

## **LAKE ARROWHEAD CONSERVATION COUNCIL ANNUAL MEETING**

**August 29, 2015 at 10:00 am**  
**At Clubhouse 2**

**PRESENT:** The following Board Members were present: Mike Fitzpatrick, President – Dave Sanfason, Vice President – Jean Burke, Treasurer – Tracie Doyle, Clerk – Phil Oreto – Louanne Romaneck – Lynne Hawkes

**ABSENT:** The following Board members were absent: John Manning & Kathy Hart

**CALL TO ORDER:** The meeting was called to order at appx. 10:01 am.

**APPROVAL OF LAST ANNUAL MEETING MINUTES:** The minutes from the annual meeting held on August 23, 2014 were presented. There was a motion to accept the minutes from the meeting held on August 23, 2014, which was seconded and unanimously passed.

### **ELECTION OF BOARD MEMBERS:**

1. The following Board members were up for re-election: Mike Fitzpatrick, Jean Burke and Tracie Doyle.
2. The Board accepted nominations from the floor. There were no nominations. There was a motion to close the nominations and accept the slate of officers which was seconded and unanimously passed. Mike Fitzpatrick, Jean Burke and Tracie Doyle were unanimously elected to a three-year term.

### **PRESIDENT'S REPORT:**

1. We have some extra money left over from the DEP funding which will allow us to harvest for an additional two weeks.
2. Our DASH will go to Balch Lake to harvest for two weeks and then back to Lake Arrowhead to close out the season.
3. We made the most progress this year in Brown Brook where we opened up a channel for the property owners.
4. We had historic low numbers for CBI catches this season.
5. We had less fishing tournaments on the lake this summer resulting in a huge reduction of documented milfoil catches. This fact was discussed with the DEP during their annual inspection.
6. Four property owners took advantage of the Pay to Play program and rented the DASH raising \$4,000 for LACC. LACC charges \$500 per day for the harvester and crew. This program allows us to remove milfoil from the lake and extend our harvesting season.
7. This was the most successful year for our fundraisers. There will be no yard sale in 2016 due to the manpower and storage issues. We may have it again in the future. A member

- asked Mike if we could send out an email to our members letting them know that there will be no yard sale and they can consider donations to St. Matthews for their yard sale.
8. We received a combined \$6,000 from the Towns of Limerick and Waterboro. Thank you to them for their continued support.
  9. Mike thanked LAC for all of their support throughout the year.

#### **TREASURER'S REPORT:**

1. The Treasurer presented several written reports: Treasurer's Report, Budget v. Actual Expenses and Balance Sheet with previous year comparison and a current Balance Sheet. The Treasurer's Report was as of August 27, 2015.
2. We currently have about \$45,000 in the bank. We have a carryover balance in the bank of around \$20,000.
3. We had a great year for fundraising and did not have the numbers for the 50/50 raffle yet.
4. We have the funds to run the harvester for a few extra weeks this season.
5. The LAC board approved a vote to increase the donation to LACC from \$15,000 to \$20,000 next year. This will help make up for the yard sale that we will not be hosting in 2016.
6. We received \$23,580 from the State of Maine for the season.
7. We are under budget and everything is running smoothly.
8. The budget for next year is ready and we may be able to run 11 shifts next year versus 10.
9. We have 116 members with 104 waterfront members. There are about 380 waterfront owners in LAC.
10. We need to increase cash flow.
11. The membership count led to a discussion about membership and how to obtain new members.
12. Lynne looked into obtaining a list of property owners from the Town of Limerick. There were just tons of paper and no way to obtain it electronically. Steve Harlow recommended going to the Registry of Deeds.
13. There was a discussion about marketing LAC to help with marketing LACC. There was a suggestion that we market the benefits of being an LACC member.
14. There was a discussion on water quality and how Carol Carey does the water quality testing on the lake and how each year the water quality improves because we are getting rid of the milfoil.
15. Mike explained to the membership the rationale behind forming LACC and the benefits of the 5013C status.
16. Mike stated that we need to change the perception of LAC and one way of doing that was to work with local realtors to help with marketing.
17. There was a motion presented by Phil Oreto to accept the Treasurer's Report which was seconded by Dave Sanfason and unanimously passed.

## **SUCTION HARVESTER/COURTESY BOAT INSPECTION & BENTHIC BARRIER REPORT:**

1. Dave Sanfason presented the suction harvester/courtesy boat inspection and benthic barrier report.
2. We had five divers and lost three this season. We have one new diver. We now have three divers and four boat captains.
3. Bill Juffre, boat captain, retired this year and John Sanfason retired as boat captain and became a CBI inspector. Mark Berry and Rob Pomerleau are our new boat captains. Steve Dawson is the lead captain.
4. Mark Harris is in charge of the data sheets and GPS coordinates.
5. If a diver wants to cancel the dive for any reason he can because it is very dangerous work.
6. The DEP runs a milfoil harvesting program. Gabriel, a senior in high school, went through the DEP training and then our training. He is currently on the bench for diving.
7. We can do more than 10 shifts per week without paying overtime if we have a reserve.
8. The lake level was great this season. We had 6 extra inches which gives us 30 feet of reach. This allowed us to work the Brown Brook area and we cleared a channel to everyone's dock. We spent 90% of our time harvesting in this area this season and have cleared about 60% of our worst infestation in this area.
9. We took all of the benthic barriers out. If the DASH can harvest, it is more effective and efficient.
10. Last year we experimented with the new burlap benthic barrier system. We used strips of burlap and weighed them down with burlap sandbags. The idea is that you put them down and never remove them again. This is the best method for shallow areas where the DASH can't operate.
11. Dave wants to propose that next year we sell the burlap and sandbags to our members at a reduced price so that they can use them in shallow areas.
12. The burlap does not need to be removed. It decomposes and becomes part of the lake.
13. Bob Gilchrest retired as a CBI inspector.
14. Our CBI inspectors work seven days per week and 10 hours per day on Saturday and Sunday. We have six CBI inspectors who do a wonderful job.
15. We have the most catches in the State of Maine.
16. This year because of the high water level and less fishing tournaments, we only had 16 catches this year at the half way mark. It keeps getting better each year.
17. According to the CBI inspectors, the general public cannot believe what we have done with the lake in the last five years.
18. We have the finest milfoil removal effort of any lake association anywhere.
19. Dave thanked everyone for their hard work.
20. Dr. Gross asked about the rate of reinfestation. It depends upon the area and whether there is fishing or silt. Fragments float for about two weeks and then sink and make a new plant.

## FUNDRAISING COMMITTEE REPORT:

1. We had another great year of fundraising.
2. Louanne Romanek presented information on the LACC calendars. We raised \$1,509.86 selling 2015 calendars, which is \$500 more than the year before. The calendars sold for \$20 each. Unlike the calendar for 2014, the 2015 had various LAC and LACC events listed. Louanne described the requirements for the pictures and how three to four people in the community are unanimously chosen to pick the pictures for the calendars. There was a discussion on giving the local realtors some calendars as gifts as a way to promote the lake. Louanne asked if anyone had any ideas to improve the 2016 calendar. There was discussion about adding information on who took the photo and where on the lake it was taken. Louanne also mentioned adding Lake Arrowhead in Waterboro/Limerick Maine on the front of the calendars. If anyone has any other ideas to improve the calendar or who are interested in being on the picture committee, please let Louanne know. She will let us know when she will begin selecting pictures for the 2016 calendar which should be available around Thanksgiving time.
3. Tracie Doyle presented information on the annual Yard Sale for Kathy Hart. The yard sale raised \$3,500 this year. Over the last seven years, we have raised over \$27,000 from the yard sale. That is a lot of junk. We will be taking a break from the yard sale. It is a lot of work and requires significant manpower and storage. Hopefully, someone else will come up with another fundraiser to take the place of the yard sale. Kathy thanked all who helped her over the years.
4. Phil Oretto presented a report on his golf tournament fundraiser that was held in July at the Point Sebago Golf Course. It was a great day with 52 players this year. Phil raised \$2,008.12 for LACC breaking his goal of \$2,000. The goal for next year is \$2,500 and the date is already set for July 15, 2016. This year they had a hole in one challenge and golf towels as gifts in addition to providing a great buffet. Phil stated that he likes to try something new each year. Phil gave a special thanks to the Lakeside Market and The Peppermill Restaurant for sponsoring the event. If anyone has any ideas on how to keep it fresh, please let Phil know.
5. Tracie Doyle presented the information on the Fishing Tournament that was hosted by the Arrowhead Prop Busters on August 15th and resulted in a donation of \$1,148, which was \$345 more than last year. It was a great day for the 19 boats that participated in the event. Some big fish were caught that day. The largest fish for the day was 7 pounds 6.4 ounces which was caught by Dennis Cilley and Garron Baker, who placed third for the day, and the second largest fish was 6 pounds 5 ounces and which was caught by the tournament winners, Jim Owens III and Jim Owens. Special thanks to APB for their generosity. We hope that APB will have another tournament next year and we will keep you updated.
6. Tracie Doyle presented the information on the big 50/50 Cash Raffle. Tickets will be sold up until the end of the meeting when the drawing will take place. All 500 tickets have not been sold. The prize amounts and the amount raised by LACC will be disclosed at the time of the drawing. The tickets are \$20 each.
7. Gerry Francis presented the information about the can and bottle drive at JDs Redemption Center in Waterboro. We collected \$201.65 this year which is a 148% increase over the previous year. This amounts to two LACC waterfront memberships.

Please turn in your returnables to JDs and tell them that you would like to donate the money to LACC. Our goal is to collect the equivalent of 3 LACC waterfront memberships next year. Gerry thanked the LACC members and their friends for their contributions throughout the year and thanked JD's for their assistance.

8. Tracie Doyle presented the information on the "pay to play" program, which we call PMS "personal milfoil service" for the DASH if anyone is interested. You can rent a DASH on an hourly or daily basis to clean your waterfront. We raised \$4,000 this year. If you are interested, you must contact Dave Sanfason.
9. Tracie stated that Carol Carey approached her before the meeting with a new idea for a fundraiser. Carol saw an ad in the local paper whereby the comedian, Bob Marley, was having a benefit to raise money for the Tripp Lake Improvement Association. Carol stated that she would try to see if we could do the same thing here for our group. There was a discussion about using The Peppermill Restaurant as a location to support the local community. Carol was going to report back to Tracie.
10. Details for the 2016 fundraisers will be posted to our website [www.laccme.org](http://www.laccme.org).
11. If anyone has any suggestions or would like to help please let us know.
12. We need new people to volunteer, and we need people to run fundraisers.
13. Louanne mentioned the idea of having a combo fundraiser/membership drive.

#### **MARKETING COMMITTEE REPORT:**

1. There was a brief comment by the President. We still have LACC gear that we are selling. Diane Galvin is in charge of marketing. We currently have no budget for marketing.
2. Dr. Gross stated that in order to get new members, we need to specify the membership benefits to the newcomers. There was then a discussion as to what those benefits are. We have a better lake, quality fishing, quality swimming, property values improve and a reduced rate to rent the DASH.
3. There was a discussion on how we haven't produced a newsletter in a few years because unfortunately we lost our printer. We need to produce another newsletter.
4. There was also discussion on mailing or emailing the annual reports to the existing members.
5. There was a discussion about the ability to obtain the LAC membership list in order to help with our marketing and membership. Mike mentioned that LAC needs to discuss this issue with the LAC attorney before they can release that list, if at all.
6. Steve Harlow asked if we had anymore LACC banners and the response was yes.
7. Kate Howard mentioned that we might want to put banners at the mailbox areas.
8. Scott Davis suggested posting stuff on the local store bulletin boards.
9. Steve Dawson mentioned asking Charlie Moore to help with marketing. His father-in-law lives on the lake. Steve thought that he could help us raise money. Mike stated that we tried that before and Charlie's agent did not return our calls.

## **MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE REPORT:**

Lynne Hawkes made a brief comment regarding membership. We need new members. We did get a new member today at the meeting.

## **NEW BUSINESS:**

1. John Festa mentioned using drones to market LAC. The drones could take pictures of the lake to show the changes in the lake from the beginning of the season to the end.
2. Scott Davis suggested that we ask for more money from the towns since we are not having the yard sale this year. LAC set an example by increasing their contribution for next year.
3. No additional new business.

## **MEMBERS CONCERNS:**

1. Steve Dawson stated that we should take a picture of the milfoil pile in Bay Cove so members can see what we have removed from the lake.
2. There was mention that the milfoil is great compost for the garden.
3. Mr. Marrow asked what the burlap price would be. It is unknown at this time. The rolls are 8x15 feet.
4. John Festa suggested that LAC send out a report about LACC to the LAC members.
5. Steve Harlow mentioned that he has seen signage in other communities as a pride of ownership. He does not see that here. He mentioned putting carved signs up on the main roads. Dave stated that it is difficult for us to do such a thing because of the way we are designed. Also, vandalism is a big issue and concern. We have had a problem with road signs being stolen in the past.
6. Someone mentioned that Diane Gray, a LACC member and local realtor, put an ad in the shopper about the lake.
7. Mary Singelais suggested that we put a regular article in the local newspapers about LAC.
8. Jean Burke stated that all of our marketing and membership drives should include information about our website.
9. Scott Davis stated that we should put signs up at the beaches. Mike stated that he has them and will give them to Scott to hang. We have 14 beaches that we can advertise at.

## **RAFFLE DRAWING:**

A neutral person chose the winners for the 50/50 cash raffle:

First prize \$2,580 – Dave Christensen

Second prize \$1,290 – Gary Sewall

Third prize \$430 – Cindy Payne

We sold 430 raffle tickets compared to 365 from last year. As a result, we raised \$4,300 from the raffle.

**CONCLUSION OF MEETING:** There was a motion to adjourn the meeting which was seconded and unanimously approved. The meeting was adjourned.

Submitted on January 7, 2015 by Tracie L. Doyle, Secretary/Clerk of LACC