

KLPA ANNUAL MEETING

Saturday, August 21, 2022

9:30- 11:20 am

Theresa opened the meeting at 9:30 am, following refreshments at 9:00.

Welcome and Introductions. 17 members present.

Brief discussion of the loon family. The male loon was quite aggressive with someone swimming at the boathouse.

Theresa distributed 10 copies of the KLPA bylaws.

Treasurer's report (Jerry): Income from January 1st was \$1,874.02 from 34 paid members. That brought the bank balance to \$8,261.98. Itemized expenses included \$300 NH Lakes Membership, which goes into the Lake Host fund, so the net benefit to NH Lakes is 0. We have a website for KLPA which has a domain fee every 5 years to keep the name: \$74.80; flyer printing equalled \$114.00; new checks from Mascoma Bank \$32.45; bucket hat cost \$75.99; KLPA PO box: \$56.00; Springfield mailing list: \$25.00 Lake Sample analysis LSPA: \$58.00 and IRS 501C3 fee: \$275.00. Total expenses \$1,011.24 leaving a bank balance of \$7,250.74. We also had assets from NH Lakes: carry-over of \$972.18; \$659.96 was spent on the lake host, leaving us a balance of \$312.32 still available at NH Lakes. Total assets through 8/21/21 were \$7,563.06. We await IRS response on the 501C3. Membership is slightly increased but still remains low.

Ali mentioned the goal of expanding the membership beyond the lake to include Springfield residents.

Lake Host: Ali gave a brief overview of the Lake Host program and how helpful the training is. Over 100 boats were examined this year with no invasive species identified. She researched where boats were coming from and if those water bodies had invasives. Lori mentioned the bryozoan, which is indicative of good water quality when lake temperature gets over 65 degrees. We will need a new lake host for next year. Pay is \$13/hr. Anyone who is trained can volunteer as lake host and receives \$28/hr in volunteer hours. Training is on-line.

Daphne reported on the weed watcher program. She mentioned people who have 'officially' participated this year and acknowledged that there are also people who check the lake 'unofficially'. She would like to 'share the joy' of being coordinator. Thus far, everything looks good, and the support of DES (Amy Smagula) is outstanding. Daphne also shared materials provided by DES.

Phil Keefe (Sunapee region biologist) and Jill (Intern) arrived to discuss the loon family. The LPC started seeing a pair fairly consistently last year and decided to put out a nesting raft this year. One chick hatched, no sign of a second egg. The chick is growing at an appropriate rate. The adults will be on the lake until Oct/Nov and will leave a couple weeks prior to the chick's

departure to the ocean. It will stay on the ocean for 3 years until it reaches adulthood/sexual maturity and will come back to NH to establish its own lake to establish itself. Without banding, it is difficult to know if it's the same loon pair but loons tend to return to the same areas year after year if they can defend them effectively. Success rates in the first year of establishing themselves are low. Phil thinks the pair is likely to come back - an adult has a 9/10 chance of returning from the ocean in any given year. Kolelemook is relatively quiet regarding human activity which increased the chances of a successful birth. The rafts are designed to have the front lower than the back because loons can't walk on land, so they have to propel themselves using their back legs. Under discussion is whether the raft will stay on the lake this winter. There is no good way to tell the sex of the chick - the male is more likely to yodel - the other way is by weight, which is difficult with a chick. Chicks almost never return to the nest. Ali brought up the bald eagle, which accounts for 3% of chick mortality/failures - as the eagle population continues to grow, it becomes more of a threat. Loon parents split parenting duties pretty equally. During the nesting period, the female will sit more often on the egg. The first sign of distress from a loon in regard to an eagle is the distress call from the first adult on the lake that notices it. Eagles are not a huge threat to adult loons, per Phil. Unaccompanied adult loons are much more transient. Loons will eat just about anything: crawfish, small lizards, duck eggs or merganza chicks. Apparently merganzers will often 'drop their chicks off' with other merganzers!

Jill offered to answer any questions about loon anatomy/mortality. She also had a personal project regarding lead tackle. Lori asked about fireworks - Jill said she had not seen any firework debris in the loons she was worked on but agreed that it's definitely a problem polluting the environment. A question was raised about plastics - Jill found fishing wire in a couple loons this summer. The feathers are used to test for mercury but have not yet been sent out for testing. Lead is the biggest threat to loon mortality in NH. Jerry inquired whether there are tests to see whether tackle includes lead - Jill replies that yes, there are tests that can be purchased at WalMart, and there is also the lead buy-back program that LPC runs. By the time a loon shows signs of lead poisoning, it's usually too late to save them. Mortality has dropped a fair amount from previously, per Phil. Lead tackle is not for sale or use in NH but it is readily available in other states.

Water quality testing (Jerry): The equipment used to test is quite bulky so a kayak would not suffice. Testing takes about an hour and then the samples go to Colby Sawyer for analysis. He asked for someone to be trained to replace him - Kurt Conlon volunteered. The question was raised about who maintains the dam - Jerry suggested that KLPA go to the Town to see if we can get control. Downstream wells dry up during drought unless water is released from the lake.

Jerry distributed 2 handouts on water quality: Volunteer Lake Assessment Program Individual Lake Reports, Kolelemook, 2020 Data Summary and Kolelemook Lake Historical Sampling Results. He reported on 2020 results, reading the recommended actions (in brief, conductivity

appears to have stabilized since 2010, improved pH levels, consider development of a watershed management plan). We are oligotrophic, which is the best rating from DES. Humans have the biggest impact on lake quality. He pointed out the trend analysis on the handout. Conductivity 'worsening' status is due to road salt and in some cases, septic failures.

In the interest of time and priorities, Theresa held off on discussing the LakeSmart Program.

Voting: We currently have 6 board members, including the 4 officers as well as Ken Lawson and Barbara Cooper. We can have up to 9. Phil DeConinck volunteered. All officers agreed to continue (Lori was told that she had reconsidered). Ali offered to do the minutes and Lori could handle Facebook. In later discussion, Ali suggested that all we really need for minutes are action items. Jerry brought up the website KLPA.org and that we can now pay dues through that website. We need a Weed Watcher Coordinator to replace Daphne Klein. Tell an officer if you would like to volunteer for this critical position. Theresa made a motion to re-elect the slate of officers and board members, Jerry seconded. Motion passed unanimously. Barbara Cooper complimented on the efforts of officers this year.

LakeSmart: Jerry discussed his handouts on the NH Lakes LakeSmart program. Nancy Bower received the first LakeSmart award in NH, and Bob and Daralyn Foster also received the award. There is a self-assessment on the NH Lakes website which the organization will comment on. Jerry commented on why he did not receive the award. Ali requested that those who apply let the officers know.

Watershed: Jerry distributed a brochure on the 2020-2030 Lake Sunapee Watershed Management Plan Summary. Springfield has 2 lakes in the Sunapee Watershed – Star Lake and Baptist Pond. Kolelemook is not in the Sunapee watershed – ours is about 600 acres compared to Sunapee's 24,000. There is more detail on the Sunapee website – Jerry plans to start making contacts in the state next year about grants and to begin the process. Messer Pond received the grant.

Theresa thanked the audience for their attendance and asked for questions. Rich inquired about the Pratt property. Jerry replied that this has been an issue for 5 – 6 years. Lori offered that the issue has moved from the DES to the Department of Justice. Rich suggested posting pictures every day on Facebook. The fact that Pratt has guns and has threatened to shoot anyone who steps on his property was briefly discussed. Dick Hendl has been active on this issue for several years as Selectman.

Theresa stated that an individual not at the meeting inquired when we will have a sandy beach – not just rocks. She asked about other concerns: fireworks. The Lake association was approached by the town 3-4 years ago to contribute to a perched beach. The only permit the town could get would be for a perched beach. Jerry suggested that we get some estimates. Dick Hendl may have done so in the past.

Barbara brought up the picnic and how it would be a great opportunity to discuss the beach.

The picnic: we will be accepting donations for the Labor Day picnic – great signs Ali! Ty Morris (Caldwell Banker) and Ali and Kurt (DreamTeam Storage) are providing grab-and-go food. Theresa thanked the Midgit family for allowing us to post a sign on their yard.

Discussion of 2022 date for annual meeting: July 23 was agreed upon.

Lori questioned if we should be concerned that no one from the Select Board attends our meetings. Lee Calloway, a former selectman, used to attend meetings. We will encourage attendance in the future through personal invitations.

Meeting adjourned at 11:20 am.

Respectfully submitted,

Lori DeConinck, Secretary