

**Seymour Lake Association  
Board of Directors Meeting 8/22/2015**

**Present:** Chuck Nichols, Linda Buzzell, Jean McKenney, Erik Lessing, Tim Buzzell, Ted Jewett, Dave Anderson, Bruce Barter, Peggy Barter, Charles Woods

**Present By Phone:** Lyman McWain

**Not Present:** Alan Franklin

**Guests:** Tom Bonneville, Candy Moot, Jim McWain, Ron Kolar

Meeting called to order by Chuck Nichols, 9 a.m.

**Secretary's Report:** Motion to accept the Minutes from the 6/27/15 meeting, seconded and accepted.

**Treasurer's Report:** Jean McKenney presented a report on CD rates at local banks (report attached to this report) since CD #1 (\$12,231.00) is due to rollover. A motion was made to move CD #1 from People's Bank to Community Bank and add \$10,000 from checking to a CD for 13 months @0.69%. There was a brief discussion of upcoming expenses and the motion was amended to add \$15,000 from checking; seconded and approved. Chuck brought up putting Financials on the new website in a simple form. There was some disagreement. Erik Lessing made a motion that he and Jean would put a proposal together regarding how this financial information would look for BOD approval. Seconded and approved. A motion was made to approve the Treasurer's Report (attached to this report), seconded and approved.

**Samuels' Memorial:** Morgan Selectmen took an official vote and approved having the bench in the yard. The Morgan Church also approved using some of their property if necessary (letter attached to this report). Tim and Jean will go to see the bench. A date will be scheduled with the Samuels to present the bench. Dave also felt that the Church letter and town minutes need to be filed with the Town for the land deed. Jean will do so.

**Lawsuit Update:** Tim said an informal group met Monday at Erik Lessings to decide how to go forward with the lawsuit. Judge Tomasi denied our Motion to Amend the lawsuit. The consensus was that we should just drop it; ANR is a bureaucracy that does what it wants. Candy outlined a phone meeting 8/21/15 with Chuck, Tim, Candy, Dave Kelley and Jim Dumont, a potential attorney if we go to the Supreme Court. Dumont is skeptical that we would be successful, although he has not seen the file.

Candy described Rule 75 of Vermont Rules and procedures as saying the decision by ANR must be appealed within 30 days or it is done. They said they gave a decision in 2009 and 2013 but we did not feel or understand that it was an actual decision. The Judge says yes it is. Another issue is "Issue of Preclusion" - if we don't appeal the Judge's decision, or if we appeal and lose, SLA is precluded forever from bringing this up again in any forum, i.e. Environmental Court, PSB, etc. Tim asked if the Preclusion would affect a private citizen from suing? Dumont can tell us. He feels that everyone on the Board has worked close to ten years and it doesn't

bide well to just go away. Dumont is not up to speed and if he sees the file, he could better tell us if we would prevail. He feels we need to have David Kelley work with Dumont so he can intelligently give us advice. 2-4 hours @\$250/hr (detail of legal costs to date is attached to this report). The deadline to file is next week, \$200 +/- to file the appeal. The court takes a couple of months to make a decision giving us time to prepare our next move. A Motion was made to follow Tim's suggestion to go forward with Dumont and clarify our position. After much discussion, a motion to pay Dumont between \$1000 and \$2000 and to have David Kelley file the paperwork for appeal to the VT Supreme court, was seconded and approved.

Ron Kolar had several comments: Dave Kelley needs a bonus for his work. A letter should go to ANR if we don't go forward stating our dissatisfaction with the judgment, i.e. they are breaking the law, docks under water, deprived of the use of the lake etc.

Additionally, he felt SLA should do more for the community, possibly give a scholarship.

Dave Anderson felt we should form a Dam Acquisition Committee. Chuck and Tim will research this.

**Membership:** Bruce Barter presented a brief report stating that we presently have 344 memberships, 357 last year at this time. Several Membership Committee members are pursuing non-members in their particular sections of the lake. Bob Kern has been asked to be the new Membership Chair and he has accepted. We are considering having the ability to join SLA on line through our website. We have a new Facebook page. Chuck will take the Seymour Lake map and add links such as where buoys are located.

**Water Quality:** The boat wash will not be possible this season.

**Ice Out:** Janet Selby said they would put the float out. Frank Antonelli and Chuck will work on it. Tickets will be in the November newsletter and on the website, possibly use PayPal. Bruce is considering putting membership billing in the February newsletter and add Ice Out.

**Annual Meeting:** Feedback: Jean said she had decided on no juice next year as no one took any. Frank said that Chuck did a great job.

**Intern Status:** Peggy said that Northwoods did not file the grant as agreed and the deadline was August 20. They might take late filings and Peggy is waiting to hear if they will file.

**SLA Outing:** Went well, 80-100 people, 300 invitations sent. Ron and Janet Kolar have agreed to host the event again next year. Some discussion of possible music, childcare at the school. BOD needs to push bringing family and guests.

**Goals for Next 12 Months:** Community support like a scholarship; fundraisers like an auction, flea market, ice cream social; approach the State about dredging the boat access; Erik brought up the Fish Committee and updates. He and Woody will get an article together for the

newsletter. Woody will work on reviving the Fish Committee; member Bill Bilowus interested in being on committee.

Chuck will put together dates for the next Board of Directors meeting.

Meeting was adjourned at 11:10 a.m.