting. Year-end reports will be added as they become available.

### Sales:

Joanne Eaton reported on the year's income: It was a slow summer (breakfasts had sales of \$500, \$298, \$340, and \$390). However, at the KBC education event (8.5.17), \$170 worth of merchandise was sold. Charlie and others sold raffle tickets and other goods at Fall Foliage 5K - bottom line: net sales about \$1600. Discussed using the re-opened Springer's store as an outlet for our shirts, etc. Joanne indicated that kid's stuff seems to sell as well as hats. Joanne was congratulated on her hard work and her ingenuity! The board agreed that the sales (profits) were important but the outreach through the sales was a key advantage to KLA.

### Dam:

Charlie reported that the dam was at the winter water level. Further discussion on the dam was deferred until later in the meeting

### Water Safety:

Andy Tabor reported that all buoys were pulled 10.2.17 when the water temperature was 79° (temp was 66° on 10.6). Over the summer, 3 buoys were damaged/hit by propellers, including Swim Buoy 3. He will replace those buoys with fiberglass ones in the spring (fiberglass buoys are good for 2-3 years).

Other: The loon nest was moved to Huvilla Cove (further out due to snapping turtle); the docks, used by the swim program at the Town Beach, fell apart (bolts were loose). They were repaired.

The boat launch area safety (or lack thereof) was discussed. The concrete sections (at bare minimum) need to be replaced. Suggestion was made to look at other state (DOC) funds that would provide 50% match. DOC program allows control of access with no discrimination; fee could be charged; floating docks could be built over the wintertime; new concrete apron, ADA compliant, etc. (need to research examples in the region, i.e., Poland charges \$8 per launch with a full-time attendant and launch is locked when unattended). A season pass would be an affordable alternative for repeat users. There was a discussion of how to show that this is a public service? Key question is what does the town want?? Andy volunteered to work on 'backside' of the idea

over the winter but would need the town support. Charlie will do some research and ask Todd or Randy about the town's level of interest – should be high considering the safety issues as the boat launch is on town land.

Andy reported there was one JetSki caught travelling at an illegally high speed in Stone's Cove.

New Business:

501(c)(3) –

David Johnson will look into getting application in for KLA.

Bylaws:

It's time to review them. Charlie will forward copy to Jo Lynne. Charlie, Jo Lynne, Joanne, Andy & Jim indicated willingness to review and bring suggestions to spring board meeting. There was discussion of how to get more people (new ones, spread of ages, next generation) involved? Would term limits help with recruiting new board members?

Other:

Charlie Mason traveled from Maryland to meet with the Board to discuss the management and access to the dam. He owns the dam plus the surrounding & downstream land and he indicated he is very interested in giving the land and dam to KLA. Much discussion ensued about the advantages and disadvantages of ownership, and other arrangements for access and governance over the use of the dam. More study is needed.

(Note: After the meeting, Tom H. suggested to Charlie that they visit with Charlie Mason the next day to explore this further. This follow-up meeting did occur and was reported on separately to the Board by email.)

The meeting adjourned at 9:15 pm.