

## **KOLELEMOOK LAKE PROTECTIVE ASSOCIATION (KLPA)**

### **Minutes for KLPA Board Meeting**

Thursday, November 20, 2025, 4:00 pm

Held at home of Steve and Nancy Dolan

**Attending:** Barbara Cooper, Jerry Cooper, Jim Clancy (via Zoom), Lori DeConinck, Phil DeConinck, Steve Dolan, Al Eggert

#### **1. Welcome, call to order**

The meeting was called to order at 4:13 pm.

#### **2. Review and approve minutes of October 16, 2025 Board Meeting**

The October 16 meeting minutes were approved as amended by unanimous vote.

The following two corrections were made: 1) The closing time for the meeting was 5:15pm, 2) the only social media activity that Lori handles is Facebook.

#### **3. Treasurer's Report - Lou**

Steve presented the treasurer's report. There are no major expenses between now and the end of the year, December 31. Steve will prepare the full annual summary at the end of the month. Comparing costs from 2024 to 2025 the lake host costs went up by approximately \$1000, primarily because we started hosting earlier this year compared to last. The water analysis fee went up because one additional analysis was done. Jerry spoke to Tim Bray, our health officer, and told Tim that in the future KLPA could do the beach sampling at the same time as the lake sampling is done. Our administrative costs went way down mainly because two years of website fees were paid for last year, and there were fewer brochures copied than in the previous year. Cheaper web page services than Weebly have been sought, so far without success. Some alternatives to Weebly (which has been bought by Square) are Mailchimp and Dreamhost. It was noted that most website host services start off cheap, or free, and then the cost increases if you want to do more. The good news about the membership is that even though the number of memberships is down from 45 to 40, the average amount donated has increased.

#### **4. Vacant positions – Vice President, Lake Host Coordinator - Steve**

Al expressed interest in assuming the position of Lake Host Coordinator. He spoke of it as a good way to meet people, being new to Springfield, and he has lots of experience in lake volunteer work. He was Vice President of the Pleasant Lake Protection Association for three years.

The PLPA had a clubhouse at Slope 'n Shore in New London. Steve emphasized that Al will not be alone in the Lake Host program. There may be some returning lake hosts - Candy Davis, and Naomi Cleaveland – who were very reliable and did an excellent job in 2025.

There followed a discussion of our by-laws and what process to follow to have Al become an official board member. Current by-laws state that the board consists of the 4 KLPA officers plus 5 board members. The option available given Al will head up the lake host program but will not be Vice President are to increase the number of board members from a max of 9 to a max of 11. There was a motion to change the bylaws to allow up to 11 board members including the officers. The

motion passed unanimously. The next motion proposed was to add Al as a board member. This also passed unanimously.

Jerry mentioned that in the spring there will be a training session at LSPA dedicated to lake hosting. In the past there used to be in-person VLAP training and meetings in Concord. Jerry receives these emails and agreed to make sure people get them forwarded. Al will be added as the KLPA lake host contact. Also, Steve will reach out to Claudia to make introductions and ensure smooth transition from Claudia to Al. Jerry also noted that the full annual VLAP reports from NHLAKES come out in January.

## **5. Status of Watershed Study - Steve**

- a. Next steps – Waiting for Board of Selectmen to review and decide on support for applying for forgivable loan under CWSRF. If approved, draft Warrant Article, outreach to voters to approve.**
- b. Establish watershed fund and fundraise in spring?**

Steve brought us up to date on the watershed study plans. He reported that we are awaiting word from the select board regarding the schedule for our next meeting. The proposal needs to be discussed in public session. We should attend the next selectboard meeting where our proposal will be discussed. The select board could ask for more information, or they may have related questions. DES could come to do a presentation if they like.

Next steps: Draft the warrant article, review all the steps in the process. After the warrant article is written we will need an information campaign for people to know what the proposal is and why we'd like them to vote yes. In response to a question from Jim about the chronology of the steps, Steve clarified that the actual proposal is not needed first. There is a pre application process. Part of the preapplication process involves a scoring process. Having the warrant article in hand adds to the points we get to use to compete for the loan/grant. After the commitment to go ahead, then RFP begins. We select one firm to do the actual watershed proposal. It is to our advantage to have a warrant article on the ballot at the next town meeting. Once the warrant article is passed then the pre-application gets prepared and submitted.

So, the steps are: Select board approval, warrant article vote, Pre-application process, then submit the application for the funds. It is important that we stay aware of timing requirements and deadlines. Once the town approves the plan then a 2-pronged approach could use both the watershed study plan and the Lake Smart participation as safeguards for the future and health of Kolelemook.

## **6. Area Reports**

### **a. Water Analysis - Jerry**

This work is done for the year. We are awaiting the full annual VLAP report from DES.

### **b. Lake Host – vacant**

Al will begin becoming familiar with the program for KLPA for the coming year.

### **c. Weed Watching – Danielle**

This work is done for the year. Danielle provided a report.

### **d. Lake Smart – Jim**

Jim and Steve will coordinate obtaining the database of lakefront properties. There may be some useful information from the recent septic system survey. Jim asked if the short-term rentals are part of the septic survey population. The town has a folder of all the lake front ownership. Jim will plan to contact the lake front property owners to solicit participation. There are already 4 properties willing. Steve will send the database to Jim. NHLAKES may also be a source of information. Steve will get Jim the contact for NHLAKES.

**e. Facebook - Lori**

Lori and/or Jim are the current owners of the KLPA Facebook page. There is a KLPA Facebook group. It is a closed group with 243 people in the group so far.

**7. Open forum**

Potential fundraising ideas were discussed. Ideas for a new logo centered around using the words Steve suggested: “Kolelemook. Heart of Springfield.” Jerry provided some suggestions for KLPA merchandise, e.g. tee shirt designs with a new logo. Jerry will follow up. Since we missed our summer food fundraiser, another idea could be hosting a chef's dinner using a high-end lakeside dinner, possibly using the big boat house. Conceptually that is something we would be interested in. The use of the big house on the point, e.g., would be marvelous. The issue of fireworks was brought up by Lori, raising concerns about doing fireworks in the lake. By consensus we agreed to keep this as a future concern, maybe within the process of the watershed proposal. It was noted that Pleasant lake has switched to electronic light displays, and Sunapee had drones and laser light shows. There is also a possibility to solicit donations from the Eastman philanthropy group, very interested in environmental activities. Steve Barker would be the contact. Contingency plans for any potential future remediation might also be part of the overall watershed plan: What to call it, how to approach it, how to market it.

**8. Adjourn – Propose no meeting in December, next meeting January 15, 2026**

By consensus it was agreed to skip the December meeting and hold the next meeting on Thursday, January 15, 2026 at 4:00pm at the Dolans’ house. The meeting was adjourned at 5:24pm.

Respectfully submitted,  
Barbara H. Cooper  
Secretary

Post meeting addendum: Notes from Select Board meeting on 11/24/2025

Addendum: Notes from Springfield Select Board meeting on 11/24/2025

**Barbara H Cooper <barbarahcooper@gmail.com>**

Email sent on 11/24/2025

Nov 24,  
2025,  
8:57 PM

to sfdolan8, a\_eggert, Danielle, geraldcooper, Jim, Lori, Lou, pjdeconinck

Hi Steve,

The meeting today was very positive for KLPA. The select board was unanimous in supporting going forward with a warrant for the watershed proposal at the March town meeting. They would like to have the required public hearing on December 22 at 5:30pm. This will give them time to provide the required 14 days public notice for voting on this warrant to be placed on the March town meeting. The term "forgivable loan" was a bit of a concern voiced by Amy and also Janet Roberts who happened to be in attendance today. It is critical to explain where the \$100,000 will come from, and how it gets "forgiven". December 22 should be a presentation by KLPA of the exact proposal with clear details about all the requirements and all the risks, even if they are minimal. I didn't ask specifically if the select board wants us to draft the actual wording of the warrant, but I am guessing that anything we could do to make the task easier would be very welcome. This may be the opportunity for a DES representative to be present to answer questions or maybe even make a brief presentation. We have time to decide what strategy is best. So, the bottom line is we need to prepare for 2 presentations - December 22 at the special public hearing, and again at the town meeting on March 10 next year. Actually, it's the voting part of the town meeting that takes place on Tuesday March 10. The part of the town meeting we need to be prepared to present at would be Saturday March 14. Steve said that we would be introduced and then the floor would be turned over to KLPA to make the case and explain the benefits and risks - Steve most likely because you did such a great job at the last select board meeting.

A nice surprise was that Hope Damon appeared at the select board meeting. She also expressed support and said to not hesitate if she could do anything to help. At the very least I suggest we keep her apprised of our progress in this. She was very interested.

Enjoy the Thanksgiving holiday everyone.

Barbara