

KLPA Board Meeting, 3/1/24

Present: Phil DeConinck, Steve Dolan, Lori DeConinck, Jerry Cooper, Claudia Zent.

Absent: Danielle Dulchinos, Theresa Quinn, Sam Morris, Lou Santore

Minutes:

Per Steve's suggestion, minutes from the 1/19/24 meeting were sent out prior to the meeting for approval to save meeting time. All approved.

Poul Heilmann (Select Board) stated that the town is redoing their website and would like to have blurbs about organizations, perhaps with links to various sites, post missions, etc. It's currently a work in progress.

Steve Dzubak is also running for Select Board. He is also on the Energy Committee. All agreed that we have heard 'nothing but good things about' Steve D.

Steve has added board members and officers' names to the website. He plans to add meeting minutes. Steve has added info on a new menu and home KLPA page including the Lake Smart and Lake Host Programs, water sampling, VLAP info. He would appreciate everyone looking at this work and pointing out any errors, offer suggestions, and make it 'ours'. Jerry liked the tab that was named "Regulations" as a lot could be added there.

Phil inquired about the name of the website: Kolelemook.org. Per Jerry, we pay for Kolelemook.org, and we pay to have the website out there. It's important that we retain the URLs. There is a fee but it's reasonable.

June 22<sup>nd</sup> is the penciled-in date for the various groups in Springfield to have tables set up at the Meeting House to discuss shared initiatives, goals, and possibilities of collaboration.

Jerry asked Amy Smugala from DES if she could redo our lake (map out weeds). She doesn't know that she can do it but may have an intern who could help. There are two databases used to classify the lake as oligotrophic through VLAP.

Claudia inquired about the name 'Kolelemook'. The Abenaki story is false. Jerry stated that he has documentation of the legislation that changed the name from Station Pond. There was a discussion of asking long-term residents of the lake what history they can share. (Abairs, Pattens, etc.)

Steve inquired whether there is information available on the history of KLPA. Jerry has a drawer of info he got from Theresa. Steve and Jerry will investigate it together. Jerry also has 18 years of KLPA on his computer.

Claudia wanted to talk about a guided kayak loon tour. NH Lakes will sponsor the first 15 participants. Claudia will call to inquire. Mid-June would be the target time, an evening. The loon raft will go in May 15<sup>th</sup> latest. Last year the loon chick was 1 day old during the tour. The loons nested the first year the raft was out.

Phil, Jerry, and Lori attended the LSPA grant writing meeting on February 22. There were people from various lakes also in attendance. Grant opportunities were discussed. The state has a revolving fund which would be the most likely for us to apply for. We would need a town warrant article, so Phil

suggested that we put the grant writing off until next year. We could conceivably receive a loan of up to \$100,000 to do a watershed survey. KLPA would need to pay interest of a couple thousand dollars but if all commitments are fulfilled, the loan would be forgiven. The loan would be a 604B – small and very competitive, no match required. It's a 2-3 page application for the federal grant. Mid-March would be the goal to get a town warrant article (25 signatures required). There is also a 319 grant which can only be used after you have a watershed plan. Jerry spoke to a woman from Kezar Lake, who is a professional in the field. She got people from Colby Sawyer to do the survey but it was actually just water sampling. She is willing to work with us, as is Doug Darling (Tucker Pond) and someone from Messer Pond. Phil questioned whether Morgan Pond is part of our watershed. Steve had a map of the watershed from VLAP. Phil stated that we are NOT part of the Sunapee watershed. Jerry said the Colby Sawyer environmental kids could help us identify feeder brooks/streams into the lake. Jerry will make a copy of his card of contact at CS and send it to Phil. Steve Donnelly (President of Pleasant Lake) is one contact.

These efforts above will be included in the communication plan Steve is developing. He wants to get info out to get people involved and interested.

Phil questioned Steve about the KLPA newsletter. He has written a couple articles and sent them out for comment. He will contact Sam. Phil will write a 'letter from the president': (Phil would introduce himself and Board members, tell the recipients what KLPA has been working on and priorities). The newsletter will be distributed mid-March. The recipients would be the people in Sam's Mail Chimp.

Jerry stated that the most important piece of legislation as of now is wake boat legislation, 500' from shore as well as a depth parameter. If that gets voted in, wake boats would no longer be allowed on Kolelemook. Jerry stated that the password he has for Mail Chimp doesn't work. Steve will ask about this when he speaks with Sam.

Jerry commented on the big tree that is not being removed from the lake. It's near Tice's place, and Tice wants to leave it there to attract fish. However, it contaminates the lake. Lori and Phil clarified that 20' from the high water mark is considered private property.

Danielle is on top of the Weed Watcher program. Steve will ask her to write something for the newsletter. The state does a weed watcher training, as does LSPA.

Claudia suggested that we encourage current members to recruit new members. Dues will be due a couple weeks after the newsletter goes out.

Claudia updated on the Lake Host Grant. The application has been submitted. Claudia feels she has a good working relationship with the Conservation Coordinator at NH Lakes. If Jake/Jack Hearme is not available, the online list of interested people will be the next step. Claudia will confirm. With the solicitation for dues in April will be information on donations. Steve suggested tying news of special projects to matching gifts or donations.

Claudia suggested that we contact the town to contribute to paying Lake Hosts. Phil said the Rec Committee, which is very active, only receives \$300.

Meeting adjourned at 6:45.

Respectfully submitted, Lori DeConinck, Secretary