

Minutes of 9/29/23 KLPA Meeting

Minutes of 9/2/23 meeting were read and accepted.

Theresa and Danielle will be coordinating the Weed Watcher Program this year. Phil suggested that they contact Daphne Klein to obtain a listing of volunteers and a map of what areas are currently covered. He suggested a more formal plan for covered areas with names and monthly mandatory reporting from May to September. Once the grant comes in, most of the overall budget goes to the lake host. The current pay rate is \$15/hr. Steve asked what percentage of the total is paid by the Lake Grant. (about half). Jerry brought up the issue of volunteer match hours. There was some disagreement regarding whether volunteer hours can include meeting times. Theresa asserted that all administrative work, weed watching time, etc. is included. Phil asked whether Jack Hearn would be returning as lake host next year. Jack has a full-time job but indicated that he might be interested.

Weed Watchers: Theresa has an amorphous list from Daphne. The trouble is non-response to the list Theresa has. Phil reiterated the mandated monthly report. Steve suggested using the Facebook page or an email blast to solicit new watchers and identify training dates.

Water Sampling Report (Jerry): Jerry handed out his report. The July sample was done with the intern from DES. DES changed the depth at which samples were taken down to 6 meters from 4 meters and 2 meters. The lake dropped substantially on conductivity, which is good, and turbidity is down as well. Total phosphorous readings were back to normal. Jerry wants to discuss with DES why they are sampling at those depths. Jerry and Lou are going to add 6 meters depth and will start doing the tributary on Sandy Beach Rd. Phil stated that the turbidity at Sandy Beach is the worst he has ever seen. Phil mentioned problems caused by beavers (2 were trapped this year). They plug up the wetlands, everything settles, and then when it is unplugged, everything washes into the lake. Steve questioned whether Jerry's report combines the two depths are they mixed together? The samples are tested separately – the two-meter sample is called the epi and the 4 meter is called the hypo. Phil noted that there is not much change between the 2 and 4 meters. Jerry explained the process of testing. Sam questioned whether the lake is still oligotrophic – yes. Steve questioned whether there is a narrative report – Jerry stated that there is an annual report from the State that might be good to put on the website. Jerry remarked that that State formerly put out trend reports but hasn't done so in the past few years, although they do give indications of whether the lake quality is getting better or worse. Sam volunteered to do outreach on water quality due to personal concerns regarding whether the lake is safe to swim in. If information is available (for example on phosphorus levels), members can recognize that work is being done 'behind the scenes' - a powerful educational tool. Jerry suggested that we ask the town for the results of e-coli testing if they are still doing it. If the town is no longer doing the testing, KLPA can.

Treasurer's Report: Phil was pleased to see that we have 39 paid members. The number doubled after the canvassing by Barbara Cooper, Nancy Bower, Claudia Zent and Lori DeConinck. Canvassing also increased the percentage of emails on record.

Phil questioned the number of lakefront properties, including Kolelemook Shores. 90 seems likely.

Jerry questioned whether the Lake Host Program is cost-effective. Steve questioned how the Lake Host program works. Lori commented that it doesn't help that KLPA is unable to have a rinsing station; the

Town Hall or Fire Station will not allow KLPA to use their rinsing stations. Sam suggested that we file a petition – Theresa said the concern was about monitoring turning the hose on or off. Jerry said that with about 80% of boats being kayaks, there is no real justification for a rinsing station. Sam questioned who writes the job description of the lake hosts (NH Lakes), and whether we could add some additional tasks. Jerry FIRMLY stated ‘no’. Phil mentioned that Sandy Burke recently purchased a table with umbrella and chair to provide for the lake host.

Bottom line on the Treasurer’s Report: we were able to bring in enough money to cover expenses, so the balance at the end of the year was higher than at the start. The current balance is \$6,546.08.

Paid memberships: Phil is pleased with 39 but would like to see that rise to 55 next year. Email addresses are imperative. Steve suggested an overall communications strategy to keep members apprised of what and why KLPA is doing things, results of testing, etc. A newsletter, message from the President to get more engagement. Phil suggested dissemination of information every 2 months or so. Barbara and Lori need to connect to combine available email addresses.

Sam suggested using MailChimp (a CRM), free up to 500 addresses and everyone can just upload their info and it will check for duplicates. Sam will create an account and groups and Lori, Barbara and Theresa will forward their addresses to her. It will also track engagement – who is opening emails, etc.

Theresa commented that the Springfield town webpage shows Lake Kolelemook. Steve noted that – with a gatekeeper – we can show different views on Facebook – people fishing (we can recruit Lou!), swimming, etc. Steve will check with DES to obtain a narrative that is user-friendly. Sam commented that LSPA is also a great resource – Jerry attends meetings.

Septic survey: Phil asked Jerry how to start this process. Jerry and Phil will attend an LSPA meeting to pick their brains. Every spring (usually late May or early June) there is a Lakes Congress with presentations, great networking opportunity, etc.in Meredith.

Phil questioned Jerry about a grant for the watershed study. There is EPA money and other state money available. It’s a process to get it and not cheap – Tucker Pond raised \$45,000 and it barely covered the costs. Kezar is doing grant writing. Jerry offered to sit down with Phil and Jeff Lizotte from LSPA and perhaps a couple lake associations.

There is a need for Steve, Phil and Jerry to go to Mascoma Bank to update their records.

Discussed was the terrible condition of the lake boat launch.

Meeting adjourned at 7:05.

Respectfully submitted,

Lori