

MINUTES
MEETING OF BOARD OF DIRECTORS
THREE LAKES COUNCIL
DATE: June 26, 2014

A meeting of the Board of Directors of the Three Lakes Council was held on June 26, 2014.

Present were: Jan Andersen, President and Two Lake Club representative; John Lemke, Treasurer; Jean Lewis, Secretary; Joe Tansey, Lake Osaleta Assoc. and Fishing Committee; Beth Llanos, Lakeside Assoc.; Ellen Bailey, Perch Bay Assoc.; Ellen Adrian, South Shore Assoc.; Doug Housman, Lake Waccabuc Association and Membership Committee; and Paul Lewis, Lake Preservation Committee.

Goose Egg Oiling: Jan Andersen reported that goose egg oiling, which has successfully reduced the number of geese that remain on the lakes with their goslings, was conducted again this spring. She gave special thanks to Peter and Lyn Beardsley and J. Durst for their successful efforts this cold spring.

Membership: Jan thanked Doug Housman for serving as our Membership chair. She reported that membership forms are still coming in, and to date they have been accompanied by approximately \$15,000 in membership donations. She added that some people historically renew membership at the Picnic/Annual Meeting. Doug mentioned that last year he and Kelley put picnic reminder flyers in all mailboxes which increased picnic attendance (and perhaps membership), so they will do that again this year.

Doug will also put together New Resident packets soon. Joe Tansey needs five packets to distribute in the Lake Osaleta Association. Beth Llanos needs one to distribute in the Lakeside Association. Doug Housman will distribute them in the Lake Waccabuc Association, and Ellen Bailey offered to distribute them in the Perch Bay Association.

Lake Studies: Jan reported that water quality monitoring is underway and will continue to be done every 2 weeks throughout the summer. Also, we plan to have lake managers conduct rake toss aquatic vegetation surveys on all three lakes this summer.

Communications: We use the Three Lakes Council **Google Group** as an important communication vehicle. Important lake-related information is sent to people for whom we have email addresses, but we don't have email addresses for everyone. Directions on how to join are in the newsletter. About two weeks before the picnic a targeted **postcard** will be sent reminding people about the annual meeting and picnic. In August, we plan to send a postcard to ask those who have not joined in 2014 to do so.

Newsletter: Jan Andersen reported that the Newsletter has been printed and is ready to be mailed. Joe Tansey, Ellen Adrian, Bobbie and Lew Terman, and Jan Andersen will meet at the Lewis's to apply address labels and stamps so they can be taken to the post office this week.

Seminars: Jan Andersen reported that in March, 2014, she made arrangements on behalf of the Three Lakes Council to host a seminar for Allied Biological, our lake management consultants, at the South Salem Firehouse, which was successful. She will also be hosting a FOLA (Federation of Lake Associations) conference at Lake Carmel on July 18th. The speaker will be Scott Kishbaugh, a noted limnologist with the DEC. Any Three Lakes Council members interested in attending should contact Jan. These conferences are attended by lake association representatives from outside our region, so the Three Lakes Council's activities are becoming more widely recognized.

Petrucelli: Jan Andersen summarized Three Lake Council's actions regarding a wetlands permit and a subdivision application before the Planning Board to build a house in wetlands on Oscaleta Road. As was reported previously, the Three Lakes Council owns the property next to the applicant's parcel, so we have significant standing in the matter.

In December, the Board granted the Executive Committee authority to take actions as the Committee deems necessary and appropriate, and authorized a spending level. The Board also encouraged and granted authority to the Executive Committee to obtain legal advice. Jan reported that our spending remains within the budgeted level.

The Executive Committee hired David Wright, Esq., to advise us on the subdivision issue, and we soon expanded the scope of his involvement. He has appeared on our behalf at two Planning Board Public Hearings, and will represent us at the next hearing, which is scheduled for July 15th.

David recommended hiring an engineer with wetlands expertise, so we hired Lenny Meyerson, formerly with the DEC and the DOH, who twice presented to the Planning Board the serious negative impact that the proposed development would have on the wetlands and on Lake Waccabuc.

David Wright provided case law showing that the Planning Board cannot abdicate to the DOH regarding the impact of septic effluent on the lakes. We, along with the Lewisboro Lakes Committee and the CAC, argued that approval of the application would set a bad precedent with respect to the Town Wetlands Ordinance.

As authorized by the board, we offered to purchase the applicant's property. Our offer expired without response.

We have argued that the proposed mitigation is inadequate. The applicant asked to do off-site mitigation on our property, but we felt the design was flawed and did not agree.

We believe that subdividing the property triggers the need to comply with current regulations. The building inspector ruled that this is not a new lot, and need not comply with current regulations. Therefore, in May we appealed the building inspector's decision to the ZBA. We lost on timeliness, but plan to file an Article 78 Appeal in hopes of being allowed to argue the merits of the case.

Beaver Committee: Jan reported that representatives from the USDA and DEC couldn't come on the dates originally set, so Peter Gross, chair of the Beaver Committee, will reschedule. They will be asked to assess the beaver population and impact upon the wetlands.

Jan mentioned that experts all say humans can't keep up with the damming activity of eager beavers. However, she doubts that they have ever seen a group as dedicated to doing so as Joe Tansey and his crew. She thanked them for keeping the channel and culvert clear of debris. The Council set criteria that would trigger beaver removal and will continue to monitor the situation. Joe said that he would support culling but not extinction of the beaver population.

The Picnic/Annual Meeting will take place on July 26th, at the Waccabuc Country Club beach, with the Carriage house as back-up in case of rain. Doug and Kelley Housman are serving as co-chairs of this event.

The "men's grill team" will once again man the grills. Volunteers are needed to do set-ups (beginning at 4:30-5:00) and clean-ups. Ellen Bailey and Jean Lewis volunteered but more will be needed. Kathy Rothfeld has helped in the past.

Long Pond Preserve: John Lemke, our lead steward for the Preserve, said that his goal again this year will be to focus on monitoring for illegal launching of boats and inappropriate behavior and littering at the Preserve's waterfront. John recently found 3 kayaks chained together by Tarry-a-Bit Road. He put notes on them saying that if not removed by the owners, he would remove and store them for safe keeping at the Town's "lost and found." They were removed by the owner. More signs stating Preserve rules are needed.

Parking issues are under the Town's jurisdiction. Parking infractions should be reported to the Lewisboro Police.

Financial Report: John Lemke reported that our cash balance is about \$124,200. We have an additional \$24,000 in the BEEP account and about \$3,000 in a securities fund.

Waccabuc Dam: Since the dam essentially a stone wall, there is concern with trees growing on top which, if blown over in a storm, could pull out a portion of the dam. If that happened, the lake levels would drop and the channels would

likely become impassible. Ellen Bailey said that her family gives Joe Tansey permission to cut the tree that is on their property. Joe will again seek permission from the dam's other property owner to remove another tree.

Aerator Question: Ellen mentioned that a floating aerator being used by the Waccabuc Country Club has successfully kept down weeds and improved water clarity at the swimming area. Jan explained that this type of unit treats surface water in a small area, whereas the hypolimnium aerator in Waccabuc was, when it worked, pumping oxygen to the deepest level of the lake. Once it no longer worked, it was shut down.

Lake Association Reports: The members were polled for any issues or concerns from their organizations. No lake concerns were raised.

Truesdale Dock Guidelines: Jan brought to the Board's attention Lake Truesdale's dock guidelines which can be read at this site: <http://truesdalelake.com/lake-management/dock-guidelines/>. She added that since every lake is different, all guidelines might not be appropriate for our lakes, but she thinks some might be useful guidelines for lake associations to consider.

The meeting adjourned at 9:15 PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Jean Lewis, Secretary