

**Seymour Lake Association**  
**Annual Meeting Minutes July 27, 2019**

1. The meeting was called to order by President, Chuck Nichols, at 9:10 a.m. with about 50 people in attendance. He introduced the Board and said that Ted Jewett had decided not to sit for re-election this year. He thanked him for his many years of service to the SLA.

2. **Secretary's Report:** Linda Buzzell - A motion was made by Bob Steenrod to accept the Secretary's report from 7/29/18, seconded by Woody Woods, accepted. Linda also discussed our support of the Green Mountain Conservation Camp. We had voted to sponsor two kids this year - either a boy or girl at least 12 years old. We received three applications and David & Sylvia Detscher offered to sponsor the third child. Bethany Brush, Caleb Nadeau and Rosemary Gimler attended. We also sponsored Reining Hope.

3. **Treasurer's Report:** Jean McKenny - Report is attached - She referenced last year's financial report - Income of \$23,788 of which donations were 14,070. We have done extra work with Northwoods this year, noting the project at the boat access. A motion was made by Bon Steenrod to accept, seconded by Tom Adams, accepted. Chuck commented that we might receive less money from the State next year for our Greeter program and it will be discussed at Monday's Board meeting.

4. **Elections:** Nominating Committee is Tim Buzzell, Bonnie McWain and Sean Selby - Tim Buzzell, Tom Adams and Ted Jewett are up for re-election. Tim and Tom have agreed to stay on but Ted is resigning. The committee suggested Bill Bilowus to fill this position. He is a resident, retired principal from Buffalo, NY, also a Phys Ed teacher and coach. There were no other nominations. A motion was made to accept the slate as Tim, Tom and Bill, seconded and accepted. Officers also up for re-election - Chuck Nichols, President; Rhonda Shippee, V. President; Jean McKenny, Treasurer; and Linda Buzzell, Secretary. A motion to accept was made by Alan Willey, seconded by Woody, accepted.

**5. Committee Reports**

**Newsletter** - Erik Lessing, Bruce Barter & Maggie Griffith (grammarian). We have featured Doug Gimler's photography - Erik showed framed photo of the lake - we can go to the SLA website (Seymourlake.org) to find photos you like which can be enlarged and printed. There are three different aspects of the lake, spring and fall.

**Loons:** Woody Woods - Vermont is very successful with 100 nesting pairs this year. "Loon Caller" magazine lists what makes a great loon lake - VT is 2nd in the country but Seymour is not doing that well. We have 5 loons but no successful nesting pairs again this year. It takes clear water and a big lake which we have but also undeveloped shoreline, island, bays and little traffic which Seymour doesn't have. Too many houses, jet skis and the eagle.

**Fishing:** The fishing has not been good, not enough bait fish such as smelt. There is a group working with the VT Conservation Group at the fish hatchery to raise smelt after the brook trout have been moved to lakes and ponds. The law against moving smelt from one lake to

another ends in 2020. The State is more inclined to approve if lake associations approve. Much discussion. A motion was made to work with smelt, seconded and approved.

**Boating:** Tim Buzzell - Bonnie McWain discussed this year's boat parade which was held on Sunday July 7 because of rain on the 6th. There were only 15 boats, and not very many people on shore to watch. Next year the parade will be on Saturday July 4th. Some discussion. Tim said he was chastised for being too close to shore and causing a big wake 2 years ago so this year there was concern that we were too far out. So there was a command decision to go closer to shore next year and will send out an email about it and we will try to keep the wake as small as possible. Some discussion pro and con. There will be an email blast regarding boating laws. We have received a topography map of the lake near the boat launch. We have ongoing discussions with the State about what to do at the boat launch.

**Activities:** Frank Antonelli - The annual social is usually later but it worked out very well this year, good crowd and discussions. He thanked the Kolar family for being such good hosts at Camp Winape.

**Maps:** We have maps from 2018 on sale at the back.

**Membership:** Tom Adams He is happy to take on the role of Chair and will organize a membership committee meeting shortly. He asked that everyone encourage new members to join. Bruce Barter handles all updates, lists, statistics etc. 2018 374 "member units"; 2019 to date 314 units. In 2018, 72% of lakefront properties were members and 63% this year. In 2018 there were 101 members not on the lakefront. 71 former members have not renewed yet this year.

**Milfoil:** Chuck Nichols & Beth Torpey - 2018 was another successful year in preventing milfoil in the lake. David Wieselmann mapped the shoreline for locations of invasive plant species. He also organized the VIP program. August 19th at 10 am at the Seymour East access there will be a kayak training program to support finding invasive plant species. The Greeter Program is going very well. We will need volunteers or employees after August when some go back to school. The decontamination system was finally working well but the pump is down right now. Assured it will be ready for the bass tournament next week. Every boat will be decontaminated. Brief update on zebra mussels in Memphremagog. Encouraged to join the Memphremagog Watershed group. Please warn renters and those with private boat access areas to call Beth and she will inspect their boats, jet skis, kayaks etc.

**Water Quality:** Peggy Barter & Rhonda Shippee - report attached - Seymour Lake was praised at the recent FOVLAP meeting for the work we've done to prevent invasive species. Peggy received an award for her work. Praised for our phosphorous levels remaining stable where other Vermont lakes have levels that are climbing. SLA will inspect retention ponds on Spaulding Rd. with Ben Copans. We need volunteers to help, passed a clip board. Discussion of invasive plants - cut fragmites July, August before blooming; knotweed cut every month; cut loosestrife. Much discussion. Water samples are taken 9 times a year by Tom Emery.

**Dam/lake level:** Tim Buzzell said the lake was quite high this year. The second week of May the level was 2" over the high pin. Summer it is mid-way on the pin.

Chuck spoke on the website and email blasts. Are we ok? Frequency? A Committee is working on it. Andy Barter has offered to help and we need more help.

Seymour Lake Solar Farm - open House August 17th @ 9 am.

Morgan has an approved revised Town Plan, with help from Northeast VT Development Assn. The State evaluated it and all approved.

Meeting was adjourned at 11.10 a.m.