

Lincoln Pond Association Annual Meeting Minutes Saturday, July 24, 2021

Introductions: We met on the morning of July 24th at the Sienkiewicz camp on Lower Pond Way. The meeting was called to order by Association President Gerry Zahavi a little past 9:30 am. As in past years, the meeting began with all those present introducing themselves and identifying their camps.

Minutes: This was followed by a review of last year's meeting's minutes by Association secretary Debbie Maxwell. The minutes were approved by the members present. The 2020 minutes are available on our Web site.

Bylaws Amendment: Debbie reviewed the issue of our need to revise the bylaws so that the Association can properly vote on changes in the dues (we had voted last year to raise the dues but it was done in violation of our bylaws, hence the need to change the bylaws so that we can re-vote on the issue correctly). The original version of our bylaws read: *"The annual dues to members of the Association shall be \$15 per family, payable at the regular meeting in July."* The proposed revision reads: ***"The annual membership dues of the Association, assessed on each family's property, shall be set by the members and can be revised by majority vote at the annual membership meeting."*** After a brief discussion, the members unanimously voted -- by voice and a show of hands -- to approve the amendment.

Treasurer's Report: Our treasurer, Jeff Sienkiewicz, reviewed our financial shape and noted that we were in good shape with an excess of \$5000 as of today. He also reviewed some of our grant payments from the previous year. He noted that one of the reasons we were in good shape was because of income from the sale of our Lincoln Pond logo merchandise. Jeff then turned to a discussion of dues income. Last year we had 42 camps paying dues. He noted that the dues currently barely covers our expenses (CSLAP membership and water testing, Internet services, picnic expenses, and so on). Jeff felt we should boost our dues to give us a bigger cushion in case of an emergency. If it weren't for our merchandise sales, we would be in trouble. The treasurer's report was approved by the members.

Increasing our Dues: At the tail end of Jeff's treasurer's report, he renewed his recommendation to modestly increase camp dues by \$5, raising our dues next year to \$20. This was a return to last year's dues issue; we decided to re-vote on our motion to raise the dues -- this time correctly, under the revised bylaws. Jeff's recommendation was translated into a formal motion, seconded, voted on and approved unanimously.

Elections [Jeff Sienkiewicz (first) & Debbie Maxwell (second) moderated this portion of the meeting]:

Running for re-election this year was our president and secretary, Gerry Zahavi and Debbie Maxwell, as well as several directors. Taking up the elections of President and Secretary first, and hearing no additional nominations from the floor, Jeff asked for a unanimous voice vote for both Gerry and Debbie. Both were re-elected.

Debbie ran the second part of the election and reviewed the directors running for re-election: April Spilling, Wayne Johnson, and Christy Lill. Debbie also noted that we presently have two more vacancies on the Board and we really need to have representation from underrepresented areas of the Pond -- like Twin Brooks and Francis Myers. Dave Myers (from Francis Myers Drive) volunteered to run, and so did Ron Husner (from Twin Brooks). April, Wayne, Christy, Dave, and Ron were all

unanimously elected by voice vote. Jim Stacey, from Paynes Way, also volunteered for future service on the Board to represent Paynes Way.

Road Clean-up Report: Road clean-up this year took place on June 26. We had another good turnout and we were done in a little more than an hour. Gavin Spilling had provided a "civic service" to the Town and Association by picking up seven trash bags ahead of our own clean-up. We, as a group, collected around 13-14 bags this year. No toxic or unusual materials were collected this year (thank goodness!).

Annual Picnic: This year's scheduled picnic will take place on August 14th at the NYS campsite. Members were reminded not to pay but to announce at the gate that they were attending the LP Association picnic. The Association will pick up the car charges at the end.

LPA Logo Merchandise: Nancy Sienkiewicz filled in for Susan Bradford (Susan is normally responsible for ordering/sales, but was unable to be at the meeting) and went over the Lincoln Pond logo items available for sale: tee shirts, sweat shirts, hats, and "Henry's honey." Beer mugs and glasses will also be available for ordering.

Water Testing: Wayne summarized our progress to date (three tests so far this summer by Wayne (with his helper, Gerry Z). He also gave more details on the nature of the tests. So far, the quality of the water seems fine. We get final results several months after all eight tests are completed at the end of the summer.

Aquatic Invasive Project: Gerry summarized our work on surveying and controlling milfoil -- going over some PowerPoint slides. We currently conduct annual summer GPS-based observational and sampling surveys of milfoil and aquatic weed concentrations at around 200 points on the Pond as part of a lake tracking program administered by APPIP (Adirondack Park Invasive Plant Program), a program administered by the Nature Conservancy in cooperation with the Adirondack Park Agency. Data is uploaded to APPIP, analyzed, mapped, and returned to us annually (in the form of spreadsheets and maps) -- showing changes from year to year. Doug and April Spilling, along with Gerry, are planning on diving and clearing a heavily milfoil-infested site by hand harvesting later this summer and revisiting it next summer to gauge the extent of re-growth. Gerry also summarized proper techniques for -- and legal restrictions on -- clearing milfoil from in front of docks and discussed the issue of proper use of benthic mats. Some discussion took place of more extensive milfoil management techniques -- and their costs/benefits.

Broadband: Doug Spilling summarized progress on bringing broadband to Lincoln Pond. SLIC (<https://www.slic.com>) won the NYS-subsidized contract in this area and are presently bringing their fiber cable to the Pond; in fact, their lines recently reached the Pond. A few people have already obtained firm dates for home and camp installation. Lower Pond Way has new poles to bring in the cable; new poles will also be going up along Twin Brooks. In some places, the line will be buried. Doug summarized choices available to potential customers. NYS is helping reduce the cost each installation with a subsidy. People also have other options for broadband: high speed internet via satellite and broadband via cellular service. Verizon is currently installing underground cable to support *future* activation of 5G cell/Internet service. They will notify potential customers when this becomes available.

Road Reports: Wayne summarized work on Lower Pond Way, including plans to put down gravel and grade the road (Eric Rosselli on Lower Pond Way has a tractor with a grader and does this work).

Doug Spilling, as well, has been helping with filling pot holes.

As for Twin Brooks -- reports are that it is in very good shape. Tony Fernandez is currently taking care of the road pretty much by himself; in addition as Richie Carroll (sp?) has a tractor and has been filling potholes.

Francis Myers Drive maintenance is not as well organized and road upkeep seems a bit more problematic; there also appears to be a problem with road erosion caused by 4-wheelers.

Wildlife Sightings: Members shared stories of sightings and fish catches. We shared several slides and videos of wildlife -- including Scott Egglefield's trail camera shots of a mother and baby moose (from May 27). We also viewed photos of Wayne's grandson's large bass catches. Finally, members viewed a photo and video of an escaped Emu (taken by a Debbie and Gerry's trail camera located on a trail on the eastern hill above Lincoln Pond). We also discussed the new eagle's nest on the northeastern corner of the lower pond.

Old Business and Absent Member's Communications: R.J. Potter , who couldn't make this meeting, communicated complaints from himself and others about two items: 1) cars speeding along Lincoln Pond road near the camps and 2) excessive noise from jet skis. On the former, Potter felt that the state was not adequately monitoring vehicle speed along this congested area. Peter Zegarelli, who was also unable to attend the meeting, asked us to discuss the issue of what to do about the health hazards and aesthetic impact of large numbers of Canada geese defecating along the shores of Lincoln Pond. Members suggested the use of dogs, ropes, guns, and more humane ways of controlling the geese (a pamphlet discussing humane control methods will be posted on our Web site before next spring), Discussion turned to speed control of vehicles on Lincoln Pond road and members noted that the use of traffic cones was very effective and cheap. It seems to really work. We DO have authorization to spend money for a radar speed sign, but so far we haven't found one that was reasonably priced. On the matter of jet ski noise, members really couldn't suggest a solution (an early attempt, several years ago, to regulate hours of jet ski use went nowhere with the Town). A few felt it really wasn't a major issue -- except on some of the hotter days of the summer, and of course around the 4th of July. We may want to revisit this issue and come up with creative solutions if complaints continue.

New Business: Jim Stacey from Paynes Way noted that some acreage will soon be for sale on the north side of the Pond. Doug Spilling announced that he put a package storage box under the mailboxes at the intersection of Lower Pond Way and Lincoln Pond Road for FedEx and UPS to use. Jeff Sienkiewicz accidentally purchased the wrong size dock float sections and is making them available at a reasonable price to members. Scott Egglefield has a number of used solar panels available. Contact him if interested.

Respectfully Submitted,

Debbie Maxwell, Secretary

Completed by *Gerry Zahavi*, President

[NOTE: These minutes were begun by our secretary, Debbie Maxwell. Unfortunately, Debbie's health quickly deteriorated in the fall and winter; she died of cancer on Feb. 3rd, 2022. The minutes were completed by her husband, Gerry Zahavi, President of the Association.]