

SLA ANNUAL MEETING 7-28-07—revised 8-18-07

Executive Board and old and new board members (Jim McWain, Lyman McWain, Ron Kolar, Kal Samuels, Derek Moore, Ted Jewett, Peter Poulin, Sean Selby, Janet Selby, Peggy Barter, Anne Moore, and Peggy Bolduc) met prior to annual meeting to review agenda and approved Miller to board for one year x-officio and presenting a check today to him for town of Morgan for \$7000 toward shortfall on Milfoil expenditures.

Call to order-Jim McWain, President, 9:15 AM 7-28-07, about 75 attending

Executive board introduced: Jim McWain (President), Ron Kolar (Vice President), Janet Selby (Treasurer), and Peggy Bolduc (Secretary).

Secretary presented minutes from last annual meeting, one correction made by Ruby Jenness, to Swim Program reporting to note that other organizations also financially support the swim program in Morgan, in addition to funding provided by SLA. Minutes were approved as corrected.

Treasurer's report by Janet Selby shows membership income increased primarily due to the doubling of dues, and donations are down from last year. A printed report showed major expenses toward prevention of Eurasian Milfoil at \$8553 and swim program \$2205, for 2006. Total income for 2006 was \$9260, total expenses \$12,582, for a net loss of -\$3222. Report approved as read.

Richard Miller – one of 3 Morgan Selectmen—strong supporter of SLA

Presented importance of keeping Eurasian Water Milfoil out of Lake Seymour, citing adverse effects on fishing and recreation, property values, taxes, revenue, to name a few, and worst part is once present, it can't be effectively removed. Lake Willoughby just spent \$45,000 in their process to try to keep it from spreading. We have to pay inspectors to check boats and trailers entering Lake Seymour to try to prevent the aquatic nuisance from entering our lake. It is illegal to enter the lake with the presence of Water Eurasian Milfoil or a number of other listed foes. The other two Morgan selectmen, Robbie Guyer and Brian Gray also attended the meeting to show their concern and willingness to be part of the solution to recognize and work toward goals to keep Lake Seymour beautiful and clean and focus on keeping our community informed of dangers and seek total cooperation from everyone. Bruce Barter raised question if any portion of lake was in other towns. Answer was no. Land perhaps, but not lake. Reed Hubbard thinks lakefront owners have a greater interest than distant land owners. Ruby Jenness points out value to Charleston also of Lake Seymour staying clean also since they have a group formed to monitor Echo which is fed by Seymour. She suggests Morgan selectmen should dialogue with Charleston selectmen.

President Jim McWain – SLA acknowledges the part Morgan plays. In distribution of taxes most goes to state education fund with a very small portion available to actually take care of Morgan. Therefore, we need to value dialogue with our Selectmen and proposed Richard Miller be made an X-officio member for one year term on board of

Directors. Motion carried. McWain also noted good time to change leadership. He acknowledged Janet Selby for all the help she gives above and beyond her role as treasurer. Thanks to Ron and Eric Kolar for getting SLA through the 5013C process. Thanks to Homer Selby and Ron Kolar for all their work on dam issues which have been very successfully resolved. Thanks to Beth Torpey, former SLA officer, who started grant process years ago which enabled us to continue this process. Beth is working for the state of New Jersey in environmental watershed planning and advises us there may be more federal help available. She commended Peggy Barter her for the wonderful charts posted for visual aids at this meeting and will be working with Peggy and others from SLA as we seek to determine details of runoff, how to manage buffers and pollutants, and be good stewards of the lake and surrounding shoreline.

Reed noted sedimentation buildup. He wrote a letter asking for dredging by state and was told no by them. The boat launch is forming a shallow shoal and a lot of weeds are now present. Ron Kolar says to be sure to include this area in the upcoming shoreline survey.

Derek Moore of the Nominating Committee, comprised of Derek Moore, Janet Selby, and Brad Shattuck, presents new officers and directors:

Ron Kolar moving from Vice President to President
Lyman McWain, new Vice President
Janet Selby, Treasurer continuing
Peggy Bolduc, Secretary continuing

Directors: Jim Mcwain-2008
 Ted Jewett-2008
 Anne Taylor-Moore 2009
 Brad Shattuck-2010
 Bob Slater-2010
 Peggy Barter-2010

Unanimous ballot for officers and directors as presented.

New President Ron Kolar thanks Jim McWain for his service and notes that he has represented SLA very well at the Federation of Lakes. He also thanks outgoing board members Sean Selby, Tom Emery, Derek Moore, and Fred Cummings (deceased), for their service.

MEMBERSHIP-JANET SELBY

132 families, 98 individual memberships out of about 400 lake properties. One idea for increasing members is to get volunteers to hand carry the newsletter around for delivery to residents at the lake. Please sign up on the chart if you are willing to be one of these volunteers. Ideally, if a person is not home, try to return to actually see them if it is not a problem for you to do that. If not, rather than leave them on the door, Ruby Jenness suggests that those be mailed to them.

DAM/LAKE LEVEL

Ron Kolar reports yesterday the lake level was 9-1/2" above the low pin and that the long spillway is working well. Highest point was 14" above low pin and that is the maximum we want to see. It did not go over that and it used to. The spillway was raised 1-1/2" to help with low water in north end of the lake. Dam is still owned by Great Bay Hydro and remains under Federal Licensing (FERC).

SWIM PROGRAM-report by CAROL POMBAR

In spite of not having good weather this year and high waves, 56 participated. Numbers were down due to Charleston sent less. There were 6 instructors, 1 lifeguard. For 2006, expenses were \$2782, income at \$1805, for a cost of \$977 (Morgan-\$500, Circle of Friends, \$200, and Charleston \$200).

MILFOIL/VIP PROGRAM—PEGGY BARTER

Thanks to outgoing officers and board for their vigilance in keeping Eurasian Milfoil out of Lake Seymour. Reed Hubbard and Bud Birge are manning the launch area 6A-6P mid-May to mid-Oct. They are very respectful and cooperative and are now keeping detailed records with samples to track patterns. They went to training in June and Janet Selby served as volunteer inspector in their absence. Report to date 625 boats inspected and 9 had suspected Milfoil. Best way to inspect is through trained volunteers (VIP-Volunteer Invasive Patrollers) who agree to survey areas on the lake at least two times mid summer and mail any samples to the state. Any volunteers that do anything to help in this effort are asked to keep track of yours hours as those hours make a big difference in the formula used for getting grant aid from the state of Vermont. She reminded everyone to remove any plant material from all water craft before entering any lake.

WATER QUALITY—PEGGY BARTER

Peggy is reporting for Tom Emery who has been taking samples 10-12 times per summer. It takes him about 1-1/2 hours to gather samples and more time to submit them. He runs a secchi disc test for clarity. Sediment and algae reduces the clarity and numbers go down. Refer to book by state for detailed information since 1979. The experts at the state make recommendations for him to follow. There have been big changes over the past 10 years with clarity down and phosphorus up. The state sent scientists here in 2005 to make further tests. One fact is puzzling and that is the source of the phosphorus level which is rising so quickly. Board will meet in August for a citizens survey of the lake shore to determine in-lake, shoreland, watershed conditions. Ducks are not good for the water quality of the lake and they are not native to Lake Seymour. As hard as it is to get cooperation from friends and family members we all need to plead that they not feed the ducks to discourage their numbers and habits. More information about ducks is available on the state website.

BOAT SAFETY AND FISHING—HOMER SELBY

1. Canoes, kayaks, and paddleboats need PFDs. Cushions are not sufficient.

2. For motorized watercraft, must have PFD for each person and vessel needs 3 inch numbers in contrasting color for registration number. When vessel is in motion, under 12 years of age must WEAR PFD THAT FITS.
3. Boats with enclosed gas must have fire extinguisher.
4. When towing, need spotter at least 12 years old.
5. Born after Jan. 1974 must take boaters course and have proof of it in their possession to operate any vessel over 6 horse power.
6. Operators of motorized water craft must be at least 16 years old.
7. All boats must obey the rules. 200 foot wake rule means no wake within 200 feet of shore or another boat.
8. Floaties (rubber rafts) if outside the swimming area, you must have a PFD with you.
9. There are no laws concerning long distance swimmers in the lake but they should realize the dangers and choose to have someone marking their presence.

There are three state people to care for 30 lakes so it is not possible for them to cover all of those lakes very often. Refer to www.vtsp.org/boat for more information.

FISHING—HOMER SELBY FOR RON FRASCOIA

Stock for 2007 4000 7.5” lakers
 660 9.6” brooks
 2000 7.1” landlocked salmon

In addition, 1900 Salmon Fry were scatter stocked at a rate of 3 fish per 10 feet in a tributary of Sucker Brook. These fish are expected to stay in the brook for 1-2 years and then migrate down into the lake when they have reached an average of 6 inches in length.

Decreased fishing success reported and records show 50% decrease in boat launches compared to 2006. Several association members have reported finding trophy sized bass which have washed ashore. The problem is believed to be due to poor handling by catch and release anglers. Releasing does no good if rough handling results in their demise.

ICE OUT CONTEST-JANET SELBY

This fundraiser provides funds to be used in the expenses for milfoil prevention.

995.00 income

350.00 awards

645.00 plus any award returns to be used for milfoil expenses

3rd place winner - Bud Holland

2nd place winner – Fred Jackson

1st place winner—Jim McWain

REPORT FROM NEW PRESIDENT RON KOLAR

-Next newsletter will be in January.

-Read statement from Jean McKenny affirming her audit 7-14-07 of SLA books indicated everything correct and in order.

-Charitable status – 5013C-is in the final stage of approval. From founding of the SLA in 1945 until now the goals have been the same and in 2006 we held Vermont Not For Profit status. In Spring of 2007 SLA got an EIN, and in July 2007 filing of 5013C was

completed. The requirements of that filing made necessary a standard accounting system and a need to amend bylaws. The bylaws need to make a provision for handling of any monies if the SLA should ever cease to exist. A motion was made, seconded and carried with a unanimous vote to so amend the bylaws to hand any remaining assets over to the town of Morgan should the Lake Seymour Association ever be dissolved, for educational and testing purposes related to Seymour Lake and also to revise wording in Article II (Purpose) to state The Association shall also be involved in educational endeavors including, "Learn to Swim Programs" and Environmental & Testing Programs. The Association shall also be involved in testing of the lake waters to achieve its objectives. Janet Selby will now be able to give a receipt for tax deductible donations as soon as we get final approval which should be forthcoming.

DEVELOPMENT AND EDUCATION—LYMAN MCWAIN AND KAL SAMUELS

Lyman brings his past experience in sales and marketing and raising public funds for charities to SLA. His personal view is Lake Seymour is not just another lake but a great lake. He worries about lifestyle change more than property value if we ever get Eurasian Milfoil in our lake. As we look at creating a plan and raising funds, it is terrible that we have less than 50% participation from properties around the lake. We need to grow in this area. Following a great gathering last fall by Kal and Stella Samuels to build community and awareness of needs, Peter and Diana Poulin and Ron and Janet Kolar have invited all of you and any property owners around the lake to a cookout at Camp Winape on Aug. 11 at 5:00 PM. It is adults only, bring a future member guest if you can, bring a salad, veggie, or dessert to share and RSVP Janet Selby 895-2951.

Ron Kolar commends State Agency employees and programs. \$431,000 grant money divided 36 ways, with SLA getting 3904.00 for 2007. State legislators are not really paying attention and we need to keep after them because it is a very important issue statewide as well as locally for SLA. Sen. Leahy did get funds from Army COE for Vermont's Lakes.

Comment was made that fireworks have decreased. Thank you.

Many thanks to Kal Samuels for working with SLA and PBS to get a wonderful ad with a picture of Lake Seymour educating about importance of keeping aquatic nuisances out of our lakes and streams by be vigilant to remove any plant material before entering. Fred Jackson praised the ad saying he thought it was very effective and impressive that SLA was promoting it on television!

Door prize—Cabin Life magazine subscription—Ruby Jenness wins!

Samples of Eurasian Water Milfoil are present today for inspection and please take time to review the posters and other helpful information here today.

Meeting adjourned 11:15.

Respectfully submitted, Peggy Bolduc, Secretary, SLA

