

LAKE ARROWHEAD CONSERVATION COUNCIL ANNUAL MEETING

August 27, 2016 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 – John Manning – Kathy Hart

ABSENT: The following Board member was absent: Lynne Hawkes

CALL TO ORDER: The meeting was called to order at appx. 10:00 am.

APPROVAL OF LAST ANNUAL MEETING MINUTES: The minutes from the annual meeting held on August 29, 2015 were presented. There was a motion to accept the minutes from the meeting held on August 29, 2015, which was seconded and unanimously passed.

ELECTION OF BOARD MEMBERS:

1. The following Board members were up for re-election: Dave Sanfason, Louanne Romaneck and John Manning.
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. Dave Sanfason, Louanne Romaneck and John Manning were unanimously elected to a three-year term.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT:

1. Due to funding constraints, we will not be able to operate the DASH through Labor Day as we have done in the past.
2. In February, we were informed that all DASH operations had to be OSHA compliant. As a result, we have to have two divers on a boat at all times. In addition, we had to purchase full face masks for the divers and communication equipment so that the divers would be able to keep in contact with the men on the boat. We budgeted \$12K for this purchase; however, it only cost \$9K, so we saved \$3K.
3. In addition to the additional cost for the OSHA compliance, membership has slightly declined. Mike expressed his disappointment with the low membership rate.
4. The good thing is that there has been a growth in property sales, unfortunately not everyone who owns property on the water are members.
5. The only reason we were able to run as long as we did this year was because the DEP increased our grant by \$10K because of the OSHA requirements.
6. Our property values are still dropping and the mil rate for property taxes is increasing. Improving the quality of the lake improves our property values. We need to get neighbors involved to become members.

7. Mike and Dave recently had a meeting with the DEP and they took John McPhedran down by the Brown Brook area and he was impressed with the progress.
8. We had a good harvesting season of five days per week and were able to spend time in the Brown Brook area because of the water level. Mike spoke with members in that area and they have noticed the improvement as well.
9. Our fundraising was down this year primarily due to not having the annual yard sale.
10. Our other fundraisers have been great and are the key to the success of LACC. Thanks to Louanne for the calendars, Phil for the golf tournament, Elaine and Gerry Francis for the can and bottle drive, Shannon Doyle for the APB fishing tournament and Tracie Doyle for the 50/50 raffle. The 50/50 raffle is very important because it is our largest fundraiser.
11. Thank you to the Towns of Waterboro and Limerick for their continued support and \$3K contributions.
12. Mike thanked everyone for their support and asked that they help spread the word of the importance of supporting LACC.

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, 2016.
2. We have three more weeks of our spending season.
3. We have about \$44K in the bank. A \$2K deficit was projected, but we will do better than that.
4. We have 115 members. Our high mark for membership was 132 members.
5. We received \$20K from LACC this season, which is a \$5K increase from last year.
6. We are almost done selling the current LACC gear.
7. Our membership invoices this year had a section for donations, and we received an additional \$2K in donations.
8. There has been discussions about raising the dues, but we will keep them the same.
9. There was a motion to accept the Treasurer's Report which was seconded 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 are not using benthic barriers at this time. It is easier to harvest than to use barriers.
3. The burlap barriers have worked well in the low level areas. They are down for about three years and then they are gone. Property owners can get the burlap from LACC.
4. We have been forced to comply with OSHA and had to purchase communication between the diver and the boat. We also had to create a safe practices manual referencing and including OSHA standards and requirements.

5. We originally requested \$15K from the state and then resubmitted a request for \$30K after we found out about the OSHA requirements. We received \$27,500.
6. We hired two new captains and increased the three divers to 40 hours per week.
7. We put all DASH crew through a mandatory first aid/CPR certification course.
8. We started operations on June 20th and expect to terminate on September 5th.
9. Thanks to our three divers and four captains and Mark Harris our data guy.
10. Special thank you to Jean for dealing with the new expenses.
11. We could not run our program without our ground support of the LAC crew lead by Scott Davis.
12. We have removed over 60 baskets of VLM from the lake.
13. We have placed the most emphasis on the worst infestation which is the Brown Brook area. When we started, that area was the most infested and today it is 90% clear.
14. We have cleaned several other coves as well and began harvesting on the Route 5 side of Woodsome Island and in the Ossippee River Feed. Those areas will be next year's objective.
15. We have 5 experienced CBI inspectors who have performed superbly. To date, they have caught over 50 invasive fragments entering or leaving our lake. CBI runs 7 days per week with 10 hours on Saturday and Sunday. This program is completely funded by a DEP grant.
16. Reflecting on the last 10 years, when we began, the beast had quite a hold on our lake. Today, while still present, we have got it under control. Dave stated that he hated to think what our lake would look like if we didn't create the program.
17. Dave thanked everyone for their hard work.

FUNDRAISING COMMITTEE REPORT:

1. We had another great year of fundraising.
2. Louanne Romanek presented information on the 2016 LACC calendars. LACC purchased extra calendars to sell at the clubhouse. Out of the 130 calendars purchased, 124 were sold and the net proceeds to LACC were \$1,560.98, which is \$51.12 more than the year before. The calendars sold for \$20 each. Louanne stressed that it is difficult to obtain pictures for the months of January, February and March and is requesting that people submit photos for this time period. 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 2017 calendar which should be available around Thanksgiving time.
3. Phil Oreto presented a report on his golf tournament fundraiser that was held on July 15, 2016 at the Providence Lake Golf Course. It was a record turnout of 57 golfers! Phil raised \$2,250 for LACC. The 10 year goal is 72 golfers for a full course and to raise \$3,000. Congratulations to all of the winners and thanks to the folks at Province Lake who worked very hard to ensure that we had a successful event. Thanks to the Lakeside Market for sponsoring our event for a third year in a row and to the Peppermill for the wonderful post event cookout. Phil stated that he is having a hard time getting corporate sponsors and that he needs help. A corporate sponsor pays \$150 and gets a sign on a hole. Next year's tournament is set for Friday, July 21, 2017 and planning has begun. If you are interest in participating, please contact Phil.

4. Tracie Doyle presented the information on the Fishing Tournament that was hosted by the Arrowhead Prop Busters on August 20th and resulted in a donation of \$898.50 to LACC. It was a great day for the 12 boats that participated in the event. Some big fish were caught that day. The largest fish for the day was 5 pounds 4.2. Special thanks to Shannon Doyle and APB for their generosity. If you want any further information on the event, please visit the APB website. We will notify our members when APB has posted their 2017 tournament date.
5. 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. Tracie Doyle presented the information about the can and bottle drive at JDs Redemption Center in Waterboro for Elaine and Gerry Francis. Last year, we set a goal of raising 3 memberships. We easily surpassed that by collecting \$448.05, which is equivalent to 4 ½ memberships. Please turn in your returnables to JDs and tell them that you would like to donate the money to LACC. Special thanks to JDs and the individuals who support this fundraiser. Unfortunately, Elaine and Gerry sold their lake property and will be unable to continue their work with LACC. They have been a huge part of every fundraiser that we have had and they will be sadly missed. Thank you to Elaine and Gerry for their hard work and dedication and we wish them the best. Kathy Hart has agreed to take over their responsibilities with this fundraiser.
8. Tracie Doyle presented the information on the “pay to play” program. You can rent a DASH on an hourly or daily basis to clean your waterfront. If you are interested, you must contact Dave Sanfason.
10. Details for the 2017 fundraisers will be posted to our website 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.

NEW BUSINESS/MEMBER CONCERNS:

1. Phil wanted feedback on a fundraising idea, bingo. He wanted to know if it would generate any interest. He received positive feedback and Louanne stated that she would help him.
2. Gary Zuger stated that he heard that they used sterilized carp on another lake and that it eats milfoil. Dave responded that it eats Eurasian milfoil not variable leaf, which is what we have. Dave talked about the most promising research which was parasitic nematodes (round worms) that are released into a lake and go to a specific plant; however, they haven't found one that eats VLM.
3. There was a discussion of inflatable rubber bladders for the dam instead of breakaway wooden boards. Mike stated that there is an issue with cost.
4. Mike informed us that the dam is being sold and they are keeping the same guys in place and the same agreement with LAC as they have done in the past. We discussed how hydro dams sell every so many years for tax purposes which is why you see frequent dam owners.
5. Mike stated that the turbine has been down all winter and summer and that they are not pumping.

6. John Festa asked if we could talk to the dam owners about a draw down. Mike stated that a few years ago we had discussions with Epico, DEP and DIFW regarding a draw down. They were willing to do a draw down for their repairs; however, something happened and they had to fix the dam in the spring and not the fall. Epico did want some money for the draw down (under \$20K) and the DEP was willing to waive their fish study. We were going to do it, but they were forced by FERC laws to do the repairs at another time.
7. Mike stated that the DEP did give us a permit to dredge beach 6. However, when we were ready to do it, it rained for three days and the lake level came up and the land was too soft for the equipment. The permit expired this past June. We have been the only ones able to get such a permit.
8. John Festa asked if we could write into a new agreement with the dam owners. Mike stated that they would need FERC and state permission and that most companies won't do the draw down without any money.
9. Dave stated that we tried draw downs in the past and that they are too much trouble and they don't work. You need no snow and it must be very cold and dry for it to have an effect. Dave believes that the best method is to stay the course and harvest.
10. Mr. DeFeo lives on Sequoia Lane and stated that he is in a very infested area and that you can walk across the canal where he is. He asked if we can use a pontoon boat to lay the burlap and sandbags to do a larger area. Mike stated that the DEP will have an issue covering such a large area because it will kill all plants besides the invasive. Mike stated that his cove was mostly native plants with pods of milfoil. The DEP inspects us to make sure we are not taking out native plants.

RAFFLE DRAWING:

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

First prize \$2,562 – Richard Rife

Second prize \$1,281 – Christine Murphy

Third prize \$427 – Maureen Woodford

We sold 427 raffle tickets compared to 430 from last year. As a result, we raised \$4,270 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 December 12, 2016 by Tracie L. Doyle, Secretary/Clerk of LACC