

Otsego Lake Association

P.O. Box 13

Springfield Center, NY 13468

MINUTES

BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

Saturday, July 24, 2021 at 10:00 AM

ATTENDANCE

Present: Jim Howarth (Co-President), David Sanford (Co-President), Scottie Baker (Vice President), Betty VanHeusen (Treasurer), Paul Lord (Director/Otsego), Mickie Richtsmeier (Director/Springfield), Robert Nelson (Director/Springfield), Peter Regan (Director/Middlefield), Doug Willies (Director/Middlefield), Martin Tillapaugh (Director/Cooperstown and Legal Advisor), Gary Kuch (Director/Cooperstown), William Murdock (Director/Otsego), Kiyoko Yokota (Technical Advisor) and Debbie Creedon (Director at Large) via phone. A special thank you to Jim for hosting.

Note: **MMSP**=Motion Made, Seconded, and Passed

OPENING (Started at 10:00 AM)

1. **Treasurer's Report** (Betty) Current Balance in Checking Account is \$13,364.40 and growing. We've taken in \$5,400.00 since May in membership and merchandise sales. Newsletter costs were \$1,396.00.
2. **Membership Report** (Betty) 180 members, up from 160 in May. There are currently 31 non-renewals going back to before 2018. **MMSP** A note will be sent out to people to encourage them to renew.

NORMAL ITEMS

1. **Website** Tim has the website up to date. A YouTube live link will be posted on the website for the upcoming annual meeting and a zoom link will be emailed to the membership.
2. **Newsletter** (Scottie) Fall Newsletter discussed. Theme will be "We Love Our Lake." Scottie needs photos and articles for the newsletter.
3. **Merchandise** (Scottie) Scottie gave an impassioned speech as to why we should not set up an online store. Betty reported on her assignment to investigate credit card use. After speaking with multiple credit card companies it does not appear to be a good fit since we lack the computer interface ability and liability insurance. Both Scottie and Betty stated that it is rare that anyone asks if we take cards and there has never been any problem when we say no and explain our small volunteer organization status.
4. **No Wake Zone Buoys, Signs, and Volunteer Dive Team** (Paul) After receiving multiple reports of a navigational hazard/buoy, Paul and the dive team retrieved a buoy that was later determined to be a Parks buoy.

Buoy restoration work was completed by the Bissell Camp. Paul requests heavy steel objects for buoy anchors.

5. Science Update (Kiyoko) 4 meter depth sampling done. Results are being analyzed for increases in Dissolved Organic Matter (DOM). Monitoring ongoing.
6. Boat Inspections/Boat Washing Station (Paul) We're down 9 stewards this year. The Village of Cooperstown has provided 1. Numbers at the boat washing station are up. Springfield declined steward training. Fish Road AIS station installed permanently. Brookwood Point Otsego Land Trust assisting with signage and display.

NEW BUSINESS

1. 2021 Annual Meeting-Virtual (Mickie, Gary, and Board) Aug. 14, 9:00 AM. A dry run will be held Aug 7 9:00AM for Board members. Kyle will be running technical matters. Scottie and Mickie will design a poster. Cindy Falk will provide a 15 minute presentation on Steamboats on Otsego Lake. Kiyoko and Paul will give updates. Sierra, Jarred and other interns will give presentations on quagga mussels, the Lake Steward Program, Aquatic Plants in Otsego Lake, and Fish Population update.
2. Goodyear Swamp Sanctuary Funding (Paul and Board) Contracts are underway. Costs have risen dramatically and new bids are needed. But the project seems to be moving forward.
3. Quagga Mussel and Other Potential Infestations (Paul) Lake visibility averages 25-30' and is increasing. The net effect is lower lake productivity. There was a frog-bit pull on Clark Pond and water chestnuts were found by an intern in Otsego Lake. This is the 5th infestation to occur.
4. Town of Middlefield Zoning Law-Shoreline Protection (Peter, Doug and Gary) Various shoreline construction projects were discussed along with the lack of zoning enforcement in the various towns. Dave agreed to write an article on this for the fall newsletter.
5. Annual Boat Parade July 4 (Board) Thanks to Wayne, Betty had a great idea to have volunteers distribute our membership recruiting card at the Lakefront Area and perhaps set up a table of our merchandise near the buffer strip with the permission of the village. The future of the Andonontodies (sp?) is in question as the pontoons have reached the end of their lives.
6. New Membership Recruiting Card (Scottie and Board) See Scottie for cards.
7. 2022 Lake Cleanup (Debbie) Best timeframe would be a week before the July 4 weekend with a rain date scheduled.
8. Debbie reported that the OLA Facebook page is updated as needed and that inquiries and comments are answered promptly.
9. Buffer Strip Update (Mickie) Mickie gave a brief history of the buffer strip, OLA's involvement, the ongoing maintenance issues, and the need to

revitalize it. OLA Board Members expressed their continuing support for this project

10. **MMS**\$500.00 for Springfield Landing Buffer Strip Signage. Signage is to mention OLA's partnering in this project.

DRAFT JULY 24, 2021

Respectfully submitted by Peter Regan