

Lake Iroquois Association

Board of Directors

February 6, 2020

Minutes

Present: Chris, Jack, Jeff, Jane C, Shannon, Pat, Bob D (phone)

Chris called the meeting to order at 5:44 p.m.

Minutes of 01.09.20: Move to accept by Jack; 2nd Shannon. Carried unanimously

Financials for January 2020: Noted that we are in pretty good shape. Move to accept by Jane C; 2nd Jeff. Carried unanimously

Actual Budget YTD Comparison: noted that we are half way to projected budget for membership. Also doing well on donations – nearly at what we projected for the entire year.

Milfoil Permit Application Update (Chris):

Application for herbicide permit is still not done. Concern expressed about Kara's travelling and not responding to emails. She is working on the application. Chris will be calling and asking her to move forward quickly on it. Our initial goal was to have it submitted by end of Dec now we're looking at mid to late February, possibly even early March. We need to have a firm date. Note that we met with Oliver and Misha in January and they are ready to receive something.

Action Item: Chris will call Kara and Marc and ask her to get the application done asap. Ideally we would like the application by next Friday, 2/14.

Informational Packet Distribution (Chris)

Chris described info packet that he put together. He produced 20 of these for town Selectboards. He handed out 7 at the Williston SB on the 2/4. Will need 7 for Hinesburg SB and 5 for Richmond SB. Chris has sent the contents of these packets to the board electronically in the same email as the agenda for this meeting. Thanks to Ali for her help putting them together so that kept the cost down.

Action Item: Jack is going to take one to Judy Rosovsky at the Richmond Conservation Commission

Municipal Meetings (Chris)

Chris and Jeff met with the Williston SB on 2/4. Meeting was awesome! Video of Williston SB is available on line. LIA was at 7:15. All were very gracious and appreciative of the work of LIA. They had already received by email the contents of the info packet but he also gave them a print copy. This meeting was just an overview of the herbicide permitting process. Chris will be meeting again with the Hinesburg SB in mid-March but will drop off hard copies of the packet with Renae this week. He will also do same thing for Richmond SB. Hoping to be doing a public forum in April about these topics – date TBA.

Action Item: Chris will drop off packets for the Hinesburg SB and the Richmond SB and schedule meetings with each for March, after Town Meeting Day.

Press Release Writer Still Needed:

Roger Donegan had opinion piece in the Hinesburg Record. Much in this piece is inaccurate. Chris will send it to the board. We need to be putting material out – highlighting the website and all the other work and explaining what we're doing and setting the record straight. Jack has an article that supposed to go into the Richmond paper but will come out after town meeting. Jack will send to everybody. Chris will work on something on the plan ride.

Action Items: Chris will work on some press releases. Jack will send his article out to the board.

Mailing of Notices to Property Abutters (Jack)

This notice will go out on the day that the permit application is submitted. Jack has pulled together the list of all lake abutters and abutters for 1 mile downstream and Pat will input the list and do the mailing. Kara will need the list as well. Kara has the wording DEC requires so Chris will check with her about getting it. Concern about what happens if some properties have changed hands? All of the property info comes from the towns so we rely on their records to be accurate. Note also that the application process states that it's the obligation of property owners to notify renters.

Report on Website Redesign and LOGO redesign (Pat)

Pat will be training on Feb. 11, hope to launch within a few days after that.

Ice Out Contest (Shannon)

Complications have arisen so it's not going to work out this season. We're going to work on this for next season. Also, will want to do a small practice run before going public. Aiming to have things ready to go next fall.

LaRosa project (Shannon):

This program is going to a different set up. They are cutting back on the number of organizations receiving grants. Intent is to combine organizations in the same watershed for a grant. Our project is so small that we're not likely to get anything this season. It seems that they want us to combine with larger groups. There is a possibility to combine with Lewis Creek Association (LCA) under their proposal. If this were to happen, Shannon would continue to do the sampling around Lake Iroquois but would be under an LCA grant. The lab costs are but probably thousands, so we wouldn't be able to just fund this ourselves. The program has only \$100,000 to be distributed to 12 groups for the entire state. It should be noted that even if we can't do the tributary sampling this year, we have identified where our problems are. Some areas we just can't remediate. However, continuing to sample does allow us to monitor streams that have been remediated as well as to be certain no new problems arise. DEC is wanting to cut down number of groups they are dealing with. This would also strengthen LCA application to combine with us since combining with another organization is part of what the program wants. Shannon will pursue combining with LCA.

Action Item: Shannon will contact LCA to discuss combining with them for the LaRosa program

Aquatic Nuisance Control Grant in Aid (Bob D)

Greeter part of grant is ready to go. Want to make sure that DASH section is in line with what is going on with herbicide. Chris will send info to Bob D and Roger C. DAHS is scheduled for 2 weeks, assuming that the herbicide permit is denied or appealed and therefore delayed. If we do get permit approved then won't do DASH this season. Bob D and Roger C will be meeting with Shirley, Williston Finance Director tomorrow and then they will do the submittal.

Next meeting: March 19 at 5:30, Rossi&Rinna conference room.

Meeting adjourned at 7:12 p.m.

Submitted by P. Suozzi