

# OTSEGO LAKE ASSOCIATION

P.O. BOX 13

SPRINGFIELD CENTER NY 13468

## FINAL MINUTES

### 2019 ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING

Fairy Spring Park - Cooperstown

Saturday, August 10, 2019 - 8:30 to 11:00 AM

#### ATTENDANCE

Present: Jim Howarth (Co-President), David Sanford (Co-President), Scottie Baker (Vice-President), Betty VanHeusen (Treasurer), Wayne Bunn (Secretary and Director at Large), Peter Regan (Director/Middlefield), John May (Director/Middlefield), Paul Lord (Director/Otsego), William Murdock (Director/Otsego), Mickie Richtsmeier (Director/Springfield), Bob Sutherland (Director/Springfield), Gary Kuch (Director/Cooperstown), Debbie Creedon (Director at Large), Sarah Coney (Student Director), Kiyoko Yokota (Technical Advisor), and Tim Pokorny (Webmaster).

Absent: Martin Tillapaugh (Director/Cooperstown and Legal Advisor).

Guests: Approximately 60 members and guests including the Board of Directors.

#### REFRESHMENTS

1. Coffee and Doughnuts – Refreshments were provided along with an opportunity for members and guests to mingle with others, purchase merchandise, bid on the silent auction items, review the SUNY Oneonta student projects and posters, observe the boat washing equipment, and review several invasive species on display.

#### OPENING OF MEETING AND WELCOME

2. Remarks by Co-Presidents – Co-President Jim Howarth opened the meeting, welcomed everyone, thanked them for attending, noted fire exits and EMS procedures, and recognized the current Board of Directors. Co-President David Sanford reviewed the various accomplishments of OLA during the past year plus ongoing activities (i.e. support of volunteer dive team, support of CRISP training of new watershed inspectors, letters to lakeside homeowners, signage around the lake, participation in Susquehanna River clean up, support of Glimmerglass Film Festival, support of and participation in Earth Day, boat parade, rip-rap for Lakefront buffer strip, etc.).

#### BUSINESS PORTION OF MEETING

Secretary Wayne Bunn conducted the business portion of the meeting which included the following items.

3. Treasurer's Report – Treasurer Betty VanHeusen reported a current balance of \$ 12,504.28 at the beginning of the meeting (does not include any dues received on the day of the meeting).
4. Membership Report – Treasurer Betty VanHeusen reported a current membership of 32 at the beginning of the meeting (does not include any members who renewed or joined on the day of the meeting). Many members renewed their OLA membership and many people joined OLA just prior to the start of the meeting.
5. Merchandise – Scottie Baker reminded everyone that OLA merchandise (i.e. shirts, hats, bags, towels, etc.) is available for sale at the meeting or anytime during the year by contacting her.

6. Silent Auction – Debbie Creedon reminded everyone that they can bid on the silent auction items until 10:45 AM.
7. Election of Officers – The following positions were up for election: Co-Presidents (one year term) currently held by Jim Howarth and David Sanford, Director/Otsego (two year term) currently held by William Murdock, Director/Middlefield (two year term) currently held by Peter Regan, Director/Springfield (two year term) currently held by Bob Sutherland, and Director/Cooperstown (two year term) currently held by Gary Kuch. Wayne called for nominations from the floor but no one responded. A motion was made, seconded, and passed by voice vote to have the Secretary cast one vote to re-elect the current Officers noted above. Wayne mentioned that the Vice-President, Treasurer, Secretary, Directors at Large, Student Directors, and any other positions are either elected by the Board of Directors or appointed by the Co-Presidents in accordance with the OLA By-Laws.
8. Lake Citizen Award – Wayne read and presented the Lake Citizen Award for 2019 to Jane Forbes Clark. She was recognized for her many efforts and projects to ensure the health, quality, welfare, and water quality of Otsego Lake during the past year and for many years prior to this year. Miss Clark was unable to attend the meeting so Bob Sutherland, Manager of the Mohican Farm, accepted the award on her behalf and read a statement from Miss Clark.

## **PROGRAM**

9. “Otsego Lake Parks: History and Amusing Anecdotes” – Village of Cooperstown Mayor Ellen Tillapaugh Kuch presented an excellent history on the four Village parks on Otsego Lake including Three Mile Point, Lakefront Park, Council Rock, and Fairy Spring. Her power point presentation included many historical photos, documents, and amusing stories. The members asked numerous questions and also mentioned their own experiences at the various parks.
10. “Safe Boating Course Requirements in NYS” – Kiyoko Yokota, recently certified as a Safe Boating Instructor in NYS, presented an overview of new requirements regarding who must have a safe boating course certificate to operate a motorized boat in NYS and when they must have it.
11. “Walleye in Otsego Lake” – SUNY Oneonta graduate student Hayley Dower presented the results of her research on the walleye (fish) in Otsego Lake. She detailed her findings regarding, among other things, the size and distribution of the males and females plus their population history in the lake.
12. “European Frog-Bit” – SUNY Oneonta undergraduate student Mary Keefe presented information on the recently discovered European Frog-Bit (an invasive species) found in the northerly end of Otsego Lake near Clarke Pond. She requested at least five volunteers to help hand pull this invasive species during the following week. Several members in attendance did volunteer.
13. General Comments – Paul Lord concluded the program portion by reminding everyone to take time to review the scientific posters and samples of invasive species.

## **SILENT AUCTION RESULTS**

14. Successful Bidders – The successful bidders on the silent auction items were notified and requested to pay for and pick up their items after the meeting.

**ADJOURNMENT**

15. Co-President Jim Howarth thanked everyone for attending and adjourned the meeting at 10:55 AM.

Respectfully submitted,

K. Wayne Bunn  
Secretary and Director at Large

ATTACHMENTS: None

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