

Loon Lake Park District Association - LLPDA

Meeting Minutes – Sunday 5/21/23

Attendees: Kevin Wickert, Barb Kearney, John Nick, Gail Danforth, Patrick Reed, Andrea McDonough, Sue Chambers, Rich McCrum, Glen Vogel, Lisa Deering

- Minutes – Rich motioned to accept the minutes from 2/5/2023; seconded by John. All in favor.
- Kevin accepted a thank you note and Dunkin' gift card on behalf of the group from Mike and Gail Flynn at 27 Kingsley Lane Ext. for the LLPDA Board's work.

- Treasurer report – Mary
 - John motioned to accept the treasurer's report; seconded by Patrick. All in favor.
 - Discuss progress on memberships received and any upcoming 2023 expenditures. There was discussion of the value of continuing with volunteers with Brian Green as coordinator, to be continued.
 - The point and importance of using the \$31K in the LLPDA fund is being discussed.

- 2023 Business:
 - **Drones** – Rich spoke about the use of drones for lake monitoring. He said there are not a lot of commercial units; they are mostly in an educational capacity. The purpose of the drones would be to monitor the bottom of the lake to manage invasives. The cameras see biomasses which need to be analyzed.
 - **Membership List** – Barb has taken over maintaining the list. She will collect and make changes as received and provide the list to Mary. She is adding a column for annual payment and level of membership. Currently, people who are on the list stay on the list. The list reflects people that have paid at some point, not necessarily in the current year.
 - **Newsletter** – The newsletter is out. Kevin stated that it looked fantastic and thanked Gail for her work. Gail is looking for assistance in the production process. She is requesting two people to be dedicated editors for content. The calendar events are just date updates and the easiest to change. Andrea, Sue, and Glen said they would help Gail to edit content as it goes along. Gail would also like to focus on some of the environmental aspects of the lake. It was also stated that it makes sense to get it out earlier in the season, early to mid-May.
 - **Road Captains** – the packages are sitting in Ken Wade's shed and Kevin will get them. Gail has sent Kevin a list of Road Captains.
 - **Dam update** – John showed the group the article in Adirondack Explorer stating the Loon Lake dam to be rated number seven in the worst dams in the Adirondacks before the new leak had even happened. In preparation for opening the boat launch, the leak was noticed around 4/15/23. The DEC, dam hazard evaluators, and engineers brought in, recommended to pump in grouting and sandbags for immediate remediation. The grout was pumped on 5/2 and 5/3. It was necessary to lower the water for the repair, thereby making it impossible for boats to cross the coffer dam and delaying the opening of the public boat launch. The lake is approximately 15" below the top of the dam boards and normal lake levels.

John has been working with Craig Leggett, Town Supervisor, regarding the project. He asked Craig to get a new message out regarding the delayed opening, no public launch at the marina, for the town and LLPDA websites. There is concern about unknown safety hazards due to the low water levels. The current estimate for the replacement is \$700K. Craig is working with engineering to get a timeline on the repair/replacement.

- **Invasives report** – John reported that Dominic, of Aqualogic, said there is not enough water to launch the boat, which will likely add to milfoil production. The faster the water is up, the better for remediation.
- **Public Meeting planning** – scheduled for Sunday, 7/9/23. The Reeds will run the coffee and donuts station. The membership desk will be manned. Kevin would like as many Board members as possible to speak. The meeting will probably be dominated by dam discussions. There will be tables to collect members, road captains, and other volunteers. Gail will make sheets for volunteer signups.
- **Town Board Business**
 - Lake Safety Officer – John said the boat is repaired and needs a battery. The position is funded and filled for 2023. Rich Konig is back as the Lake Safety Officer.
 - LLPDA and Public Launch is funded for 2023. It remains the same once it opens.

Patrick brought up the sensitivity to costs is high in town right now. Craig has said that the LLPD owns and operates the dam. There are large expenditures looming, the dam, town garage, Landon Hill water. Milfoil expense runs at \$77K with \$40K from the county, the rest to be funded.

- **Discussion on Funding future projects**
 - Drone- as discussed earlier, Rich moved to the future.
 - Lake stocking tabled for now.
 - Buoys will/may have reflective tape, no solar lights. Some people spoke of light pollution because of lighting.
- **Open Discussion –**
 - Boat Parade – discussion decided on 5 judging stations, not Board members. Looking for hosting locations for judges. Each station will vote, call Rich and Rich will pick from finalists. If a boat skips a judging station, then no judging will be allowed, to encourage boats to follow the full route. It starts and ends at the marina. Glen suggested music for the event.
- **Event Schedule:**
 - Boat Safety – John Nick
 - 7/8 Fishing Derby – Steve Z, (talk to Fregoes). Kevin has the trophies.
 - 7/9 Annual Meeting
 - 7/14 Summer Social at Green Mansions
 - 7/22 Boat Parade
 - 7/29 Water Carnival – Doris, Barb, Andrea. It was said it needs new items.
 - 7/30 Family Hike – Palmer Pond. Suggested to provide water for hikers.
 - Golf Tournament and Ring of Fire just need to be publicized; use Paul at Garnet Signs.

Gail said she can use any photos taken for the newsletter.

Social Media – wants/needs should be defined. If so, there is the potential for internships from the high school. Patrick will investigate.

Beautification projects – Patrick suggested flowers and perhaps more at the intersection of 8 & 9 costing approximately \$100.

Boat Parade trophy – suggested that an iconic gift be added to the trophy. Perhaps a polar fleece with LLPDA logo.

A motion was made by Kevin, seconded by Glen to adjourn the meeting. All in favor.