

OTSEGO LAKE ASSOCIATION

P.O. BOX 13

SPRINGFIELD CENTER NY 13468

FINAL MINUTES

BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

Mickie Richtsmeier's Home – Springfield Center

Saturday, September 28, 2019 at 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), John May (Director/Middlefield), Peter Regan (Director/Middlefield), Paul Lord (Director/Otsego), William Murdock (Director/Otsego), Mickie Richtsmeier (Director/Springfield), Bob Sutherland (Director/Springfield), Martin Tillapaugh (Director/Cooperstown and Legal Advisor), Sarah Coney (Student Director), and Kiyoko Yokota (Technical Advisor). A special "Thanks" to Mickie and Bill for hosting the meeting at their house – greatly appreciated!

Absent: Gary Kuch (Director/Cooperstown), Debbie Creedon (Director at Large), and Tim Pokorny (Webmaster),

Guests: Joan Bunn

Note: MMSP = Motion Made, Seconded, and Passed

OPENING (Started at 11:10 AM)

1. Treasurer's Report (Betty)

Bank Balance 09/30/2018 = \$14,800.52

Bank Balance 01/01/2019 = \$15,549.52

Bank Balance 06/23/2019 = \$12,662.70

Bank Balance 08/10/2019 = \$12,504.28

Bank Balance 09/28/2019 = \$13,750.01

OLA's status as a 501 C 3 corporation is currently not valid because the IRS Form 990s were not submitted for the past 4 years. Martin has prepared and submitted the paperwork to reinstate OLA – hopefully to be approved by IRS before the end of the year. A reminder of filing the Form 990 should be added to the winter meeting agenda. The form is due by April 15th.

2. Membership Report (Betty)

Current members (renewed or joined from Dec. 2018 to present) = 63

Members at annual meeting (Aug. 10, 2019) = 32

Aug. 10, 2019 to present = 31 including 3 "new" (includes renewal that had expired)

Mailing list = 128

Thank you letter received from SUNY Oneonta for \$950 donation for winter steering cables.

Thank you letter received from Otsego 2000 for \$350 donation for fall film festival.

NORMAL ITEMS

3. No Wake Zone Buoys, Signs, and Volunteer Dive Team (Paul) - No problems overall. The phrase "Clean Boats – Clean Lake" will be added to small lake map showing no wake zone locations. More OLA oval stickers are needed; Mickie will research price and e-mail Board for approval to purchase. MMSF for \$1,500 to support no wake zone buoy program (new chains, buoys, maintenance, etc.). Betty will mail check to Otsego County Soil and Water Conservation Service which administers the program funding.
4. Boat Inspections / Boat Washing Station (Paul) - Long discussion about boat inspections and lack of Village participation. Good coverage by CRISP inspectors from Memorial Day to Labor Day but none before or after those holidays. At least five large bass fishing tournaments were held on the lake this summer (2019) with boats being launched very early in the morning with no inspections. No grant funding is currently available to pay for inspections. Otsego 2000 passed a resolution about 2 years ago to financially support the boat inspection program after the State grant funding ran out (Scottie passed around her letter to Otsego 2000 reminding them of their resolution). Paul will meet with Ellen Pope, Executive Director, to explain how much funding is needed and what other organizations will help. Some discussion about OLA paying for inspectors for weekends in September and/or during May prior to Memorial Day weekend. The Village cannot have the CRISP AIS inspectors charge a \$10 inspection fee per NYSDEC regulations. MMSF that OLA will help pay for inspections from May 1st until Memorial Day weekend – the dollar amount to be determined. Paul has estimated the total cost to be about \$3,400. Jim, David, and Martin will approach the Village to see if they can provide future funding and/or reinstate the \$10 inspection fee. There appears to be time to work on the inspection program before the 2020 boat season begins.
5. Merchandise (Scottie) - All items are currently all set. Mickie coordinated a display table for non-profit organizations at the Cooperstown Farmers' Market on August 3rd. OLA was allowed to display information and pass out membership applications but could not sell merchandise. Many items were sold at the annual membership meeting. A photo featuring several Board members with OLA merchandise will be taken after the Board meeting to be used in the fall newsletter.
6. Newsletter - Susan O'Handley will again coordinate, print, and e-mail the fall newsletter (date to be determined). Theme of newsletter will be "Messages In Water" and all articles and photos should be submitted to Scottie and Susan by October 15th. Potential articles include: Co-Presidents' message (Jim & David), application for membership, merchandise for sale (Scottie), photographs, annual meeting (Bob & Mickie), boat parade (Wayne), boating safety courses (Kiyoko), diver down flag (Paul), Clarke Pond clean up, new hybrid weed in lake (Paul), langmuirs (white streaks) on the lake, fun facts about the lake, Susquehanna River clean up (Paul), continuous lake monitoring buoy (Kiyoko), and Otsego Lake Association in Michigan (Scottie). Goal is to expand the mailing list to include other groups. The fall newsletter will be sent via e-mail only while the spring newsletter will be sent via e-mail and hard copy. A draft copy of the newsletter will be sent to all BOD members for review and comments.
7. Website (Tim) - No report.
8. Coordination with Other Organizations - This is an on-going process with OCCA, Otsego 2000, and Otsego Land Trust as needed.
9. Boat Parade (Wayne) - OLA's Annual "We Love Our Lake" Decorated Boat Parade was held on Thursday July 4th at 4:00 PM with the theme of "Red, White, and Blue – It's the 4th of July". The parade was held under near perfect weather conditions – sunny, warm, light wind, and no rain. The parade formed and started at the Lakefront Park in Cooperstown, traveled along the westerly shore of the lake, and ended at Three Mile Point

where the winners will be announced and prizes given out. Scottie purchased the prizes (OLA embroidered logo golf towels) which were awarded to 5 general winners. The local clergy from the Presbyterian and Baptist Churches conducted a "Blessing of the Boats" just before the parade started. The Otsego County Sheriff's Marine Patrol was invited to participate in the parade or just observe for safety violations but they were not present. About 15 boats participated this year with many other boats on the lake observing as the parade passed by. Bags of candy plus floating boat key fobs and towels with the message "Clean, Drain, & Dry Your Boat" were given out to all boaters – both those in the parade and those watching. The boat parade committee is already working on the 2020 boat parade with thoughts of having the parade on the north end of the lake and having it on a weekend other than the 4th of July weekend.

10. Annual Meeting (Bob) - The annual membership meeting was held on Saturday August 10th at Fairy Spring Park. A work detail was held on Friday afternoon August 9th to set up tables, chairs, displays, etc. Mayor Ellen Tillapaugh of Cooperstown was the main speaker and gave a presentation on "Otsego Lake Parks: History and Amusing Anecdotes". Other items included a Treasurer's report, a membership report, the Lake Citizen Award to Jane Forbes Clark, scientific updates by SUNY Oneonta students and staff, silent auction, OLA merchandise, and election of officers. Coffee and donuts were served at 8:30 AM with meeting from 9:00 to 11:00 AM. Jim and David met with Jim Kevlin, Editor of The Freeman's Journal, before the annual meeting and he published a very informative and interesting article about OLA in the August 7th edition. The following Officers were elected: Co-Presidents - Jim Howarth and David Sanford, Director/Otsego - William Murdock, Director/Middlefield - Peter Regan, Director/Springfield - Bob Sutherland, and Director/Cooperstown - Gary Kuch. See the Minutes of the annual membership meeting for more detailed information. Due to increased job responsibilities, Bob has stepped down as Chairman of the annual membership meeting and Mickie and Gary have agreed to assume those duties as Co-Chairs for the 2020 meeting. The 2019 annual membership meeting was one of the best that OLA has had so far and the Board thanked Bob for an outstanding job, not only for this year, but for all of the years in the past that he has served as Chairman. The site for the 2020 annual membership meeting is planned for the Otsego Sailing Club in their new pavilion which is now under construction. Peter has volunteered to make new sandwich boards for use in advertising of the annual membership meeting.
11. NYSFOLA - The 2019 annual conference was held in Lake George on May 3rd and 4th and was attended by Paul, Kiyoko, Sarah, and Wayne. The deadline for submission of the OLA newsletter for their newsletter contest is March 1st.

OLD BUSINESS

12. E-Mail Motions by OLA Board - The Board still needs to draft a change to the OLA by-laws to allow passing motions via e-mails. Paul and Mickie have presented preliminary thoughts and will coordinate the change at a future Board meeting.

NEW BUSINESS

13. Salt Seminar – The Clark Foundation is sponsoring a seminar on road salt use awareness on November 7, 2019 from 9:00 AM to 12:00 Noon at the Clark Sport Center (Community Room). David will represent OLA.
14. Signage for Boat Launch - New signs are needed in the Village as to where to launch a boat. Village needs to set up the signs and post the information on their website.
15. Tags for Inspected/Washed Boats - Paul ordered and received the tags to be used when a boat is inspected and/or washed. However, the tags did not have serial numbers so they must be returned for new ones.

16. Winterized Steering Cables - The BFS had the new winterized steering cables (paid for by OLA) installed on the barge and one of the jon boats. Paul reported that they are working well.
17. Lakeshore Clean Up - Debbie raised the question about the BFS no longer having its annual lakeshore pick up of metal and debris. Paul reported that OCCA and BFS used to coordinate the effort but the amount of metal and debris collected during the last couple of years of pick up dropped off to the point where it was not worth the effort. Let Paul know if any specific items are needed to be picked up.
18. NWZ Buoy Light North of Lake View Motel - The owner of Camp Wind & Wave on Badger Lane has complained about the light and would like it moved. Paul reported that it would be the camp owner's responsibility to file the application to move the buoy to another location. The Floating Object Permit is a NYS program so OLA has no jurisdiction.
19. Summer Event(s) - Debbie has suggested some kind of summer event(s) to promote OLA and get more people/kids involved.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

20. Thank You - Jim thanked all of the OLA Board members for their time, commitment, and efforts regarding their involvement with OLA – greatly appreciated!

NEXT BOARD MEETING

21. Date for Next Board Meeting - The next OLA Board meeting is scheduled for Saturday, February 15, 2020 at 10:00 AM (prior to the 12:00 Noon meeting of the annual meeting committee). Martin has graciously offered the use of the Tillapaugh Funeral Home for the meetings.

ADJOURNMENT

22. MMSP to adjourn the meeting at 1:12 PM. A wonderful buffet luncheon was served after the meeting including various dishes brought by the Board members plus Mickie's quiches. Thank you everyone!

Respectfully submitted,
K. Wayne Bunn, Secretary

OLA BOARD OF DIRECTORS – FALL 2019

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

ATTACHMENTS: None

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