

Seymour Lake Association

Annual Meeting

July 22, 2017

1. Called to order by Chuck Nichols, President, at 9:10 a.m. with about 50 people attending. He said that we have had a good year, kept up with the boat access, and invasive species programs. He then introduced the Board and Officers. He mentioned that North Country Hospital is giving a tour August 12th and that people need to pre-register by August 4th. This year we have large maps (accident by the printer) and our regular size maps for \$20.00.
2. **Old Business** - None
3. **Secretary's Report** - A Motion was made to approve, seconded, approved.
4. **Treasurer's Report** - Attached - Jean McKenny said that donations have been very generous this year, more than memberships. To date, donations are \$12,610 and memberships are \$8,140. Our State Grant is down this year, anticipating another decrease in the future. Auditor, Doug Gilmore's, report is attached. There was some discussion about Income versus Expenses. A Motion was made to approve the Treasurer's report, seconded and approved.
5. **Elections** - The Nominating Committee consists of Tim Buzzell, Chair, Bonnie McWain and Ted Jewett. This year Tim Buzzell, Rhonda Shippee and Peggy Barter are up for re-election. Peggy has asked to step down but will stay on as Chairperson of the Water Quality Committee. Tim and Rhonda have agreed to stay on. The Nominating Committee asked Tom Adams to serve on the Board. He introduced himself, lives in Holland and has had a camp on the lake for 7 years. Tim asked if there were any other nominations to the slate. A Motion was made to close, seconded and approved. A Motion to elect Tim Buzzell, Rhonda Shippee and Tom Adams to the Board for a 3 year term was made, seconded and approved unanimously. A Motion was made to accept the slate of Officers (Chuck Nichols, President; Ted Jewett, Vice-President; Jean McKenny, Treasurer; and Linda Buzzell, Secretary), seconded and approved. Chuck thanked Peggy for her tremendous contributions to the Water Quality Committee.
6. **Committee Reports:**
 - Fish Report:** Woody Woods said Ron Frascoia couldn't be there but he is a meticulous record keeper and fishermen. He had worked with the State several years ago to change the Lake Trout size to 20" to keep but it has been unsuccessful. They are now working to change it back to 18" as it is in the rest of the State. Catching many 17-19" fish so it is felt that 18" makes sense. Fishing is ok, less fishermen. A 30" Brown Trout and a 25" Rainbow have been caught. Lots of Small Mouth Bass this year. Morgan has a Fish Hatchery on the lake run by the Vermont Fish & Wildlife Conservation Group. They receive eggs and raise them to fingerlings to be released at local lakes in March.
 - Loons:** The count in the State is very good this year. The good news is we have 10 Loons on Seymour this summer, the disappointing news is the nesting pair was unsuccessful. Woody feels the other loons probably made the nesting pair very nervous. After much discussion, it was suggested that we put an article in the newsletter to educate people about the Loons various concerns and issues.

SLA Outing: Frank Antonelli said that the Annual Outing will again be hosted by Ron and Janet Kolar at Camp Winape August 5th 6-8 p.m. Please bring guests and neighbors! We would like to increase the crowd this year.

Boating: Tim Buzzell said that the new dock is now on the second ramp at the Boating Access. The State has mapped out the depths at the access and have maps posted in several places there. Bonnie McWain spoke about the Boat Parade which was on July 2nd this year. There were fewer boats, about 25. Many docks were decorated with people interacting from shore. It was suggested that we change the starting point each year. Chuck commented that boats need to slow down to 5 mph near shore (VT Regulation) and we need to make a consistent map of where the buoys should go.

Historical Society: Bonnie McWain is the new SLA liaison with the Historical Society. It is open Mondays 9-12 pm and Wednesdays 1-3 pm. She encouraged people to visit.

Dam/Lake Level: Tim Buzzell indicated that despite it being a wet year, the level stayed right in the middle of the low/high pin at the dam. Spring runoff was gradual, not too high this year,

Membership: Bruce Barter - report attached - 64% of lakefront owners have at least one person as a member. We would like to see 75%. Please renew or join. A renewal letter will go out in March. Ted feels the wet weather has definitely affected when people have come or how long they have stayed this year. House to house calls have been impossible. There are 10 hardworking committee members.

Milfoil: Beth Torpey - report attached - We inspected 2250 boats in 2016, with 28 stopped for invasive species, 20 found to have invasive species. We have the decontamination system in place at the boat access but have had alot of problems with it. Hoped to be running this summer. Plants are a visual inspection but invasive animals are microscopic eggs and we need hot water at 140 F for zebra mussels etc. Beth also discussed the new dock and the posters of the mapped depths. Please educate your guests bringing in boats on invasive species. contact her and someone can come look the boat over at a private access. Ask renters to have someone look at their boat.

Invasive Plants: Woody described **Fragmites** (tall grass-like plant) which spreads very quickly along the shore by roots. The best method to remove them is, in early July, mow or weed-wack before the seed head forms. Have to be diligent and keep mowing them until no sunlight reaches the roots and they eventually disappear. **Japanese Knotweed** Cut them down and cover the area with black plastic. Do not leave the cuttings on the ground, tie them in a bundle and hang them to dry, and then dispose of them. We will put this information in the newsletter again. Chuck will keep an inventory if you will send him an email of these areas.

Newsletter: We are using a new Vermont printer and saving money. Erik is looking for new articles, history, pictures etc.

Water Quality: Peggy Barter - report attached. The AMERICORP intern, Trevor Bannister, whom we share with Northwoods, will help us map the shoreline invasive plants. Through Memphremagog Watershed, volunteers are doing tributary testing once a month through October on local Seymour tributaries. Tim is serving as a Supervisor for OCNRD which has a \$675,000 grant to address issues with farmers and agriculture. **Lakewise** - State program that sends lakeshore management program to inspect properties if we invite them. We can follow their advice or not. Peggy, Rhonda, Erik and Tracy Shadday schedule the inspections. We need 15% of lakeshore properties to be considered "Lakewise and property owners need to

pass 3 out of 4 categories. We have 28 now, and need 44. There was much discussion urging owners to participate.

Green Mountain Conservation Camp: Linda told the members that the Board has voted to sponsor a local boy or girl, age 12 at the time of the camp, to attend the Green Mountain Conservation Camp. There is one on lake Bomoseen near Rutland and one on Buck Lake in Woodbury. Registration begins in February. The camp costs \$250/week. Please let Linda or a Board member know if you have a child in mind. We will put the information in the newsletter and an email blast this fall.

There was a question regarding wind and solar and there was much discussion.

Adjourned 11:05 a.m.