

KLA Annual Meeting
July 12, 2003
Wilkins House

Charles Tarbell, acting in the place of Tom Stockwell, president, called the meeting to order at 9:06. Present were 23 members of the association.

Charlie introduced Jeff Stern, District Manager of Oxford County Soil and Water Conservation District. Jeff described his methodology for the survey that included the entire watershed for Keoka Lake. His walking survey was aimed primarily at soil erosion and sources of phosphate runoff. Given the Lake's low oxygen content and modest depth, phosphate and soil contamination are seen as major threats to the quality of Keoka Lake.

Jeff distributed a limited number of his reports which circulated during the remainder of the meeting. His survey pinpointed 64 sites that require attention. He classified the vast majority of these sites as minor in nature and easy to fix. Although he does not release the names of the site owners, he did indicate that the 65 trouble areas were mainly roads and driveways. He offered the membership the opportunity to sign up for a follow-up call from his office during which he would release specific information on the caller's lot and road. The number to call is 207 743-5789.

Funds are available to assist in the more severe abatement projects. For example, a residential site may receive up to \$600.00 from the grant funds with a \$200.00 match by the property owner. The formula for residential abatement is State 75% and the land owner 25%. The camp owner's match may be in money, material, or labor or a combination thereof. Larger, communal project (roads) may receive \$3,200.00 with a match of \$1,200.00 in money, material, or kind.

The District goal with the assistance of KLA is to identify a total of 15 projects including residents and roads. The funds are part of a two year grant that includes technical assistance and free consultation services. The plan is based on voluntary abatement of targeted areas. The grant calls for an education component that includes buffer planning, tours, news articles, etc.

One area of concern was the relatively new public boat ramp. Experience has taught that the ramp is too short and needs to be extended. The ramp suffered from frost heaving. The association will approach the town on this matter.

The Secretaries Report was distributed. Without comment, a motion to accept was seconded and passed.

The Treasurers Report was distributed. It was pointed out that dues alone will not sustain the necessary activities of KLA.

After a year of shared expenses, the Town of Waterford voted to fund the invasive plant boat inspection. The supervision of the one paid employee of the project is the responsibility of KLA. This year Ben Crockett was hired to be the warden. Members were asked to volunteer to augment Ben's hours and days off. The association thanks the Town of Waterford for its support of this project.

The report indicates that the new insurance for the liability on the dam is \$750.

The association was asked to approve donations to several organizations. The executive committee recommended restoring funding to a level attained before last year's reduction necessitated by our commitment to the warden program and to the conservation program. During the discussion, a motion was entertained, seconded, and passed to reinstate a contribution to the Stoneham Rescue.

	Donations
\$100	Waterford Swim Program
\$100	Wilkins House
\$50	Waterford Fire Department
\$1000	LEA
\$200	COLA
\$50	Stoneham Rescue

The Treasurer reported that 81 families had paid dues at the time of the report.

A motion to accept the report as amended was made, seconded, and passed.

Dam Committee Andy Tabor spoke for the committee. Andy reported that the concrete dam is in poor repair. The concrete has eroded to the extent that the slots for the boards no longer exist in any meaningful way. Andy has researched the cost of repairing the dam. He estimates that the concrete and steel work to reface the dam will amount to \$4800. In order to repair the dam without draining the lake, a sandbag coffer dam will be used along with pump to create a work area around the dam. This will add approximately \$3250 to the cost of the project. The proposed project is estimated at \$8100. The cost of the project included a device for lifting the boards mechanically.

A motion to dedicate \$8500 for the dam rebuilding project was introduced, seconded, and passed.

The association will undertake a supplemental appeal to restore the project money. Two families have donated a total of \$1700 as a matching challenge to the rest of the association.

The Association will approach the Town of Waterford to financial assistance in the project.

The Association recognized the work and dedication of Glen Merrill who has served as the dam warden and was instrumental in determining the cost of the repair project.

Water Quality Committee The committee reported that the water quality, as they measure it, is holding its own. With little rain last season and so far this season, the clarity is averaging a 7 via the disc.

Andy reported on the installation of the buoys at the town swimming area and at hazards. One new hazard buoy was purchased and installed after it was destroyed by being hit with a propeller.

A discussion ensued concerning potential erosion caused by watercraft exceeding the no-wake speed within 200 feet of shore. The membership was reminded of the process for reporting violators to the warden service. Call the wardens with the boat number, description of the boat, time, and location.

The discussion showed factions of the membership spread along the no motor craft to no jet skis to unregulated use. It was suggested that the association petition the town to ban personal watercraft from the lake. The membership present, via a show of hands, requested that the officers of the association look into this matter. It is scheduled for discussion at the August Directors meeting with a report to the next annual meeting.

Public Relations Joanne reported her committee had decided to create a visual theme float rather than an education theme float for the parade.

She reported that sweatshirts, maps, the kayak raffle were money makers. She added small, stuffed loons this year.

Membership: Individual family membership is at its highest level. Last year the association encouraged multigenerational or multifamily groups to take individual memberships. This has been successful.

Milfoil The Association recognized the Town of Waterford for assuming the financial responsibility for the volunteer boat inspection program. We appreciate the Town's effort in maintaining Keoka Lake as a unique resource.

MerriLee reported on the efforts to survey and plot the vegetation in the lake. Three volunteers were trained in aquatic plant identification and proceeded to survey the lake at various depths. The Association applauds their efforts in this pioneering effort for the conservation of the lake. MerriLee reported that no evasive plants were found. It was suggested that a careful watch be maintained at the boat landing.

Several schemes were discussed to publicize the spread of milfoil and other evasive plants including the listing of lakes where evasive plants have been found, this was moved, seconded, and passed.

The following members were elected to three year terms as directors of the association: Steve Wilcox, Dan Johnson, Arne Klepinger, and Don Rung. Officers for one year terms are Charles Tarbell, President, Joanne Eaton, VP., Steve Wilcox, Treasurer, and Dave Abbiati, Secretary.

The new business items of surface use violations and milfoil volunteers were introduced under the various committee reports.

Swimmers itch remains a problem in the heavily used, shallow shore areas of the lake. Last years suggestion for an aeration system was discussed and thought to be impractical for the area considered. The usual plea not to feed the duck was made.

It was reported that the lake supports a pair of loons this year. The pair has produced one egg. All were cautioned to stay clear of the nest and, hopefully, the emerging family. There will be a bird count the week following this meeting.

Charlie made a plea for volunteers for the board of the association.

The meeting was closed at 11:20.

Respectfully submitted
Dave Abbiati, Secretary