

**Lake Anasagunticook Association
Minutes of Board Meeting March 10, 2016
at the Rothrocks' Home**

President Biff Atwater called the meeting to order at 6:20 p.m. A quorum was not initially present, but Diane Ray was contacted by phone and participated via Skype. Others in attendance were Secretary Liz Rothrock; Treasurer Gary Dougherty; Directors Polly Bussiere, Bill Gray (and alternate Carolyn Gray), and Mike McCluskey. Mary Atwater was a guest attendee.

Minutes for the October 28, 2015 Board meeting were reviewed and approved by unanimous voice vote on a motion made by Mr. Gray and seconded by Mr. Dougherty.

Mr. Atwater started the meeting with a brainteaser that made the point that we should "think outside the box."

Treasure's Review

Mr. Dougherty reported there are approximately 20 members who have paid their 2016 dues of the LAA. (There were close to 100 in 2015.) As of the end of February...

- Income: Unencumbered Donations, \$186. Water Quality, \$40. Fundraising, \$744.
- Total expenses: \$1,462. (newsletters, liability insurance, contributions to tax exempt organizations, conference fees, sales taxes and miscellaneous, admin/office expenses.
- Total Assets \$8,129.76.

Action: Include a form in the upcoming members newsletter for prospective members to send in with their dues. (LR)

Committee Reports

The committee reports were submitted prior to the meeting and are attached to these minutes.

Lake Smart

Ms. Ray indicated that she is currently the only one doing Lake Smart evaluations on our lake. She also indicated that she's ready to share the list of addresses of people whose properties abut the lake. The list will be used for membership and other purposes.

Membership

It was suggested that holding social events might draw new members. Ms. Atwater proposed a having a fire pit at the Canton boat launch—perhaps to coincide with a Canton outdoor movie night. A question was asked on Mr. Kirwan's behalf as to whether or not e-mail addresses are available via the town offices. They are not.

Action: Pursue the idea of a bonfire sometime this summer. (MA, CG)

Invasives

Mr. Atwater mentioned that Arrowhead Lake has built two plant sucker boats at \$50k per boat. They are spending \$35k a year on plant control and real estate values are down 15% in two years.

Several board members indicated they would help if there were another snail-removal outing. It was suggested that the Girl Scouts, Unity College, and high school seniors in Buckfield, Dixfield, and Turner (where seniors are required to do public service) might help.

Annual Meeting

The idea of serving coffee, scones (or something similar), etc. was discussed. The “health of the lake” talk will be moved from the annual meeting to a Friday this summer at 7 p.m.

Action: Invite Tom Hamilton, representatives of the Water District, and others to speak. (PB)

Action: Arrange for coffee, etc., at annual meeting. (MA)

Lake Days

Lake Days, scheduled for 1 p.m., Saturday, August 20, on the Bussieres’ dock, will follow the same model as last year. Ms. Bussiere and Ms. Atwater will spearhead the event.

Unfinished Business

5-Year Planning (5YP) Team Report

The 5YP team has had several meetings since the October LAA board meeting. They will meet again this spring. After that meeting, a draft of the 5YP will be sent to the board members for review and feedback. The committee is adjusting the plan so it will be achievable based on our current numbers/participation level.

Action: Mr. Atwater, Mr. McCluskey, Ms. Gray, Mr. Dougherty, and Ms. Rothrock will meet to further discuss the five-year plan. (WA, MM, CG, GD, LR)

Next steps in photo contest

The photos have been printed and are ready to go for the judging for the photo contest on March 16 in the Canton Town Office meeting room. There are four judges; they are from Canton, Hartford, and Sumner. The Sumner judge is a photographer. The prize baskets will be delivered ASAP. A full report of the photo contest and the results will be included in the upcoming newsletter. [Thanks to board members who contributed to and assembled the baskets—they look wonderful!]

Action: Send an e-mail announcing the winners to board members following the judging. (LR)

Nomination and election of Vice President

No nominations were made. The position remains vacant.

New Business

Implement Watershed Survey

Mr. Atwater suggests that the LAA do watershed survey over the next three years. It was suggested that the LAA partner with the Canton Water District on the survey. The process will need to include obtaining addresses for all properties in the watershed.

Owl Talk at Annual Meeting

Mr. Atwater proposed that we invite a speaker he heard at the Androscoggin River Conference to our annual meeting to speak about owls. (Mr. Atwater has generously agreed to cover the speaker's fee.) The idea was well received by the board members. Mr. Gray suggested the talk be given during the second hour.

Action: Confirm the owl speaker. (WA)

Board Meeting Attendance Proposal

The board discussed the dilemma of reaching a quorum at our meetings. It was decided that the number of board members be reduced to seven. This will be done through attrition (as board member's terms come to an end).

Future meeting dates

The date of the next LAA Board Meeting is Wednesday, June 1, at 5 p.m. The meeting will be open to all LAA members/non-members (including the town selectmen)--although only board members will have a vote. The primary objective of the meeting will be to finalize a list of summer volunteer activities.

Action: Each project chair should come to the meeting prepared to present a plan and date for a summer volunteer activity. (All)

Action: Reserve the Canton Town Office meeting room. (LR)

Action: Arrange for refreshments/meal at the meeting. (WA)

Fish in the Lake

Mr. McCluskey will coordinate with the Maine Inland Fisheries and Wildlife (MIF&W) to be sure the lake is stocked at the appropriate time/after the water level is raised. Ms. Rothrock mentioned that the article written for the next town newsletters is on fishing.

Action: Contact the MIF&W. (MM)

Mr. Atwater collected feedback regarding the meeting from the board members in attendance.

The meeting adjourned at 8:15 p.m.

Project Reports

PROJECT NAME: Photo Contest

CHAIRPERSON: Liz

OBJECTIVE: Hold a photo contest

PLANS: Complete photo contest by end of March

ACCOMPLISHMENTS SINCE LAST MEETING: Advertised photo contest; collected, numbered, and printed entries; ordered mats; recruited judges; booked Town Office; etc.

NEXT STEPS:

1. Put the photos in the mats and display them for the judges at Canton Town Office on 3/16/2016.
2. Deliver prizes to winners.
3. Publish photos on website and in newsletter.

GRADE SO FAR:

Intentions - B+

Results - B+

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PROJECT NAME: Director's Handbook

CHAIRPERSON: Liz

OBJECTIVE: Update contents of Director's Handbook

PLANS: Include officer job descriptions and 5 Year Plan

ACCOMPLISHMENTS SINCE LAST MEETING: Participated in subcommittee working on 5 Year Plan; generated secretary job description.

NEXT STEPS:

1. Get job descriptions from the other officers.
2. Meet with officers to determine what other information needs to be included.
3. Continue to meet with 5-Year Plan subcommittee.

GRADE SO FAR:

Intentions - B-

Results - B-

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PROJECT NAME: Website

CHAIRPERSON: Liz

OBJECTIVE: Update LAA Website

PLANS: Continue to work with Terri to improve LAA website.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS SINCE LAST MEETING: Biff introduced Liz to Terri; Liz provided Terri with new design ideas; Terri created a new website.

NEXT STEPS:

1. Inform members of new webpage (same address).
2. Post winning photos on website.
3. Provide Terri with missing content.

GRADE SO FAR:

Intentions - B+

Results - A

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PROJECT NAME: 5 Year Plan

CHAIRPERSON: Biff

OBJECTIVE: Develop a 5 Year Plan for the LAA

PLANS: Continue work on written and flipchart presentations

ACCOMPLISHMENTS SINCE LAST MEETING: Two meetings and a draft

NEXT STEPS:

1. Present to Board on 3/10/2016

GRADE SO FAR:

Intentions - A-

Results - B-

