

Seymour Lake Association - Board of Directors Meeting November 24, 2024 1 p.m.
Zoom

Present: Rhonda Shippee, President; Bruce Remick, Vice President; Jean McKenny, Treasurer; Linda Buzzell, Secretary; Bill Bilowus, Tim Buzzell, Denis Fortin, Candy Moot, Tracey Becken, Bonnie McWain, Mike Tule, Tom Adams

Absent: Woody Woods

1. Secretary's Report: Linda Buzzell - A Motion to accept the Minutes from the September 20th meeting was made by Bonnie McWain, seconded by Candy Moot, approved.

2. Petitions to ban Wakesports. Rhonda opened the meeting to discussion about the State's public hearings December 10th and 12th for nine petitions filed by Vermont lakes to ban wakesports entirely on their lakes. The lakes who have filed are the Big and Little Averill Lakes, Echo Lake, Shadow Lake, Willoughby Lake and Lake Parker (Newport hearing), Waterbury Reservoir, Fairlee Lake, Joe's Pond and Caspian Lake (Montpelier hearing). After Rhonda's email providing draft comments prior to the meeting, Rhonda asked if there is agreement for SLA to submit formal comment. Tracey Becken expressed concern that if we oppose the petitions because the state has not implemented the Home Lake Rule, it will alienate the lakes who have filed petitions. Candy Moot has asked Rhonda to talk to Echo, telling them we are not opposing their petition but want the state to hear that we need the Home Lake aspect of the rule to be implemented for us to support any of the petitions which she plans to do. Basically, we need ANR to move on implementing the Home Lake Rule as soon as possible. Bill Bilowus made a motion to file a petition to ban wakesports on Seymour to protect ourselves in case the state approves all the petitions and we see a large influx of wake boats. Rhonda feels it is premature to file anything yet and that if we were to file a petition it would require a positive vote of the SLA membership. If we were to have a member vote at the annual meeting, Candy suggested we have a forum before the annual meeting that includes Seymour wake boat owners so they can have their say. Tim seconded Bill's motion because he feels it will get ANR's attention to get the Home Lake rule done by the 2025 boat season. There was much discussion on both sides. The vote to file a petition to ban wake sports on Seymour Lake was 5 to approve, 6 against with the Chair abstaining. Bruce Remick made a motion to have Rhonda make formal verbal comments as written by Candy and Tim at the hearings. Seconded by Jean McKenny, approved.

3. Nominating Committee: Tim Buzzell, Bonnie McWain, Mike Tule - Tim discussed replacing Tom Adams on the Board. The Committee members agreed that the BOD person selected to replace Tom Adams should also take the role of Membership

Committee Chair. Tom suggested both Jim Mitchell and Chris Blais but felt Chris was the better choice at this time as Jim has other time commitments that might limit his time for the role. Tim then recommended Chris Blais. If she isn't interested, Jim would be considered next. Jean McKenny made a motion to offer Chris Blais the position, Candy seconded, approved.

4. Potential application for clean water funding – Tracey said she is working on a grant application for clean water funding to do improvements on 8 private driveways. Rhonda asked how much the application would be for and would it require a match by SLA. She said no match is required and the application would be for \$12,000. authorized WQ committee and President to apply if deadline can be met. Tracey Becken said it was \$12,000 to correct 8 private driveways. Jean McKenny made a motion to approve the application, seconded by Bill Bilowus. Approved.

5. Reminder of the final LWAP report meeting on December 4th via Zoom. All directors are requested to attend.

6. Next Board Meeting January 15, 2025 4 pm via zoom

Motion made by Candy Moot to adjourn at 2:15 pm, seconded by Bill Bilowus, approved.