



Lake Iroquois Association

PO Box 569, Hinesburg, VT 05461

**LIA Annual Meeting
July 27, 2019 Business
Clifford Camp 56 Dimick Road, Hinesburg VT**

MINUTES

Board Members Attending: Chris Conant, Pat Suozzi, Roger Crouse, Jamie Carroll, Ernie Rossi, Jeff Davis, Jane Clifford, Marian Mumford, David Horn, Jack Linn, Shannon Kelly

Board Members Absent: Roger Jones, Bob Donnis, Jane Marinsky

Visitors: Alison Sackett, Sara Dell, Carol Dell, Joe Allen, Audrey Linn, Marj Meyer, Kate Kelly, Chip & Jo Wright, Mary Harry, Barb Willis, Justin Willis, Mark Willis, Gianna Petito, John Linn, Cooter Bushey, Bob Kenny, Eric Clifford

Call to order at 2:25 pm

Chris recognized and thanked Jane and Eric for hosting and gifted them with a bottle of wine as thanks.

Chris recognized board members and amount of time and energy going into LIA work. Described milfoil project and lauded Jamie especially for the huge amount of work he did in dealing with the milfoil problem and the many thousands of hours that he has put in on the board, on the milfoil project, and as secretary. Chris promised the LIA board will do everything we can to fill that gap. Presented a small token of appreciation to Jamie: glass mugs etched with the LIA logo. We're going to really miss Jamie and plan to reel him back in to work on the board again in future.

Review of meeting minutes from June 2019 Meeting: Motion to accept: Jeff Davis, second Jane. No Changes or discussion. Unanimously approved.

Review of financials from June 2019: Motion to accept: Jane; second Jeff. Chris noted balance, sitting on this money with intention to spend some of it in next few years on milfoil. Questions: Jeff: can we put funds in interest bearing account? Roger C: yes but we haven't selected one yet. Roger C & Roger J will pull \$50K out to put in interest bearing account – hopefully in next few weeks. Unanimously approved

Review Budget Actual vs. Projected June 2019: Roger C: reviewed budget. Income from membership is below our budget, so encouraged all to join and encourage others in the four

towns to join. Chris thanked Roger C for work on this and to help us stay on top of where we need to be.

Nominations for Board of Directors: Jane and Chris are up for re-election to board (no term limits): No objection – so re-elected

LIA Nominations for Officers: 3 year term limit

President: Chris

Vice-President: Jeff,

Secretary: Pat,

Treasurer: Roger J.

No nominations from floor and no objections to these candidates, so all elected

New director: Jack Linn Motion to accept: Marian, Jeff second; unanimously elected to board

Other Business not on agenda: None

LIA Project Overview: General Discussion about projects and state of the Association

Chris made a short presentation as President to Membership:

First, a huge thanks to Eric Hanson, Chip and Jo Wright for all the work with the loons.

Milfoil Discussion: worst it's ever been. We're in more of a crisis state than we have been for a number of years. Fortunate to be able to have group of people who want to support LIA endeavors for milfoil mitigation and to make something happen. The solution doesn't come without a lot of emotion and work. It also needs a huge amount of communication and dedication in working with the state. Chris has visited three of the road associations around the lake to give a synopsis of LIA projects. At these meetings, everyone asks :what will LIA do about milfoil? We were handed a difficult process in the denial of the Sonar permit. The board has had many, many discussions about what's ahead. There is a new chemical on the market, which has been approved by the FDA, and state of Vermont and has been used in several lakes around the state this summer. It is called Procellacor. We are looking into pursuing that opportunity. We made the decision back in winter that we would let the dust settle for this season because we felt that we needed to make sure that we have everything in order and that we can work well with the state. We need a lot of people from different parts of the lake working on a committee to work on this project going forward. We need people to help on this project – Chris would like to see all of the projects filtered out to subgroups. We need to bring in all the players/legislators, etc.

Action Item: Organize a subcommittee for the milfoil project: research procellacor, prepare plan and strategy.

Questions & discussion from the floor: Marj: what was key to app denial. Chris: scientific evidence got thrown out of window and became about emotion. Jack: raised with state concern about hand pulling that disturbs soil and state wrote if off. Problem b/c of depth. Marj: wondering if DASH made it worse – it's now worse in south bay than ever before. Not confident that it didn't make it worse. They've been diligent there about hand pulling but now

it's way worse. Chris: Lake St. Cat: spending \$50K on DASH. Marj: could be ok if using together but maybe as an only method could it make milfoil worse. Chris: Will be doing small amount of DASH this year. Bob Kenny: are we just wasting our money on DASH? Any evidence that it's actually really worked on any lake. David H: Is this the same as Rinsecor? Yes, same as Procellacor. Was approved in Wisconsin as well as here in VT. Roger C: reported new guidelines on use of Procellacor: only 40% can be treated at a time. No longer allow whole lake use. DASH last year: 23K for one acre and we currently have 70 acres infested.

Beebe Lane Project: working on the redesign. Jeff, Jack, and Shannon have been working with LIRD on this. Should see design in late fall, goal to improve runoff, reduce big source of sediment into lake. Jeff explained that is a matching grant. Beebe Lane residents have contributed \$2500, LIA \$2500, LIRD \$5K, plus 10K from state. LIRD problem: no positive cash flow for beach so have increased rates for buses that come in. Also, the weed problem plus road may be reducing beach use. Both Jack and Jeff are on LIRD board. Next step will be bids to fix road and then go out after a grant.

Dash Updates: will be doing in early to mid-August but only for a week. We have been dealing with transition of new players in state permitting office. Trying to figure out if our permit will allow for DASH boat to go to other sites on the lake. \$6K will be spent on DASH – some from grant in aid

Installation dates of weed mats at beach and access- Not yet – couldn't put them in until 7/8 – just need to nail down time to get them in.

Plant Survey: This will be third plant survey: 2014, 2017, and this year in Sept by Darrin Freshwater Institute. Last year we got some photos of lake from UVM drone lab. Richmond Conservation Commission will pay for plant survey.

Greeter Program-Update: Roger C: we have added Friday nights this year. Most of this covered by grant in aid from state. Most people are happy to have boats inspected and washed. Substantial fine if a boat carries any material from one lake to another. Fortunate to have Jim Johnson supervising greeter program. Roger C and Bob D are board liaisons to program and grant writers. Hinesburg fire department fills the water tanks for the boat wash – so many thanks them

Vermont Invasive Patroller (VIP): Marian, Chip, and Jo all do this. They regularly search for any new invasives and report to DEC. If any are found DEC will send out action team to remove asap.

Lay Monitors: Dan Sharpe is lay monitor for the lake. He samples for turbidity using Secchi disk.

Cyanobacteria monitors: Chip and Jo monitor for this at the south end and Merrily Lovell monitors north end. They report once a week. Can see pics of what it looks like on the VT Dept of Health web site and can also see reports. Lake Champlain Committee also has good web site on this.

Kudos to Lake Iroquois: Lake Iroquois was singled out at FOVLAP Annual meeting for having best trends in state for reduction of phosphorus. P is a proxy for cyanobacteria. We still have high P, but definitely trending down. Much of this attributable to work of LIA to mitigate stream runoff and to reduce nutrient loading.

Tributary Sampling: Shannon tests 24 different tributary locations. Looking at inputs and identifying different hotspots for P, sedimentation, erosion. Looking at what it looks like before it gets down to lake. In May, P numbers were lower. Will have 12 rounds of sampling to look at this year.

Note: We have over 40 years of data this lake thanks to the many volunteers over the years who have conducted sampling of the lake

Plant sale to benefit LIA: 50% of sales go to LIA. Last year sold \$800 worth of plants.

LIA Legacy Project: Chris wants to get people to join us in having a history of each camp surrounding the lake. At some point will get a committee together to get it off the ground. Would love to have camp owner to send us pics and info about history of their camp. Would really like to be able to publish a book about the lake. Talking about a history of some 100 yrs and want to get it written down. Urging people to participate.

Action Item: create committee to work on legacy project

FOVLAP: Roger C described this: state wide organization. We have been fortunate to have 3 members of LIA serve on their board of directors at different times. Jo Wright was on board and was secretary, then Roger C for 3 years. He is now on their auxiliary board. Last Monday, Pat was elected to board. Jack noted that what stood out at FOVLAP was knowledge shown by Julie Moore but concerned by how few lakes were represented there – need to get all involved (51 lakes but only 15 there). Each of the 15 had a statement about their problems and all but one said EWM. If all 51 were there screaming at state would be great and maybe help move solutions along.

Adjourned at 3:40 p.m.

Submitted by Pat Suozzi