

Annual Spring Meeting
July 1, 2023
Springfield Town Offices, Protectworth Room
9:00am Refreshments, 9:30am Meeting

1 Welcome/Introductions/Attendance

Refreshments were shared beginning at 9:00am.

Attendance:

President, Theresa Quinn: Absent

Vice President: Vacant

Treasurer, Jerry Cooper: Present

Secretary: Vacant (Minutes of this meeting were completed from notes taken by member, Barbara Cooper)

Members and guests in attendance included the following: Claudia Zent, Lori DeConinck, Phil DeConinck, Lou Senatore, Samantha Morris, Representative of Zaleskas/Kelly, Nancy Bower, Sid Pratt, Barbara Cooper, Eve Hiatt (guest), Doug Darling (guest), Lynn Arnold (guest),

The KLPA meeting was opened at 9:36am by Jerry Cooper, Treasurer

2 Treasurer's Report

The treasurer's report was presented by Jerry. Current balance is \$6419.33. For full report see document attached.

3. Lake Host: Jerry reported that a new lake host, Jack Hearme, has been hired and he started work yesterday.

He is on duty at the lake weekends until 4pm.

4 Lake Sampling Report

Jerry reported that samples have not yet been taken this season due to weather and necessary boat repairs. Kurt Conlon has volunteered to do the lake sampling going forward. The bottom line is that Kolelemook Lake remains in good shape except that conductivity, i.e. (measure of amount of saline of the water) is not reducing. There is currently work going on at the state level to find a better winter road treatment alternative to road salt.

5 Presentation by Douglas Darling, "Tucker Pond Cyanobacteria Committee: Taking Action".

Doug gave an excellent presentation about risks and strategies of cyanobacteria in NH. Doug is the chair? Of the New Hampshire's statewide committee on cyanobacteria and a member of the Tucker Pond Improvement Association (TPIA). Cyanobacteria

bloomed at Tucker Pond 3 years ago. Doug has actively been part of the TPIA's management efforts regarding the spread of Cyanobacteria.

He mentioned that the VLAP program at DES (in which KLPA participates) is a vital component of efforts to prevent the troubles that come with a cyano bloom. Doug spoke about the Tucker Pond experience as a cautionary tale. Some of his slides compared Kolelemook Lake and Tucker Pond side by side. Both had been oligotrophic (less nutrients, more oxygen, "good" water quality) for many years, however today Tucker Pond is mesotrophic (more nutrients, emerging signs of water quality problems). Doug reported that science has documented that the cyano toxins do in fact bio-accumulate in wildlife. The bottom line is Cyanobacteria blooms can cause great harm.

The TPIA set up a focused Cyanobacteria committee, raised money, hired consultants, and focused on communication, education, and community involvement. They created a blog: [https:// Protecttuckerpond.Wordpress.com/](https://Protecttuckerpond.Wordpress.com/) to document and report on each step. Doug emphasized the importance of developing and maintaining relationships with our elected officials. Their strategy involved a blog and a septic system survey. They designed a 14-question survey and got 91% response rate. This was sent to the 45 families around the pond. As a motivation, everybody who replied was eligible for a drawing. Some of the 45 families were sent the survey many times to get the highest response rate possible. This was important because septic systems are designed to last approximately 30 years, not 40+ years which many on Tucker Pond were. There are grants that can be applied for to get funding for the new septic systems. Please contact NH lakes Association or Doug Darling for more information.

Other projects included an analysis of Tucker Pond sediments, the bottom of the lake, to get a handle of the source of the phosphorus leading to the cyanobacteria bloom. A big step was undertaken to develop a watershed management plan. For this essential step TPIA hired FB Environmental to develop the watershed plan. It cost them \$40,000. It can cost \$60K-80K+. The modeling is mandatory. There is data available at the state that the company makes use of. The plans need to be updated every 6 years. Grants can be applied for.

What can Kolelemook do?

- Educate residents about septic maintenance.
- Develop a septic system database. NOW is the time to develop a septic system database.
- Characterize the makeup of our lake sediments (could cost \$5000)
- We need statewide laws. NH laws are favorable to cyano blooms. E.g., There is no law that the septic system must be working at the time of a sale.
- Track legislative actions. E.g., if your senator voted for HB1066 send them a thank you note. Legislators pay attention to the mail they get. HB 276 was also signed into law.
- Make use of the NH lakes advocacy program to keep your designated person up to date on bills of importance.
- Invite our representatives to our meetings.

For more details see the attachment which has a copy of the slides Doug presented.

6 Presentation by Lynn Arnold on the “Let’s Be Clear” Project

Jerry introduced Lynn Arnold. She presented information about the Let’s Be Clear project spearheaded by the LSPA. Lynn lives on Perkins Pond and spoke about the program’s impact on her lake and lake association. The focus is on public education and awareness. “Clear” refers to clear water and to clear communication about what you/we can do now. Lynn presented as an example a lake where she had lived earlier. On that lake three dogs died before they knew anything about cyano blooms. Now people don’t swim there, and property values plummeted.

Lynn shared brochures summarizing the basic messages of the let’s be clear program: fixing culverts, building retention ponds, educating all about the importance of water shed issues. Three initiatives that can have important and meaningful impacts: septic maintenance, use of shrubbery, use of chloride free products. Lynn displayed posters with summaries of this information and left brochures that we can share with neighbors.

7 Other Business

- a. Barbara mentioned two long time lake supporters, Ken and Cheryl Lawson, who are now moving away, but who have both served the KLPA for many years in many capacities. They will be missed.
- b. Barbara spoke briefly asking those present to consider investing time to support KLPA. It was encouraging that several members present expressed willingness. Barbara repeated a quote from Tom O’Brien, past president of NH Lakes, that “the biggest mistake lake folks can make is to assume somebody else will take care of and protect it.”
- c. Discussion took place regarding conducting a canvas for membership around the Lake. Barbara and Nancy Bower volunteered to conduct another canvas of lake shore property owners beginning this summer. Claudia and Lori volunteered to help in this effort.

It was moved and seconded that the meeting be adjourned. The meeting was adjourned at 11:15am.

Respectfully submitted.
Barbara Cooper

Attachments:
Presentation Slides from Doug Darling
Lake Sampling Summary from Jerry
Treasurers Report from Jerry