

OTSEGO LAKE ASSOCIATION

P.O. BOX 13

SPRINGFIELD CENTER NY 13468

FINAL MINUTES

BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

Saturday, July 13, 2024 at 9:00 AM

2 Lake Street, Cooperstown NY

ATTENDANCE

Present: Jim Howarth (Co-President), Betty VanHeusen (Treasurer), Wayne Bunn (Secretary and Director at Large), Paul Lord (Director/Otsego), Tom Chase (Director/Otsego), Mickie Richtsmeier (Director/Springfield), Robert Nelson (Director/Springfield), Debbie Creedon (Director at Large), and Kiyoko Yokota (Technical Advisor).

Absent: David Sanford (Co-President), Peter Regan (Director/Middlefield), Doug Willies (Director/Middlefield), Martin Tillapaugh (Director/Cooperstown and Legal Advisor), Gary Kuch (Director/Cooperstown), Brian Hefferon (Student Director) and Tim Pokorny (Webmaster).

Note: Scottie Baker (Vice-President) passed away in April 2024.

Guests: None

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

A special "Thanks" to Jim for setting up and hosting the meeting - greatly appreciated!

OPENING (Started at 9:08 AM)

Jim welcomed everyone and thanked them for attending. Secretary declared that a quorum was present.

1. Treasurer's Report (Betty) - Current balance in Checking Account = \$27,712.09. Major expenses were \$1,700 for Spring 2024 Journal ("Our Glimmerglass") and \$1,324.15 for merchandise.
2. Membership Report (Betty) – 3 new members and 21 renewals. **MMSP** for \$1,000 for Bishop Printing (firm that does the Journal) for envelopes and stationary on recycled paper (a better price than Village Printer) plus safe boating bi folds and membership/receipt cards.

NORMAL ITEMS

3. No Wake Zone Buoys (NWZBs), Signs, and Volunteer Dive Team (Paul)

NWZBs – All buoys are now "straight" (vertical) in the water. Need to reorder buoy stickers.

4. Boat Inspections / Boat Washing Station / BFS Dive Team (Paul) – Springfield has only 1 inspector so lake is basically "open"; no life guards doing inspections. The Town of Springfield is looking for a site for a boat wash. Village is OK.

5. HABs, CSLAP, and Scientific Updates (Doug, Jim, Kiyoko)

HABs – Some were detected on 07/10/2024 at BFS, Thayer boathouse, and Five Mile Point. Population is "ready to bloom".

6. Merchandise – Tom Chase has inventory from Scottie’s home. Scottie’s daughter donated 471 posters (9 types) to OLA – posters will be sold at \$10 for small posters and \$15 for large posters. **MMS**P for \$300 for frames to display posters. Hooded sweatshirts may be ordered; some pricing may increase; Tom has price sheet.
7. Journal (Mickie) – Normal input needed for next Journal (fall 2024); Mickie may coordinate the next Journal with input from Susan; Jim for message, Wayne for boat parade, Betty for Route 80, Peter for photos, and Kiyoko for science updates. Theme to be determined.
8. NYSFOLA – Wayne and Kiyoko attended; Kiyoko and Pat Kennedy presented a program on the funding for the 9 Element plan; OLA won first place in the newsletter contest for the professional category for middle size lake associations.
9. Website – All OK.
10. Facebook (Debbie) - Facebook is up to date; need to post request for more paid members.
11. Coordination with Other Organizations - This is an on-going process with OCCA, Otsego 2000, and Otsego Land Trust as needed.
12. Boat Parade (Wayne) - OLA’s Annual “We Love Our Lake” Decorated Boat Parade was held on July 6th at 3:00 PM with the theme of “Let’s Celebrate Scottie Baker”. The weather and lake conditions were ideal and about 25 boats actually participated in the parade with many more observing from the lake. The boat with the judges needs a sign designating such and The Freeman’s Journal reporter needs to be on the “chase” boat for better coverage. A separate summary report will be issued.
13. Annual Membership Gathering 2024 (Mickie & others) –The Annual Membership Gathering (formerly called Annual Membership Meeting) will be held at the Otsego Sailing Club on Saturday, August 10, 2024 at 9:00 AM with coffee and donuts at 8:30 AM. Program will include election of President and Directors, Lake Citizen Award, the main presentation by BFS Director Florian Reyda, scientific updates by Kiyoko and students of SUNY Oneonta plus the silent auction. Student presentations need to be “controlled” time wise. Need printed agenda for attendees. Tim will be on vacation that week so Doug will coordinate the coffee and donuts (Tim has all supplies and urns). **MMS**P for \$75 for advertising flyers and various expenses. Tim will finalize two new sign boards, set them out with existing ones, and Peter will pick them up after the meeting. Set up will be on Friday (9th) afternoon (time to be determined). More people are needed at registration table to talk with existing and potential members.
14. Lake Citizen Award (Board) – To be awarded posthumously to Scottie Baker.
15. Presidential Award (Board) – No award for 2024.
16. Route 80 Embankment Failures (Betty) – Betty is coordinating with her local team and then with NYSDOT for a meeting; a work in progress by NYSDOT and Betty.
17. Lake Clean Up Day (Debbie) – To be held on Sunday, August 11, 2024. BFS boats are available and reserved; Village to pick up debris at Three Mile Point; pizza by Robert; orange tape for marking debris to be available at Annual Membership Gathering.

NEW ITEMS

18. How to Honor Scottie Baker – Mickie proposed a lake themed photo contest with different categories (student, amateur, professional, etc.) to honor Scottie. Mickie will form a committee, set up the rules, determine prizes, and present to the Board for discussion and approval.
19. Master Contact List for Board Members (Debbie) – Debbie will request a cell phone number and e-mail address from each Board member and Officer so she can prepare a master list for OLA business.
20. Chautauqua Lake Focus Meeting (Paul) – Paul attended this meeting recently. Chautauqua Lake and Lake George are the only two lakes in NYS with “line items” in the State budget which means they receive millions of dollars for scientific research, upgrades, etc. However, these lakes provide numerous public access sites and trailer parking (Otsego Lake does not). Kiyoko reported on two current NYS bills affecting lakes: one bans use of glyphosate on NYS lands and prohibits State agencies from purchasing it and a second one addresses HAB issues.
21. Election of President and Directors (Wayne) – Martin wishes to step down (term ends in 2025); Jim will serve only one more year as President and then replace Martin as Village Director. David (currently Co-President) does not wish to run for any office after his term expires in 2024. The following positions are up for election in 2024 and all current holders are willing to serve again:

President (currently Howarth)

Director/Otsego (currently Lord)

Director/ Middlefield (currently Regan)

Director/Springfield (currently Richsmeier)

Director/Village (currently Kuch)

All other positions are either appointed by President or the Board of Directors.

Need new committees to involve more members. Call those members who donate extra money and request additional involvement in OLA.

22. Springfield 4th of July Parade (Wayne) – Wayne proposed that OLA march in the 2025 parade and all agreed. Also, set up display table inside school building as in 2024.
23. Mass Mailing to Lakeside Property Owners (Wayne) – Wayne proposed a mass mailing to all lakeside property owners within 200 feet of the lake requesting that they either join OLA for the first time or renew their current membership. The Otsego County Real Property Tax Services has already provided mailing labels at no cost. **MMSP** to produce and mail the cover letter with application form plus Jeff Reynolds sheets describing the lake.

NEXT BOARD MEETING

24. Date for Next Board Meeting – The date, time, and location of the next OLA Board meeting will be determined by President and sent via email.

ADJOURNMENT

25. **MMSP** to adjourn the meeting at approximately 11:30 AM.

Respectfully submitted,

K. Wayne Bunn, Secretary

MOTIONS PASSED VIA E-MAILS SINCE LAST BOARD MEETING

MMSP for \$1,600.00 to purchase additional OLA merchandise (approved July 16, 2024).

MMSP for \$450.00 for expenses associated with a mass mailing to lakeside property owners within 200 feet of the lake (approved July 27, 2024).

OLA BOARD OF DIRECTORS – Summer 2024

Co-Presidents: Jim Howarth and David Sanford

Vice-President: Vacant

Treasurer: Betty VanHeusen

Secretary: Wayne Bunn

Directors/Middlefield: Peter Regan, Doug Willies

Directors/Otsego: Paul Lord and Tom Chase

Directors/Springfield: Mickie Richtsmeier and Robert Nelson

Directors/Cooperstown: Martin Tillapaugh and Gary Kuch

Directors at Large: Wayne Bunn and Debbie Creedon

Student Director: Brian Hefferon (SUNY Oneonta)

Webmaster: Tim Pokorny

Technical Advisor: Kiyoko Yokota

Legal Advisor: Martin Tillapaugh

Winter Update: Mickie Richtsmeier (Interim Editor)

“OLABODMtg07132024” File

Draft Minutes – August 6, 2024

Revised Draft Minutes – September 16, 2024

Final Minutes – September 19, 2024