

**MINUTES
ANNUAL MEETING OF THE
THREE LAKES COUNCIL**

July 31, 2010

The Annual Meeting of the membership of the Three Lakes Council at was held on July 31, 2010 at 7:15 PM at the Waccabuc Country Club Beach. It was held in conjunction with the annual picnic. Approximately 98 people attended.

WELCOME AND THANKS

Jack Sinnott welcomed everyone and offered special thanks to the following:

- John Assumma of the Waccabuc Country Club for providing the use of their facility as well as many additional services.
- The Picnic Planning Committee: Barbara Posner, Coordinator; Kathy Rothfeld, Regina Anderson, and Lindsey Reese.
- Joe Tansey, head chef, and his cooking and carving crew: Gene Tedaldi, Ron Tetelman, Robby Rothfeld and Paul Lewis.

Jack acknowledged and thanked members of the Board and Executive Committee for their on-going efforts on behalf of the Three Lakes Council. Members of the Executive Committee are: Jan Andersen, vice president; John Lemke, treasurer; and Jean Lewis, secretary.

Jack welcomed four new Board appointees: Regina Anderson (Lake Waccabuc Association), Denis Hickey (Two Lake Club), Beth Llanos (Lakeside Association), and David Eggers (Perch Bay Association). They will join ongoing Board members Joe Tansey (Lake Oscaleta Association), Dan Kleinman (Waccabuc Landowners Association), John Grimm (Waccabuc Country Club) and Alayne Vlachos (South Shore Association).

Special Occasion – Celebrating 40 Years of Lake Stewardship

Jack began his report on our 40th anniversary year with these words:

“We are extremely fortunate because of the wise decision made by a small group of dedicated and informed residents who formed the Three Lakes Council 40 years ago. Our lakes and our residents have certainly benefitted from the grassroots work of the Three Lakes Council.”

Our focus is on the environmental aspects of our watershed, and our activities are undertaken in support of our mission:

- To educate and inform residents in our watershed, and encourage them to adopt “lake friendly” lifestyles.
- To safeguard water quality by sampling and monitoring trends.
- To conduct scientific studies, address issues that may impact our enjoyment of the lakes, and coordinate community action when needed.

Jack highlighted the activities that have taken place during this past year.

FALL 2009

- Aug.–Oct.: Jan Andersen and Lou Feeney continued inspection for new growth of Brazilian Elodea in the north cove of Lake Waccabuc.
- Nov. - Dec. 2009: - A fund raising letter was sent out to which we received a very positive response, raising over \$7,500.

WINTER 2010

- Jan. - Feb. 2010: The Executive Committee developed our 2010 budget and planned our initiatives, which were approved by the Board.

SPRING 2010

- This was the fourth year we participated in a Geese Stabilization Program. Teams of volunteers oiled approximately 66 eggs in 20 nests. The numbers of eggs and hatchlings were down significantly from prior years, an indication of the success of the program.
- May, 2010: We held an Educational Seminar at the Waccabuc Country Club Boathouse. Our Lake Manager, Chris Doyle of Allied Biological, spoke on “goop and zoop” – algae and zooplankton, and their role in the food web.
- May – Present: We held our 2010 Membership Solicitation Campaign. We have had a good response to date from 160-170 contributors.

SUMMER 2010

- June-July: During this period of time our annual Newsletter was written, published, and distributed. Since this is our 40th anniversary year, the Newsletter focused on activities undertaken by the Three Lakes Council over the past four decades.

Jack thanked Judy Hausman and Stephanie Harding for editing, printing and mailing the newsletters. He also thanked Jan Andersen and Lou Feeney for writing most of the articles. This year the Waccabuc Country Club distributed the Newsletter to their members, thus providing an additional distribution channel. Our distribution has increased to over 600 recipients.

Jack shared the good news that our 2009 Newsletter received an Award of Excellence for Large Associations from the New York State Federation of Lake Associations.

- The BEEP (Brazilian Elodea Eradication Project) is on-going. Jan Andersen and Lou Feeney are continuing to monitor and inspect the lake bottom of Waccabuc’s north cove, looking for any re-growth of Brazilian Elodea. So far, none has been found in 2010, although there is heavy re-growth of non-invasive Native Elodea.

A Master Diver was hired to assist them in this effort, and Jack said we would welcome help from cove residents or any interested parties.

- In June, a team of volunteers led by Jan Andersen, Lou Feeney and Paul Lewis resumed CSLAP (Citizens' Statewide Lake Assessment Program) Testing. Bi-weekly lake water sampling is done throughout the summer in each of our three lakes. The water is monitored for clarity, temperature, color, dissolved oxygen, phosphorus, nitrates, chlorophyll and calcium. Water samples are sent to the NYS DEC for analysis, and the DEC compiles an annual report, charting trends and changes.
- In August, Allied Biological (our Lake Manager) will conduct a plant survey of all of Lake Waccabuc. The primary purpose is to see if Brazilian Elodea has taken root elsewhere in Lake Waccabuc, and to monitor other changes.
- We have begun a new initiative on the lakes focused on algae. This summer Allied Biological will take phytoplankton and zooplankton samples from all three lakes. We will continue monitoring to better understand phytoplankton (algae), zooplankton (small microscopic animals) and fish, and their interrelationship in the food web. Our ultimate goal is to determine if we can control or influence algae growth in our lakes. As we proceed and learn more, we will report our findings to the community.

FINANCIAL SUMMARY

Jack reported that our 2010 General Budget Plan is \$24,950. Revenue to date is \$21,300, and we are in a sound financial position.

A separate bank account and fund raising effort was established for BEEP (Brazilian Elodea Eradication Project). For this effort, \$80,000 was raised during 2009. We spent \$35,000 on the eradication effort. We have a reserve of \$45,000 to fund our ongoing monitoring efforts, and we have budgeted \$15,000 for BEEP activity during 2010.

RAFFLE

A free septic tank cleaning for a 1200 gallon tank was donated by Vogler Brothers of Katonah and raffled. The winner of the raffle was Joe Tansey.

The Annual Meeting was adjourned at approximately 8:00 PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Jean Lewis, Secretary