

E³ - Preserve and Protect Little Ossipee Lake through Education, Eradication and Erosion Control

Little Ossipee Lake Association

Annual Meeting Minutes

Saturday, August 19, 2017

Camp Laughing Loon

Officers: President: Michael Taflas, Vice President: Stu Lamont, Secretary: Barbara Lamont, Treasurer: Ed Doggett and Parliamentarian: Ross Dindio

Directors: Jim Chrzan, Kevin Cunniff, John Cyr, Deidre Donovan, Brad French, Bob Labelle, Sandy Labelle, Lindsay Taflas, Bob Thomas and Bryan Wood, Jay Wood

Alternates: Courtney DeRoo

Attendance: Members Present: Michael Taflas, President, Jim Chrzan, John Cyr, Ross Dindio, Ed Doggett, Kevin Cunniff, Deidre Donovan, Brad French, Bob Labelle, Sandy Labelle, Lindsay Taflas, Bob Thomas, Courtney DeRoo, Bryan Wood and Jay Wood

Members Excused: Barbara Lamont, Stu Lamont and Bob Thomas

The 2017 Annual Meeting of the Little Ossipee Lake Association was called to order by President Michael Taflas on Saturday, August 19th at 11:08 a.m.

1. Opening Comments:

- Mike welcomed the membership acknowledging that this is the 10th year the Annual Meeting has been held at Camp Laughing Loon and noted that the crowd was smaller this year.
- Ed Doggett led the group in the Pledge of Allegiance.
- Lakeside Market was acknowledged and thanked for their sponsorship and support. Mike asked Bryan to thank the additional sponsors (Salmon Falls Golf Course, Gorham Savings Bank, among others) that have been sponsored the Golf Tournament.
- Mike reminded all of the barbeque following the Annual Meeting and the dance that will begin at 8:00 this evening at Camp Laughing Loon.

2. Secretary's Report:

- The Minutes of the 2016 Annual Meeting were read and unanimously APPROVED as submitted.

3. Introduction of Little Ossipee Lake Association Board Members:

- All Officers, Directors, and Alternates were introduced with the exception of those whose attendance was excused.

4. Report from the Parliamentarian:

- Ross Dindio nominated the following Directors for a 2-Year Term: Mike Taflas, Kevin Cunniff, John Cyr, Bob Labelle, Sandy Labelle, Deidre Donovan, Jay Wood. There is one vacancy. All nominations were APPROVED.

5. Invasive Plant Patrol (IPP):

- Mike introduced Dee Dee Donovan as the leader of IPP. Dee Dee noted that there was an invasive species plant found on a neighboring lake, Long Lake, and educated the group on how to clear the plant (by the root) from the water. Dee Dee also noted that Lake Arrowhead is still battling their invasive plant problems and are spending over \$100,000 per year to eradicate it.
- Areas surveyed this year include: the public beach to Sunnyside cottages were surveyed and soon the dam side of the lake will be surveyed. There is another survey scheduled for August 27th and 9:30am at the Taflas residence at 310 Weber Road.

- Mike noted that Dee Dee takes courses regularly to stay educated about how to identify invasive plants and animals. Mike encouraged the membership to join us at the next scheduled survey.
- LOLA the Lily was placed in a shallow area somewhere on the lake. The purpose of finding the Lily is to educate people on where invasive species could be found. The Lily is no longer in the place Dee Dee placed it so someone may have found it but no one has claimed their prize.

6. Water Testing:

- Bob Labelle reminded the membership that water testing is done beginning in May through October and has been ongoing since 1977. The water is tested for oxygen, clarity and phosphorous. Samples are sent to lab for testing each month. Overall, water quality of Little Ossipee is considered above average on measures of SDT, total phosphorus, and Chlorophyll-a and is in the top 10% for water clarity in York County.
- There was a question from the membership about water clarity and Bob shared that the water clarity trend has improved since 1977, the average is over 7 meters now.

7. July 4th Boat Parade:

- The July 4th Boat Parade was a hit! Mike asked members who were present to speak with him after the meeting to claim their prizes.
- Mike showed a video of the boat parade which was filmed by drone footage from a local resident on the lake, Casey Nava. The video was well received.

8. Scholarship Winners:

- Sandy reported that Emily Kelley is the 2017 recipient of the LOLA Scholarship and Emily Scavoni is the 2017 recipient of the Guy Litalien Scholarship. LOLA will open up the scholarship application to not just the attendees of Massabecic High but also to students who live on the lake.

9. Treasurer's Report:

- Ed reviewed the Monthly Financial Statement for the period of July 15, 2017 – August 19, 2017 noting a beginning balance of 13,925.42. He reviewed the Monthly Financial Statement line by line reporting an ending balance on August 19, 2017 of \$17,864.98. Total funds available, including savings, are \$36,852.48. 159 members paid their dues prior to annual meeting this year and the Stewardship Fund has also increased.
- The Treasurer's Report was APPROVED as submitted.
- Ed and his wife, Sue Ellen were presented with flowers and a rocking chair as a token of LOLA's appreciation for all their work they have done for the lake. This was Ed's last meeting and he has been a Director for more than 30 years. Ed will be greatly missed.
- Monthly Financial Statement line by line reporting an ending balance on October 21, 2017 of 19,087.72. Available Operating Funds, reflect a total of \$27,387.98. Total funds available, including savings, are \$36,852.48.

10. Lake Clean-up Day:

- June 24th, 8th year for this event. Turnout this year was decent - 15 people. Encouraged members to join in each year and to remember that everyone on the lake can help clean the lake any day of the year.

11. LOLA Golf Outing:

- Bryan and Jay Wood led the effort for the first LOLA Golf Tournament which was held on August 4th at the Arundel Dutch Elm Golf Course. Mac's BBQ provided lunch to the golfers. Sponsors were again thanked. \$3,500 was raised which will go into the LOLA bank account.

12. Lake Sign:

- The sign was hit by a car and had to be reinstalled. The reinstall was completed in early spring and Mike asked folks to check it regularly for LOLA news updates.

13. Other Business:

- Mike showed an old photo presentation highlighting that everyone on the lake is responsible for encouraging healthy lake habits. All residents must work together to keep Little Ossipee Lake clean.
- Mike reviewed a series of issues that are frequently brought to the lake association that are out of the association's control. The following issues should be directed to the Maine State Police and Mike provided their phone numbers: jet ski speed, how often Game Wardens are patrolling the lake, motor boat wakes, the sea plane landing on the lake, and adding additional buoys. There was a question from the membership as to why LOLA doesn't have volunteers to monitor these issues. Bob responded that it would need to be a paid position and that LOLA does not have funds to cover that.
- Action Item: There was a suggestion from the membership to add more information in the LOLA sign at the boat launch that shares "good neighbor" policies on how to best enjoy the lake safely.
- Comments were made about fishing and how the lake is stocked each spring. This year the lake does not seem to be stocked as well as it has been.
- Town Ordinance: There was a question about the 10 year old petition to lower the lake level. Mike shared that the petition was rejected and that the town lowers the lake every 5 years.
- Question about the dam and how it is monitored. It was explained that Don Holden is the "dam man" and he is responsible for checking the levels of the dam regularly.
- There was more discussion from the membership around septic tanks and who is responsible for managing them. Leo, owner of Lakeside Market, said it is up to the property owner.
- **A comment was made to say "thank you" for all the work LOLA and the Directors do.**
- Leo Binette made a pitch to attendees and challenged everyone to try to increase membership to 300 members by next year. He was unsettled to hear that only 159 people have paid dues when there are 500 houses on the lake. Jay seconded the pitch for becoming members and noted that he had handouts.

14. Adjournment:

- Next meeting of the LOLA Board will be on September 16^h at 8:30 a.m. at the Town Hall.
- Meeting adjourned at 12:23 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Lindsay Taflas, Director