

LAKE ARROWHEAD CONSERVATION COUNCIL ANNUAL MEETING

August 28, 2010 at 7:00 pm

at the Fitzpatrick Residence in Limerick

PRESENT: The following Board Members were present: Mike Fitzpatrick, President – Dave Sanfason, Vice President – Jean Burke, Treasurer – Tracie Doyle, Clerk – Phil Oreto – Robert O’Keefe - John Manning – Grant Writer, Larry Singelais

ABSENT: The following Board members were absent: Lynne Hawkes and Victor Wakefield

CALL TO ORDER: The meeting was called to order at appx. 7:20pm.

APPROVAL OF LAST MEETING MINUTES: The minutes from the last meeting held on April 10, 2010 were presented. Dave Sanfason presented a motion to accept the minutes from the meeting held on April 10, 2010, which was seconded by Dr. Gross. The motion passed unanimously.

APPROVAL OF LAST ANNUAL MEETING MINUTES: The minutes from the annual meeting held on August 22, 2009 were presented. Dave Sanfason presented a motion to accept the minutes from the meeting held on August 22, 2009, which was seconded by Phil Oreto. The motion passed unanimously.

ELECTION OF BOARD MEMBERS:

1. The following Board members were up for re-election: Dave Sanfason, Robert O’Keefe and John Manning
2. The Board accepted nominations from the floor and there were none. Dave Sanfason moved to close the nominations, which was seconded and unanimously passed. Dave Sanfason, Robert O’Keefe and John Manning were unanimously elected to another three-year term.

PRESIDENT’S REPORT:

1. Discussed LACC being chosen as one of the seven test bed lakes by the Maine Milfoil Consortium.
2. Our innovative DASH design has made us the “go to” specialists in harvester building for other lake groups.
3. Introduction of the second DASH, the “SS Limwater”.
4. We moved 50 benthic barriers and installed an additional 35 and we have budgeted for another 50. We also offered barriers for sale to our members in June.
5. We supported Balch Lake by building 50 barriers for their use.
6. This year, the CBI program ran weekends from Memorial Day to Father’s Day and then seven days per week until Labor Day. If funding allows, we hope to run the program weekends through October.

7. We are working with Albert Frick and Associates in Windham on GPS mapping which will become part of the MMI reporting requirements. We have our first set of draft maps.
8. We received 40K for this year from the MMI grant and we will work to obtain year two of funding. We hope to hear in November if year two funding has been approved.
9. An MMI component is that we share technology – we will be going to the Belgrade Lakes for one week to help with their fundraiser to build a DASH. We will send a diver and captain to remove milfoil from their lake for a donation of appx. 5K in the middle of September.
10. The DEP received a complaint from an individual about our group being a monopoly.
11. If there is any group out there who wants to take over this program, we will step aside and allow them to take over
12. Dr. Gross made a suggestion that we might want to create a grievance committee so that the President does not have to continue to provide a response to complaining individuals.
13. Thanks went to the Board, members and fundraisers, LAC and the towns of Limerick and Waterboro for their continued support.

TREASURER'S REPORT:

1. The Treasurer presented several written reports: Treasurer's Report, Budget v. Actual Expenses and Balance Sheet with previous year comparison. All reports were as of August 20, 2010.
2. On August 20, 2010, the budget was at 72.7% spent and 70.1% revenue collected.
3. We have total cash of \$24,752.62 - \$6,324.37 operating account, \$18,328.25 Money Market Account and \$100 petty cash. We currently have 125 members in good standing and collected \$11,800 in dues for 2010.
4. We currently have 18 employees on payroll and they are paid every two weeks.
5. It cost us close to 25K to build the second DASH which is close to budget.
6. Our CD matured in one year, and we closed it to make sure we had enough money to run the program.
7. Dave Sanfason presented a motion to accept the Treasurer's Report, which was seconded by Kate Howard and was unanimously approved.

GRANT REPORT:

1. The report was presented by Larry Singelais.
2. In year one of the three year MMI grant, we received the highest amount.
3. The three years of funding are not guaranteed. It depends upon Congress and each group meeting the requirements.
4. There are three components to the MMI matching grant:
 - a. Equipment/DASH/barriers
 - b. Evaluation – how much milfoil is there and how much have we removed – by the end of next year, we should have GPS mapping to help with this component
 - c. Engagement – we need to engage the community.
5. The MMI grant is a matching grant. We must match \$1 in fundraising donations and volunteer hours per dollar of grant money.
6. Since the start of the MMI grant, the LACC members and Board have logged over 1700 hours of volunteer time in just 6 months. Divers, boat captains and staff have spent another 800 hours in harvesting milfoil.

7. Dave Sanfason presented a motion to accept the Grant Report, which was seconded by Phil Oreto and was unanimously approved.

MARKETING COMMITTEE REPORT:

1. The marketing committee chair, Diane Galvin, presented the report for her committee.
2. Purchased 5 more banners that were placed around the lake.
3. Published the annual newsletter, which was included in the LAC annual mailing for a nominal charge.
4. Created new membership forms.
5. Supported all fundraisers by advertising and posting notices.
6. Took many photos of the DASH which will be posted on the website.
7. They provided gift bags for the golf tournament winners.
8. They arranged for Kate Collins from the Waterboro Reporter to write an article in the Waterboro Reporter regarding the DASH and milfoil harvesting efforts.
9. Phil Oreto presented a motion to accept the Marketing Committee Report, which was seconded by Dave Sanfason and unanimously approved.

FUNDRAISING COMMITTEE REPORT:

1. The fundraising committee chair, Tracie Doyle, presented the report for her committee.
2. Yard Sale was held on June 19th and was a big success. Gross receipts from the sale, bake sale, sale of LACC gear and 50/50 raffle were \$4,100. We are planning for the 3rd annual yard sale in June of 2011. Please notify us if you would like to volunteer or donate items. There was a great article in the Waterboro Reporter about the yard sale with a picture.
3. Fishing Tournament in August hosted by the Arrowhead Prop Busters resulted in a donation of \$618.
4. Phil Oreto presented a report on his golf tournament fundraiser that was held on July 30th. There were 20 players who participated. The event raised \$450. Preparation for the third annual golf tournament has already begun. Please notify us if interested.
5. For a donation, you can receive the following: t-shirts and hats \$20 each and sweatshirts \$45 each. We now have golf balls with the LACC logo if anyone is interested, they will be on the website.
6. Phil Oreto is looking into holding a poker tournament as a fundraiser.
7. We will be receiving a donation from the Belgrade Lakes for helping with them for one week in September with their milfoil efforts/fundraiser.
8. Details for the 2011 fundraisers will be posted to our website www.laccme.org.
9. If anyone has any suggestions or would like to help please let us know.
10. We need new people to volunteer. We cannot win this battle without you helping us. Please volunteer.
11. Motion by Dave Sanfason to accept the Fundraising Report seconded by Jean Burke and unanimously approved.

SUCTION HARVESTER/COURTESY BOAT INSPECTION & BENTHIC BARRIER REPORT:

1. Dave Sanfason presented the suction harvester/courtesy boat inspection and benthic barrier report.
2. All programs will run Father's Day to Labor Day.
3. CBI – inspects boats entering and leaving Ledgemere Dam ramp – seven days per week from Father's Day to Labor Day – we have seven trained CBI inspectors - There are 25 boat inspections in the state and we have the most catches of all of them combined. Our inspectors do a great job. There have been 300 invasive catches on watercraft entering and leaving the lake. Special thanks to the CBI inspectors.
4. Benthic Barriers – We have constructed and deployed over 100 benthic triangles in the lake. We are constructing 50 more to be used in places that the DASH can't go. We will use these in areas like Brown Brook where it is too shallow for the DASH. Balch Lake purchased 50 barriers from us last year. We are selling the barriers to members. Delian Valeriani is the barrier fabricator and installer and invented the triangle system.
5. DASH “SS Arrowhead” and “SS Limwater” – We have six divers and seven captains working eight hours per day generally six days per week. We have removed 50 baskets of milfoil. Go to Bay Cove to see the mountain of milfoil. We have worked the inlets, coves and the main channel. We have been invited to the Belgrade Lakes to rent one of our DASH for a week. Special thanks to Scott Davis for keeping our fleet operating. So far, we have only lost two days of harvesting due to mechanical issues.
6. First time we are getting ahead of the beast.
7. We have trained captains and boat builders from other lake associations. If someone wants to know how to do it, they are sent to us.
8. Motion by Kate Howard to accept this report that was seconded by Phil Oreto and unanimously approved.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. Discussion of a third boat by President. It costs 20-23K per year to run one boat. We need a budget of 70K to keep going.
2. There is a 30 foot boat with trailer for sale. Discussion of whether we should try to buy it.
3. Member Comment – Scott Sanfason – maybe we should hire a third boat to lake front owners as a fundraising drive.
4. Dave Sanfason - we could bring this boat to other lakes. Maybe the boat could be a harvester and fragmenter boat.
5. Tracie Doyle – We need a fragment boat, not another DASH.
6. President – if we get a third boat, we can discuss whether it should be a DASH or something else.
7. President presented a motion to purchase a third boat – This was unanimously approved by the membership.
8. MMI funding for year two of the three year program, they anticipate the same amount of money for year 2.

9. Member Comment – Bill Juffre – the markers by Ridgeway Beach, boaters don't know what to do. The response was that we have ordered signs to tell them to stay between the markers. Member Comment by Scott Sanfason – run tape from marker to marker.
10. Member Question – Is there a way to deal with canoes and rowboats putting into the lake at the end of New Dam Road without inspection? The response was that it is not our property. It is town property. Possibly we can ask the Town of Waterboro for help. Electric boats are more of the problem for milfoil.
11. Member Question – Mrs. O'Keefe – Are there any talks of a draw down? Response by President. DEP, DNR and Fisheries and Wildlife would support a draw down. The dam changed ownership. Epico purchased the dam and they had a dam manger who was let go. We don't know who is in control now. President approached MMI for money for a draw down. The three agencies have approved the draw down for this year and next. Gary Zuger had an interest in the draw down as well.
12. Member Comment – Dr. Gross stated that he brought up the idea of tilapia at the LAC meeting. He did research as to how tilapia may help fight the milfoil. President response is that the DEP would consider it invasive like the milfoil and would have to study it. President will pass out the tilapia handout at the governor's task force meeting.
13. Member Question- Gary Zuger – What do you need to do to own a hydro dam? President response that it is all controlled by FERC.
14. Member Question – Dave Cheney - Can we buy a dam and just operate it as a dam and not a hydro station? There was discussion on this with no final response except that LAC can't buy the dam.
15. Member Comment – Scott Sanfason volunteered to research the dam issues.
16. Member Comment – Bill Juffre – Conversation about how LAC had the opportunity to buy the dam in 1979 for \$1. Maybe we could research that as well.

CONCLUSION OF MEETING: Motion by Dave Sanfason to adjourn the meeting was seconded by Phil Oreto and unanimously approved. The meeting was adjourned at appx. 9:30 pm.

Submitted on September 28, 2010 by Tracie L. Doyle, Secretary/Clerk of LACC