

Lake Anasagunticook Association
Minutes of Board Meeting
October 15, 2017
at the McCluskeys' Camp

President Biff Atwater (WA) called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. A quorum was present. In attendance were Vice President Mike McCluskey; Secretary Liz Rothrock; Treasurer Gary Dougherty; Directors John Blancato, Polly Bussiere, Tim Kirwan, and Diane Ray. Mike Lara was present via Skype. (Cyndi Phillips tried to connect via Skype, but couldn't get through.) Mary Atwater was also present.

Minutes for the August 6, 2017 Board Meeting were reviewed and approved by unanimous voice vote on a motion made by Mr. Kirwan and seconded by Mr. Blancato.

Minutes for the August 12, 2017 Annual Meeting were reviewed and approved by unanimous voice vote on a motion made by Ms. Ray and seconded by Mr Kirwan.

Mr. Atwater read a note from Rusty Knight thanking the board for recognizing him with a Volunteer Award.

Treasurer's Review

Mr. Dougherty reported there is \$4830.89 in the LAA coffers. The amount received from the sale of the calendars so far is \$540.00. Mr. Dougherty also reported that 81 members have paid their dues (vs 100 at the end of 2016).

Action: Email the people who sold calendars and ask them to give the money to Mr. Dougherty. (LR)

Committee Reports:

Canton Mountain Wind Farm

We discussed the wind farm, how it came about, its benefits/drawbacks, etc. Mr. Kirwan said that several lakefront owners approached him with questions about the wind farm, as they knew little or nothing about it—as did he. Mr. Kirwan suggested the board should have discussed something of such significance when it was under consideration by the Town of Canton. Mr. Atwater indicated that it had come up previously, and the board had determined it was not an LAA issue. Mr Kirwan stated that he must have missed that meeting. Several board members indicated that there had been a number of meetings in Canton about the wind farm that had been widely publicized. Mr. Kirwan said that anything of significance in either town, and especially related to the watershed, should be communicated to our members—particularly since many seasonal owners may not be reading the local papers. He suggested that the LAA needs to be more “tied in” with the towns. We also discussed how to generate good will between the LAA and the towns by having the LAA have more of a presence/participation in the towns.

Membership:

Copies of the LAA brochure and membership card were distributed and discussed. It was decided that a business card-size item might be useful for

recruiting new members. It could be placed in the town offices, given out at the boat launch, passed to neighbors, etc.

Action: Generate a business card-size item that can be handed out to prospective members. (DR)

Table at Hartford Fair

The LAA has reserved and paid for a table at the Hartford Fall/Christmas Fair. It was decided that board members will provide theme baskets, items for a food basket, or monetary donations for a raffle. So far, Ms. Ray signed up from 9 a.m.-12 p.m.; Mr. Lara for 12-1 p.m.; and Mr. Dougherty for 1-2 p.m. The gaps are 8-9 a.m. (set-up) and 2-3 p.m. (clean-up), but more people are needed throughout the day.

Action: Let Ms. Rothrock know when you are available to man the table. (All)

Action: Drop off completed theme baskets or food items for the food basket at Polly's (18 Lake Shore Drive, Canton) or mail your monetary donation to her (PO Box 444, Canton, ME 04221-0444). (All)

Action: Bring raffle tickets, a cash box, and change. (GD, DR)

Wildlife:

Mr. Atwater shared information provided by Ms. Phillips. Bill Tufts of Buckfield is a beaver trapper who traps beavers. He does not charge to trap beaver. He does charge for his transportation for the service. We would have to make the arrangements for him to do this.

Ms. Bussiere reported that the two original loons and their offspring are alive and well. She said the dead loon that was seen in the brook may have been from another group of loons that was at the Hartford end of the lake for a portion of the summer. She also reported there was a dead goose on the lake. Regarding the loon platform, Ms. Bussiere said she has pulled it from the water and plans to paint it with marine paint. Ms. Bussiere suggested we get in touch with the school in Leeds that has a grant to do snail research.

Action: Ask Ms. Phillips to pursue further information about what permissions the beaver trapper needs in order to proceed. (WA)

Action: Paint the loon platform. (PB)

Action: Contact the school in Leeds for further information on their snail research. (PB)

Action: Anyone spotting dead wildlife should let Ms. Bussiere know so she can report it to the game warden/state biologist. (All)

Postcard of Dam Donors Plaque

A member suggested we produce a postcard of the Dam Donors Plaque and either give a copy to each of the donors or sell them for a profit. The board decided against the idea.

Action: Email the member to make her aware of the decision. (LR)

Update Board and Team Assignments

The LAA Management spreadsheet was distributed, discussed, and updated.

Action: Edit the LAA Management spreadsheet to reflect the changes and distribute it to the board members. (LR)

Tom Hamilton Lake Report

Dr. Hamilton has written a report on the health of the lake. It will be published in a special edition of the LAA newsletter in November.

Action: Publish November newsletter. (LR)

Algae at Hartford Beach

Mr. Atwater shared a photo of our lake provided by Ms. Phillips. It showed Metaphyton Algae (looks like green cotton candy). Apparently, it comes and goes and is possibly related to the temperature of the water. Mr. Atwater suggested it may have had something to do with the sudden draining of the lake at the end of July. He also noted that MVLMP is doing a study on Metaphyton Algae.

Lake Days Review

Ms. Atwater provided a report on the Lake Days celebration held on August 19 stating what transpired and indicating that the event was a success. She also included suggestions for next year. A suggestion was raised that we consider adding a raft race to draw attention to the event. It was agreed that the event would be held in a similar format next year. Ms. Bussiere has again offered her camp as the venue.

Unfinished Business:

Dues Increase

As was decided at the Annual Meeting, dues will increase to \$15 per person beginning on January 1, 2018.

Action: Include information about the dues increase in the special November newsletter. (LR)

Bernier Property

An update on the May 2017 cutting of the trees on the Bernier property was provided. Since the last meeting, Ms. Ray met with the Canton Planning Board and spoke at the Canton Select Board meeting. Ms. Ray has offered her services to the Planning Board to chair the rewriting of Canton's Shoreland Zoning Ordinances. Ms. Rothrock reported that Canton's DEP Rep has been to the

property, and he has e-mailed the CEO to let him know that 12 six-foot trees need to be planted by October 31.

Action: Follow-up with DEP if trees are not planted by October 31. (LR)

New Business:

Unencumbered vs General Funds

A member suggested we use “General Funds” in place of “Unencumbered Funds” in our financial reports. This was discussed and it was decided that we should retain “Unencumbered Funds.”

Action: Email the member to make her aware of the decision. (LR)

Next Year’s Fundraising

We have sold close to 100 LAA calendars. There was discussion about whether or not to do a calendar for 2019.

Action: Get input from Elaine Ferland and Peg McCluskey about calendars, Christmas cards, note cards, etc. (LR)

Support for Canton Bicentennial

Ms. Rothrock thanked Biff Atwater for his donation on behalf of the LAA for a Lottery Ticket Basket raffled at the Canton Bicentennial table at the Canton Town Fair. The LAA was given attribution.

The LAA has been asked to sponsor the Bicentennial Mardi Gras-themed fundraising event in February—as they did for the fundraising event last year. Mr. Dougherty objected saying he felt we should give to other charities. Mr. Atwater then offered \$50 toward the sponsorship if someone would match it. Mr. Kirwan and Mr. Blancato did (each will give \$25).

Action: Mail the Canton Bicentennial contributions to Mr. Dougherty (c/o LAA, PO Box 411, Canton, ME 04221), and he will write a check to the Town of Canton. (WA, JB, TK, GD)

Action: Verify that donations to the Town of Canton are tax deductible. (LR)

Fisheries Management Plan

Mr. Lara shared some information he received from a cousin who is with Lake Solitude Management Co. Mr. Lara and his cousin have been discussing how to reduce the Chinese Mystery Snail population. His cousin suggested we consider our fisheries management plan and possibly increase the number of Pumpkinseed Sunfish (Punkies), a fish that is known to eat the young snails.

Action: Send additional information to the board members on this topic. (ML)

Action: Follow-up with the Maine IF&W regarding Punkies. (MM)

Towns Water Monetary Contribution

At the Annual Meeting, Dr. Hamilton suggest that the LAA ask the Hartford and Canton Selectmen to add \$100 (each) for water monitoring to their town warrants. The board agreed that this is a good idea.

Action: Make this request of each town during meeting with Select Boards. (WA)

Executive Committee and Indemnification

This is being discussed by the officers for future presentation to the board.

LAA Calendar

The next LAA Board Meeting will be held on Sunday, April 8, at Diane Ray's house. Dinner will be at 5 p.m. and the meeting will begin at 6 p.m.

Action: Mark the meeting date on your calendar. (All)

Action: Send out an Evite, keep Mr. Atwater informed of the number of attendees, and send out e-mails regarding the location of the meeting and what food items to bring. (MM).

The LAA Calendar was updated and individuals assigned to oversee each event.

Action: Update and distribute the calendar to the board members. (LR)

Action: Include the calendar in the November newsletter. (LR)

The meeting adjourned at 8:36 p.m.

Minutes respectfully submitted,
Liz Rothrock, LAA Secretary