

**Loon Lake Park District Association**

**Annual Meeting – July 9, 2017**

**Chestertown Municipal Building**

Call to Order – John Nick @ 9:56am

**Introduction of Craig Leggett, Town of Chester Supervisor**

- Craig will discuss Loon Lake and accept questions and comments from 10-10:15am
  - Associations like LLPDA help a community with it's issues. Budget last year gave extra \$40,000 for invasives and increasing constable hours on the lake.
  - Dam report – dam by public beach. Rated as Class C – High hazard dam. Affects insurance values, affects the town's ability to gain insurance. Looking to improve Dam class rating. Hired consulting engineer. Report concludes that there is no chance to improve the dam rating. Craig wants to justify the "maximum flood" capacity to help town manage spillway. This would be a very expensive project. Seeking alternatives to expensive project. Dam has been inspected as Class C high hazard dam. Few minor issues to address currently as "Class C – high hazard dam".
  - Town of Chester – Economic Development Initiative – open floor to residents to contribute. Asks community to offer feedback into 4 categories about the community "like the best", "like the least", "would like to see", "would not like to see". Asking community members to offer input on items around town and its' future for Craig to incorporate into his planning.

**Introduce the LLPDA Officers and Board of Directors** – Rich McCrum, Vice President authors and delivers newsletter, Mary Flynn, treasurer manages and reports on financials. Kevin Wickert, Secretary records meeting minutes, manages master member list and participates with board initiatives.

**Introduction of Dominic Jude** – Aqualogic (new invasive species contractor) using new technology, DASH – diver assisted suction harvesting. Aqualogic will spend 18 weeks on the Loon Lake this year. Already removed 17,325 lbs of invasive plants so far this year. Found another invasives species on Loon Lake. Curly Leaf pondweed, in addition to water chestnuts (northern most part of lake) and Eurasian Milfoil (most prevalent.) Curly Leaf pondweed grows under ice and is usually gone by end of June – one reason why may not have been noticed to this point. Point of comparison, Lake Champlain has 50 invasive species – Loon Lake has 3 that we know of.

**Loon Lake constable** – Dave Cavanaugh – not present. Retired Warren county sheriff and bailiff in Town Court. Phone number for constable is in newsletter. Constable is hired to be authoritative presence on the lake with focus on education of regulations and safety for all.

Insert included in Newsletter – NYS Town of Chester boating rules and regulations. Different standards for boat and watercraft.

Markers for milfoil with new contractor different from the yellow bottles used in the past. Noodle material will be marked as “milfoil – do not remove”. Some people have been removing these markers, not knowing what they are in an effort to protect boat propellers.

Dominic Jude, Aqualogic, plan is to visit milfoil areas more than once for high density areas. Goal is to get known locations a 2<sup>nd</sup> time to manage re-growth. Not possible to remove an invasive specie completely or eradicate. Difficult to determine what percentage of invasive will be removed. Factors to consider is snow, weather, re-growth, etc.

### **Secretary’s report – Kevin Wickert**

- Meeting minutes are posted on website – loonlakeassociation.com including most recent board meeting on 5/28/17. Members are also welcome to contact board members for information.
- Major topics
  - Boat wash – we are encouraging the use of the public boat launch with free boat wash to remove potential invasives before they enter the lake.
  - Boat wash stewards have been trained by experts at Paul Smith’s college to search for more and new invasives.
- Membership
  - Defer to George Greenwood who manages block captains in effort to collect dues.
  - Preparing option for members to pay on-line from LLPDA website.
- Invasives
  - New invasive species contractor Aqua Logic this year using new process called DASH – Diver Assisted Suction Harvesting
  - Offers higher productivity for greater harvesting and time savings.
  - 3<sup>rd</sup> invasive found on lake – in addition to Eurasian Milfoil and Water Chestnut we now have discovered curly leaf pondweed
- 501c3
  - Board has been researching our ability to change LLPDA entity status to non-profit.
  - Will allow us to apply for and accept grants as well as tax deductible donations
- Rich McCrum – motion to accept minutes – 2<sup>nd</sup> by all – approved.

### **Treasurer’s Report      Mary Flynn (attachment)**

5 funds under management. 4 funds are restricted (money in and money out for that singular purpose) General fund is only non-restricted fund. We use money from the State when available but we don’t receive it every year or have it guaranteed every year.

250 paid members for 2017 which puts us ahead of 2016 significantly.

- Remainder of golf funds is liquidated to local charities every year. There is a golf committee to consider charity. Most money from golf tournament is donated locally. Committee determines who that money goes to. Example is Emergency Squad, library, fire department, youth

commission, scholarship funds for North Warren School District, food pantry and North Country ministries. LLPDA is being asked to publicize who is getting the monies.

Discussion on moving from paper newsletter (with paid printing and postage) to electronically available on the newsletter and sent via email.

Terry moved to accept treasurer's report. 2<sup>nd</sup> by all – motion carried.

### **President's Report/Lake Status**

Water testing report 2016      Jim Fregoe

- Testing done every year – results posted on website.
- Lake is in good condition currently.
- One issue is salt from plowing coming off the road on route 9 during snowplowing.
- We are not affected by acid rain to date.
- Testing around the lake later in July for bacteria – results will be made available.

### **Warren County Soil and Water Rich McCrum, Doug O'Brien**

- Road Salt running off NYS roads into Loon Lake
- Sediment issue in Loon Lake

Boat Launch/Inspection station update – 3 attendants at station, manned from 7a-7p 7 days/week. Outside of these times, launch is locked in an attempt to keep control. Training for boat attendants every year from Paul Smith's College instructors. To date this year, 237 boats launched from public launch.

Buoys/Water level control – Brian Bosan and Patrick Reed manage to get buoys in and stay clean. Glen Vogel and family manage buoys at their end of the lake.

### **Membership drive/road captain's update      George Greenwood**

- 250 paid members to date this year as of today. Goal of 350
- Using volunteer "road captains" to help collect dues, 20 road captains around the lake to participate. George is accepting volunteers to help in collection and participation.
- Attempting to insure our membership address master list for our ability to contact and educate members.
- LLPDA has never surpassed 305 members, this year's goal of 350.

### **Community Activities**

- Boat/Jet ski/sailboat count – being done Monday 7/10 – tracking boat population and traffic
- 2017 events – also available on website.
  - Recent event was July 1, Fishing Derby – 20 participants in heavy rain

- Contributions from Loon Lake Marina, Loon Lake deli and Nemeec family Thank you to the Fregoes who provided hot dogs and snacks.
- Sail fest was a wash out. One boat showed up to partipate.
- July 6 and 7, boater training with over 30 students. Highest turnout yet.
- Annual Dinner Dance – Glen Vogel – 76th anniversary of Loon Lake PDA – still accepting payments for people to attend. Please contact Glen directly.
- New event not in newsletter – July 26 – Roy Layton giving history presentation on Look Lake Municipal Center – Auditorium. Images and maps from historical Chestertown.
- July 29<sup>th</sup> is family water carnival at town beach.
- Boat parade is also 7/29 – starting at Marina and traveling counter clockwise. Usually 15-17 boats participate. NO theme, starts at 4pm.
- August 5<sup>th</sup>, family hike at Pinnacle close to Exit 24<sup>th</sup>. Hike is a little longer than Kipp Mountain and has great view of Lake George. Meet at 9:30am at corner of Route 8 and White Schoolhouse Road.
- Marv Cole annual golf tournament 8/11 is sold out again this year. Thank you to everyone participating.

**Nominating committee Eric Lauritzen** – one officer and 2 board members term expire this year.

Mary Flynn, Howard Kennedy and Michael Baumis have offered to continue in their capacity on the board for another term. No new nominations. Glen offered motion to continue Mary Flynn, Howard Kennedy and Michael Baumis, 2<sup>nd</sup> by all , motion carried.

**From the floor – open for comments, suggestions and recommendations**

Terry Thomas from floor has question about how State and Corps of Engineers has a vested interest in protecting dam and community from failure. (health and safety of public)

Floor member asking to ban high speed hydrofoil boats on Look lake. Request is based on noise level and inappropriate size/function. Craig Leggett responded that New York State owns the lake, not the lake owners. Enforcement for a ban is difficult. Floor is asking for us to take a look closer at NYS regulations. Thinks the lake owners can vote on restrictions. Will be considered at next board meeting.

John Nick is considering creating a decibel level restriction for Loon Lake. Currently in process.

John Nick feels that if we reduce our spend on invasives, we can use that money on constable and other improvements to the lake. Priority is to get invasive species management under control to free up other dollars.

John Tedeski asked how many tickets has constable written in the last year? Answer from Craig Leggett was none. This is a recreational lake, not offering an authority. Role of constable is to educate and enforce regulations.

Linda Meunch spoke about the 17 candles birthday club associated with Food pantry. Participants receive a gift of clothing and one item for a hobby. Grateful for peoples' support, this year she will have 22 participating kids in need.

Floor member discussed water level control on lake. Felt we missed an opportunity based on high water level. Recent heavy rains have caused damage to docks- felt that we should be more proactive and open sleuths with weather forecast. John Nick and Howard Townley manage water level for LLPDA. John Nick responded that sleuths had been open for 6 days prior to storm. After boards in dam are in, only control measure was sleuths. Water level was up 9 inches in less than a day with recent rain.

Kathy Lauritzen had concern about boats in bays, dropping anchor and spending day. Concerned about safety for other boaters and felt that this activity makes our small lake even smaller. Craig is checking in to regulations for mooring or anchoring boats. Please look out for baby loons.

Motion to adjourn, 2<sup>nd</sup> by all, motion carried.