

Loon Lake Park District Association  
Board of Directors Meeting Agenda

August 25th, 2018 9 AM

**Call to order:** 9:01 am. In attendance - John Nick, Kevin Wickert, Rich McCrum, Doug O'Brien, Glen Vogel, Eric Lauritzen, Rob Freligh, Beth Cole, Mike Baumis

**President's update:**

Aqua-logic YTD status – goal for contractor is to have each lake association to purchase their own DASH boat. After that expense (\$60K) the contracting cost will go down. Will continue to research – we may not have funding. Aqualogic wants LLPDA to consider a 10-year service contract – will continue to research possibility and funding.

In 2017 42,665 lbs. of milfoil removed from lake

So far in 2018 13,100 lbs. of milfoil removed from lake – likely is less because of success of previous year

Adirondack Park invasive plant program APIPP visited lake – struggled to find water chestnuts in 2017 and 2018. That is one invasive down from previous years. (curly leaf pondweed, Eurasian milfoil are others)

**Secretary minutes from public BOD meeting:** **Kevin** public meeting was well attended with approximately 100 members. Craig Leggett did an excellent job presenting to the public – thank you for your participation.

**Treasurer's report:** **Mary**

PayPal – 42 members used online payment in it's first year. We expect to see that grow in future years.

Aqua-logic – paid \$34k recently – another bill for \$20k coming. We will likely drop our costs for 2019 by \$10k because we are headed into 'management phase' with successful previous harvests. John Nick is very pleased with performance of Aqua-Logic. Recent call to remove plants brought their people to the lake the next day.

Beth Cole – added charity to Marv Cole Loon Lake golf event with donation to Hudson Headwaters (\$300) Golf tournament netted \$100 more than last year. (only new added charity from previous years)  
Long list of contributions to board for disbursement from \$5,700 available for donations.

Motion to approve contribution list – Doug, second – Rob. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion to accept treasurer report – Glen, second – Rich, Motion carried.

Motion to accept Secretary minutes – Rich, second Doug. Motion carried.

**Old business:**

501C3 update John Nick – same status as annual meeting. Last correspondence from IRS was 4 months ago telling us our file was received and being processed. Process may take up to 6 months. The 62-page application/document was completed by Doug O'Brien and Terry Griesmer.

Membership drive / Road captains / Tiered membership cost option results to date Kevin/Ken - 2017 we had 317 members \$6340. 2018 we have 292 members for \$9180. Memberships continue to come in until December most years. We will hold discussions about HOW to spend any extra revenue from membership. All money will be spent based on our associations mission statement. Mike Baumis suggested that we broadcast a request to members to remind to pay annual dues.

Third party review of invasive status in Loon Lake APIP and APA Rich McCrum – The LLPDA wants to continue to analyze performance of invasive management program by the APA. There has been resistance by APA to avoid “recommending” any contractor. APIP has been willing to review and evaluate a lake’s individual invasive management program. Met with Rich McCrum, John Nick, Craig Leggett, Leigh Walwarth and Erin Vennie-Vollrath and Ed Griesmer on 8/3 to establish a metric to understand our success/failure of program. (Adirondack Park Invasive Plant Program). Loon Lake will be the first and model program (beta test) for all lakes in the Adirondacks. Lake will be ‘grid-out’ to measure invasives levels at different times of year to measure existence or non-existence of milfoil and other invasives. Milfoil has not been found anywhere over 16 feet of depth. The survey will be conducted in shallower water at the end of the summer. We will be looking for volunteers to do the measurements and navigate throughout the lake. LLPDA will likely spend some membership revenue on tablets (and related technology) to complete the measurements and take the readings. Rob suggested a viewing box to measure as opposed to rake toss to measure. Rob has concerns that a rake toss will contribute to the spread of milfoil plants.

Loon Lake Heights dock variance requests. John Nick – Loon Lake Heights has requested a variance for four 53’ docks. Zoning board investigated that they had already been approved for 3-40’ docks and one existing dock did not have permits. This and other issues have come up to flood zoning office with requests for variance requests. Town is trying to prioritize the many requests. Additionally, there are many illegal (no permit) docks on the lake that the Town has to sift through. Loon Lake Park District Association takes no position on dock requests or variances. Our mission is only to inform.

2018 Dock/boat count John Nick – Docks are up to 418 on the lake, up from 397 in 2017. In 1987 there were only 267 docks. Boats are only counted that are in the water and there is no estimate for boats to be launched.

Town dock survey / shore pictures - John Nick – this was sent to any body of water in Town of Chester to include some of Schroon Lake, River, Loon and Friends Lake. 1100 surveys went out from the Town of Chester and over 600 were returned. Pictures were taken in October four years ago by the Town of the shore line on Loon Lake. Town is able to understand property lines and boat/dock census from 4 years ago. Town may repeat the picture tour procedure and cross reference with recent completed dock surveys.

**New business:**

Boat collision John – There was a collision at around 9:30 pm on the lake in the past month. It was incorrectly reported that someone had fallen in the lake from the collision. This is the reason for the helicopter search and much of the intense response. There was an arrest for Boating While Intoxicated and negatively influencing an investigation. There were no injuries from the collision. It was reported that one vessel involved in the collision did not have navigation lights on.

Fish restocking John – Fishing in Loon Lake has declined according to many local fishermen. DEC was notified. There was a walleye restocking program four years ago. There may be a reduction in fish population due to road salt, reduced vegetation, the presence of more animals like otters, eagles, etc. that consume a lot of fish. LLPDA is asking DEC to consider another restocking program. Milfoil is actually good for fishing to the point where depletes the oxygen and kills fish. More to follow on possible restocking program.

Preliminary 2019 events discussion – LLPDA considering changing event schedule based on participation and attendance. Would like to attract younger demographic to events for their continued participation and survival. Water carnival has been supervised by Doris Gargan for years but was unable this year. LLPDA members stepped in to manage event. The turnout of 14 children and 18 adults led us to consider redirecting the funds to other events.

Boat parade had poor participation of 6 boats. We used to give a first-place prize for best boat, most historic, etc. Trying to get more people, more families, more participation in event. There was a large number of spectators along the shoreline.

Dinner Dance attendance has also declined over the years, only 46 people this year but would typically have 75-80 people. May move event to July for greater participation.

ALA Symposium Doug O'Brien – Adirondack Lakes Alliance started 5-6 years ago. Doug, John Nick and Ed Griesmer attend regularly. Close to 60-member lakes that meet to discuss ecological and environmental affairs in the Adirondack Park. ALA approaches state government to discuss issues and needs for the ADK park. The state is responding by giving more funds for ecological and environmental issues. Loon Lake PDA has been an original member with Schroon Lake to found the association.

NYS Road salt discussion - Doug O'Brien. Since 1980 6.5 million tons of road salt applied to roads in the ADK park. Dramatic effect on bodies of water that kills off fish and plankton and affects marine life. To change this cycle, NYS DOT is considering their principal role of public safety with environmental concerns. Brine solution and other less harmful snow melt methods like methods of plowing, abrasives, etc. to reduce road salt distribution versus new methods. Trees along roadsides are being cut back to allow for sun to help in melting snow and ice.

Town of Chester property assessment discussion by Craig Leggett John – Total \$722 million assessment from Town of Chester is Loon Lake Park District Association comprises 35% of the district. Loon Lake, Schroon River and lower Schroon comprises over 50% of assessed value in Town of Chester.

LLPDA future spending within our mission statement. We have a small surplus from membership revenue that we want to spend only within the confines of our mission statement to represent and protect the interests of the residents and property owners within the district.

Beth Cole made a motion to purchase tablets and the associated accessories (up to \$500) to implement our APIPP program for measuring and evaluating our invasive status. Need at least 2 tablets purchased to get start. 2<sup>nd</sup> by Doug O'Brien. Motion carried unanimously.

**From the floor:** Mike Baumis suggested the LLPDA increase our support to the local Seventeen Candles Children's Birthday fund. Many members voiced support and like the idea of more local charities benefiting from LLPDA and the Marv Cole Golf Tournament.

Meeting adjourned 10:53am