

Seymour Lake Association - Board of Directors Meeting - January 24, 2026

Via ZOOM 1:00 pm

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

Committee Members: Chuck Nichols

Absent: Woody Woods

Secretary - Linda Buzzell - Motion made by Jean McKenny to accept Secretary's notes September 13, 2025, accepted. Brief discussion of our summer camp sponsorship. We have two potential boys for Northwoods but they have not committed. Linda has had a talk with Andy Capello at Northwoods about how to handle the sponsorship. As it has been difficult to find youth that want to utilize the scholarships we discussed soliciting ideas other than camp scholarships from members at this year's annual meeting.

Old Business: Candy Moot gave another update on the status of wake boat regulations. She and a committee have been working to get the Home Lake Rule for wakeboats into a law. It is Senate Bill 224 and the Natural Resources Committee has taken testimony. Meanwhile the State Dept of Environmental Conservation is still moving forward with changes to the Use of Public Waters Rule that will eliminate the Home Lake Rule and expand the wakesport zone which will reduce the number of eligible wakesport lakes from 30 to 18. There are two public meetings coming up to discuss changes to the wakeboat zone definition, and updated decontamination standards, scheduled January 27 from 5:30 to 8 pm in Brandon and February 4 5:30 to 8 pm in Barre. Rhonda has signed up to make comments. She plans to recommend the Home Lake Rule be maintained and that wakeboats not be allowed to transport to other lakes as there are no decontamination facilities anywhere in the region. Candy made a Motion for Rhonda to make public comments as proposed, seconded by Jean McKenny. Approved.

Reclassification Update - Senate Bill 223 for a study committee - Rhonda stated that if this bill passes, the septic fix is going nowhere until the study is done.

Treasurer - Jean McKenny - There was much discussion about the Budget for 2026 due to the increase in the Greeter Program. Membership was slightly down last year, but donations increased. A motion to accept the budget as presented was made by Bonnie McWain, seconded by Candy Moot, accepted. A Motion to authorize \$1600 for Starlink at the boat access as the state has determined it is not eligible for their grant program was made by Tracey Becken, seconded by Bonnie McWain, approved. A Motion was made by Chris Blais to make our annual dues/donations to FOVLAP, MWA, and NWSC. Seconded by Candy Moot, approved.

Membership - Chris Blais, Chair, has decided to resign from that role. Chuck Nichols who handles our member records and IT issues talked about the Chair person's responsibilities. Chuck feels the timeline for the committee should be as follows:

- A membership renewal letter by March 15;
- phone calls by Board members and members of the committee (with a script) to people who haven't renewed in early May;

- Membership Committee meeting by Zoom in late May/early June to discuss plans;
- set up at the transfer station Memorial Weekend to try to get new members and let current members know if they need to renew;
- membership committee given a list of non-renewals for their area on or around June 1;
- Membership committee contacts any non renewals by their choice of method between 6/1 and 6/15;
- mass e-mail to non-renewals by July 1.

There was discussion of prospective people to be approached for Membership Chair on the Board. Suggested that there be Co-Chairs and everyone thought that might be a good idea however no decision was made. A prospective person might be more amenable if he/she had help. Tim as Nominating Committee Chair will approach several people - Candy, offered to help the new Chair as well.

Water Quality - Tracey Becken had to leave at 3 pm but Rhonda covered several items. Lakewise 2026 - OCNRCD only has funding to do 2 on Seymour this year and we have a potential 6, they will do more but will charge \$380 per assessment – we will discuss whether we want to assist financially with these at our May meeting; and brief information about a program some NH lakes and Lake Parker in Glover are setting up to provide assistance with septic inspections. Tracey is looking into what Lake Parker is doing and will report at our meeting in May. The Water Quality Committee is also considering sponsoring a septic social this summer.

Boating - Tim Buzzell set the boat parade for Saturday July 4th at 2 pm

Activities - Bonnie McWain - the Kolars have offered Winape again for the summer social. Bonnie will suggest Aug 8 to them. There will be another Children's Art Contest as well. Denis suggested we consider the theme be the 250th anniversary of our country.

Milfoil/VIP - Rhonda's report is attached to this report.

Fishing/Loons - Bill Bilowus is meeting with the new Game Warden this week for a newsletter article. Smelt committee checking brooks last two weeks of March and first two of April. The run was May 1 last year.

New Business: Possible goals for the coming year were discussed. Rhonda noted that Candy had suggested perhaps it would be good to do another member survey as it has been a number of years since we did one. It was agreed to think about potential questions and put on the agenda for May.

NEXT BOARD MEETINGS: It was agreed to hold meetings on Friday mornings starting at 8:00 am this summer. The following tentative dates were decided upon:

May 15; June 19; July 10, August 7, September 18 at 8 a.m.

ADJOURNED 3:20 pm