

Loon Lake Park District Association, Inc.

Annual Meeting

July 7th, 2019

Call to Order: 9:59am John Nick

Introduction of Craig Leggett, Town of Chester Supervisor – Craig addressed the group to discuss the renovations at Town Hall to include a wellness center in partnership with the local YMCA. One primary goal is to restore the gym for recreational use.

Dam Repair – Chestertown is working with a local company to consider cost and scope for dam repair. The preliminary cost will be ~ \$440,000 which does not include design, testing and engineering costs. Town is looking for grant funding to help abate the costs – more to follow on the dam costs. Expect to start project no sooner than next summer.

New well has been dug for drinking water at the public beach as mandated by the Department of Health. The well has been dug and is operating properly – drinking water will be available to beach goers soon. Town is looking for beach lifeguards and has not received significant response. Officially the beach is closed when no lifeguard is on duty. There are 2 lifeguards on duty on weekends only at this time.

The results of last year's **dock survey** to determine a base line information for lake docking are in and the Town is currently tabulating the results – more to follow on this. The original issue is that there are many docks on the lake that never received a permit. Before 1995, there was no requirement of a permit for a lake dock. The Town would like to have working data to know how many docks exist on the lake.

Craig answered questions from the audience about boating safety, and appropriate size of boat for the lake. Concerns from the audience shared included balancing safe boating and lake enjoyment.

Introduction of **Lake Safety Officer Rich Konig** (Cell number 623-251-1393) Rich's major focus is education and talk to boaters about safe boating. Rich also looks for debris like logs and other hazards to be removed. Additionally, as Lake Safety

Officer, Rich provides services like towing stranded boaters. Rich also participated in the LLPDA Invasives Remediation Evaluation Program.

Introduction of the LLPDA Officers and Board of Directors

President – John Nick, Vice President – Rich McCrum, Treasurer – Mary Flynn, Secretary – Kevin Wickert Board Members: Ken Wade, Glen Vogel, Doug O’Brien, Michael Baumis, Eric Lauritzen, Beth Cole, Jim Fregoe, Howard Kennedy, Brian Bosan, Rob Freligh

Introduction of Aqualogic - Dominic Jude. Aqualogic is the invasives management contractor hired by the LLPDA to implement our milfoil removal. Dominic feels that our lake is in great shape as it relates to Eurasian Milfoil. Aqualogic typically patrols in the evening and mornings with harvesting during the day. The milfoil in our lake has been diminishing and is expected to be at a “management level” in one to three years. Aqualogic has harvested 3,000 lbs of milfoil to date with 55 more days to harvest this season. Loon Lake is the headquarters for Aqualogic and has committed to keeping Loon Lake under close watch.

Secretary’s report:

Kevin Wickert

Minutes from last meeting submitted and approved. Motioned by John Nick and second by Rich McCrum.

Some feedback would be helpful from the audience. During the public Q&A comment session – please comment on how you receive your newsletter (email, US postal mail, website) do you follow the updates on the FB site, if you join the LLPDA do you know there is an electronic option/subscription option on the website, Lastly, we send out about 6-7 e-blasts (mass emails) to our group of 774 each year. Are people seeing them? Reading them, etc.

We are also open to any comments on LLPDA events: boat parade, fishing derby, dinner dance etc. as we seek in increase attendance/participation

Treasure’s report: Mary Flynn - Financial audit for 2018 by Anthony Capobianco

See attachment. Audience members are invited to comment. Move to accept Treasurers report by Glen Vogel and 2nd by Doug O’Brien.

President's report/Lake status:

2019 Newsletter – written and edited by Rich McCrum. There is a great deal of information regarding the invasives management work overseen by the LLPDA, safety information, event specifics and local news important to our members.

Aquatic Invasives Species remediation evaluation program developed by the LLPDA, APPIP and APA on Loon Lake – Rich McCrum. This was a voluntary program sponsored by the APA and Loon Lake was one of the first lakes to participate. Our goal is to find new and better ways to protect our lake from invasive species. The point of this program is to inventory the invasives and determine geographical trouble areas for invasives in the lake. This program creates metrics to measure our progress and status. The lake is separated on a grid and mapped out to measure current status and future growths or recessions. One key data point is that there is no milfoil in over 66% of the lake where it would likely grow. This shows our invasives harvesting program is working.

One of the questions from the audience was using chemicals to treat milfoil. The APA is strongly opposed to the use of chemicals in Adirondack lakes. We have tested the Renovate product in the past and it is extremely effective. We are harvesting to manage invasives and not using chemicals as per the APA guidelines.

John Nick reviewed **all of the committees** that the volunteer LLPDA organization operates. These include, Adopt A Highway, Boat Parade, Boating Safety Course, Buoys, Golf Tournament, Lake Level, Water Testing, Website, Milfoil, Membership, Lake Steward Program/Boat Launch, and Invasive Mediation Evaluation Program.

501C3 update – John Nick. The LLPDA has completed all of the work to become a 501C3 organization. We need a CPA volunteer to help us complete the necessary tax returns for our 501C3 status. Please let a board member know if you know of anyone that can help.

Tiered Membership Levels & Pay Pal

Kevin Wickert

Introduced tiered membership for 2018 – now over 60% of our members voluntarily choose a higher tier than the original membership rate. Electronic payment was also made widely available in 2018 and now ~ 30% of our members use this option. For convenience – we want to expand use of electronic payment to be automatic subscription.

Membership drive/road captain's update - Ken Wade. Ken is managing our road captain program where volunteers visit actual homes in the area to advise that the LLPDA exists and how they can participate. There are several homes in the area that have turned over to new owners – one major focus is getting to new owners who might not be aware of the LLPDA.

Water testing report 2018 - Nancy Fregoe. The water testing is part of the Adirondack lakes assessment program in partnership with Paul Smiths College. This is the 5th year Loon Lake has participated. We are testing for water transparency and quality. One issue for our lake is road salt from winter plowing. Loon Lake is in the 85th percentile for road salt content.

Warren County Soil and Water - Doug O'Brien. We have addressed the salt runoff issue with Warren County. They have considered our request and are testing brine products and alternatives to keep the salt level down. Salt in the lake will increase the chlorides in the lake and kill off the fish and native vegetation. Established in 1991 to manage over 25 lakes and many others streams and rivers.

The **Adirondacks Lake Alliance** and The NYS Federation of Lakes supports the LLPDA.

- Road salt running off NYS roads into Loon Lake
- Sediment issue in Loon Lake
- Government interaction

Boat launch/inspection station Open Mother's Day through Columbus Day – hours are 7 AM to 7 PM. After Columbus Day – the launch is closed and locked.

Fish surveys and restocking – this was in item brought up in last year's public meeting. John has met with local authorities and indicate that Loon Lake has forty times more exposure than other lakes since we are so close. DEC has done a walleye re-stocking in the past. Many of these fish naturally procreate and it may

be considered a waste of money to re-stock again.

Listing of LLPDA Activities and Functions

Fishing derby recently had 42 participants. This was a good turnout compared to recent years but 4 years ago we have over 80 kids participating. LLPDA provided trophies and Jim and Nancy Fregoe provide hot dogs for the kids.

Meet the Candidates Saturday August 24th at 10 AM – Town Hall auditorium.

Nominating Committee: Eric Lauritzen. The candidates for LLPDA for next three years, President – John Nick, Vice President – Rich McCrum, board members – Eric Lauritzen, Gail Danforth, Barb Kearney

From the floor:

Fourth of July had a great deal of traffic on the lake. Safety officer Rich Koenig was on the lake patrolling.

Craig Leggett added that the Town is working on zoning ordinance review. Thomas Thorsen has managed the review as well as John Nick and Barb Kearney. Craig would like to hold a public meeting this summer for input from citizenry.

Additionally the Town board has passed a law regarding property maintenance. The law regulates light, excessive poor maintenance and litter. Main concern is health, safety and welfare. Tom Thorsen is the new zoning board officer.

Beth Cole and Rob Freligh thanked for their longstanding service as board members.

Meeting adjourned by President John Nick at 11:09am.