

# PLA Annual Meeting Minutes

July 23, 2022

9.00-11.00 am

Edge Lake Farm

## **9:00 Lorie Dunne, President – Welcome, Introductions and General Comments**

Lorie welcomed everyone to the PLA Annual meeting. The board members introduced themselves and their position on the board. Lorie thanked the members for all they do to keep the lake healthy. She also mentioned the names of those who have died in the last year: Joy Towne who was the “weed lady” and Donna Davis our “shining light of the lake and the social glue of the lake.” The dedication of the bench in Donna’s memory at Ames Park will be at 2:00 this afternoon and all are welcome to attend. Lorie acknowledged the following partners: AWWA (three grants are available for septic systems), NH Lakes, Towle Farm CC, Loon Preservation Committee, Moose Mountain Regional Greenway, Green Mountain Conservation Group, Province Line Associates Campground, Towns of Effingham and Wakefield, Province Lake Golf and Edge Lake Farm, UNH Lay Lake, NH DES and the PLA board.

There were 38 people in attendance at the meeting on July 23, 2022.

## **9:15 Business Meeting**

- **Election of Officers – Read by Lorie Dunne for Jon Samuelson**

Per the bylaws of the Association, Lorie Dunne as President, appointed a nominating committee to fill positions that were open or becoming open on the Board. Those nominees were presented to the rest of the Board for approval at a recent Board meeting. All nominees are for a two-year term. Short Bios of the slate of candidates were posted on the PLA website. The question was asked if there any candidates from the floor interested in any positions on the board. No volunteers came forward. People were reminded that they need to be a member to vote.

The following people were nominated as new or continuing members of the PLA Board of Directors.

- Jim Aiken was nominated to move from VP to the position of President replacing Lorie Dunne. All voted in favor and Jim was voted in as President.
- Ryan Ruel was nominated as the Vice President replacing Jim. All voted in favor and Ryan was voted in as Vice President.
- Thom Townsend was nominated to carry on as Treasurer. All voted in favor and Thom was voted in to continue as Treasurer.
- Donna Luce was nominated to carry on as Secretary. All voted in favor and Donna was voted in to continue as Secretary.

The next people were nominated to continue on as Board Directors for another term were.

- Lorie Dunne. It has been our practice that the outgoing President stay on as a Board member for continuity purposes. All voted in favor and Lorie was voted on to the Board.
- Jon Samuelson. All voted in favor and Jon was voted back onto the Board.
- Tucker Vye. All voted in favor and Tucker was voted back onto the Board.

Then Board members were nominated to fill open positions.

- Carl Davis has been on the board in the past and is looking to rejoin. All voted in favor and Carl has been added to the board.
- Debbie Cunha who could not be here today due to a family event she is attending. All voted in favor and Debbie has been added to the board.

With that, we now have 13 total Board members of a maximum of 14. Board members whose terms expire next year are Peter Dinger, Mindy Schuman-Vye, Dennis Badman, and Larry Moody.

Congratulations to all. Lorie handed over the PLA gavel to our new President, Jim Aiken.

- **Peter Dinger read a proclamation thanking Lorie for her job as President of the Board, she was presented with the proclamation and a gift certificate.** (See complete proclamation added to the end of these minutes.)
- **Secretary's Report - Approval of 2021 Annual Meeting Minutes – Donna Luce, Secretary**

The minutes from our last annual meeting were sent out via email to all PLA members. Donna made a motion that we accept those minutes. Jim Aiken called for a vote and the minutes of the July 17, 2021 were accepted.

- **Financials – Thom Townsend, Treasurer**

2021 PLA Annual Treasurer's Report to the Membership

Thom greeted the people and shared that it is both his responsibility and pleasure to present the annual Treasurer's report for 2021, the 10th year that he has been your Treasurer.

We began 2021 with a balance of \$45,459.53.

During the year we had an income of \$19,735.

The major components were Members' Dues and Contributions: \$11.5K, contributions from the towns of Wakefield and Effingham of \$5.4K (to offset much of our Lake Host payroll expenses), and over \$2100 donated in honor and memory of Donna Davis.

Our expenses during 2021 totaled \$16,500.

Included were our Lake Host Inspection payroll expense of \$6.5K, Partnership contributions (primarily AWWA, LPC, UNH Lay Lakes, and NH Lakes) of \$3.8K, Insurance expenses of \$2.1K, and beaver population control expense of \$3.0K. (Due to Covid staffing issues at UNH, the Laboratory Water Testing bill of \$770 did not reach us until January 2022 and will thus be included in 2022 expenses.)

At the end of 2021 our Treasury had a balance of \$48,695, ... a net increase for the year of \$3,235.

Looking forward into 2022, our income remains strong and expenses are consistent with past years. Barring any surprises, I expect expenses to be in line with income. We are fortunate to maintain a healthy cash balance to allow us to rapidly respond to any emergency such as a milfoil or cyano-bacteria outbreak.

One final note, please remember, it is never too late to pay your dues. The books are always open. Use PayPal or mail a check to PLA, PO Box 24, Effingham.

### **Financial Audit – Carl Davis reading for Michelle Schank**

The bank statements and supporting documents generated during January 1, 2021 thru December 31, 2021 were reviewed. Michelle acknowledged the treasurer's report and all records appear to be complete and maintained accurately with detailed breakdown for both income and expenses and supporting receipts. She applauded the meticulous bookkeeping of our treasurer and thanked him for the time and effort that he has put forth as a volunteer. The Audit Report can be viewed as a separate document at the Province Lake website.

## **Membership – Jim Aiken, Vice President**

<u>Current 7/18/22</u>	<u>7/17/21</u>	
Membership 137	108	
\$10,340	\$7,866	
New Members 7	4	
Pay by Check or Cash 116	Pay by PayPal	21

Basic up to \$25 = 46, Protector \$26-49 = 10, Defender \$50-74 = 28,  
Champion \$75-99 = 6, Hero \$100+ = 47      Total 137

Opt out of web posting of name = 0  
Website listing = 137      2021 Total 139

- **Merchandise – Ryan Ruel**
- PLA has partnered with SpreadShirt to provide Province Lake merchandise via our merchandise shop:  
<https://provincelakeassociation.myspreadshop.com>
- SpreadShirt offers a large variety of products to choose from: shirts, sweatshirts, tote bags, aprons, stickers, drinkware, and more!
- Choose from an existing product, or customize your own: select the artwork, pick a product color and adjust size and position of the artwork to your liking.
- Payment via credit card or PayPal
- Orders ship directly to you
- SpreadShirt provides direct customer service for your order – SpreadShirt offers a 30-day return guarantee (customized items are returnable to exchange only)

### Additional:

- PLA receives a commission for every sale (20% over cost + bonuses based on volume)
- SpreadShirt is a FREE service for the PLA to utilize
- PLA is not required to maintain any inventory
- We intend to add additional artwork over time
- Special thanks to Becky Lightizer for creating the two “lake/mountain” designs  
Special thanks to Jim Graves at Lilac Printing & Graphic Design for providing an updated PLA logo design.

**Water Quality & Monitoring and Cyanobacteria Program– Read by Lorie Dunne for Katie Jones**

## **2021 Water Quality Review:**

- We conducted four water sampling days throughout the 2021 summer. The 2021 water quality report can be found on the PLA website if anyone is interested in more details.
- Overall, it looks like we had a fairly good and stable year compared to the 2019 report with the average water clarity depth increasing from 10.2 ft to 11.8 ft and slight decreases in the average Chlorophyll a and phosphorus concentrations. While the averages are slightly better last year than in 2019, there is a decent amount of variability between sample days. We do not have 2020 data due to Covid.
- Last year we saw a very wet July (12.65 inches of rain - so very different than this July is shaping up to be) and 6 cyanobacteria blooms throughout the late summer into the fall with 2 of the blooms impacting a large portion of the lake and lasting more than 10 days in October and November.

## **2022 Ongoing Water Quality Review:**

We have done 2 sampling days so far with the most recent taking place this past Monday.

- We had low visibility on the June 6<sup>th</sup> sampling day with a water clarity depth reading from the Secchi Disk of only 5 ft primarily due to the large amount of pollen at the time.
- The visibility was great on the July 18<sup>th</sup> sampling day with a Secchi Disk reading of 11.5 ft – more than doubling from June and in agreement with what we typically see.
- This year, we decided to have a rotation of boat driver volunteers so a huge thank you to those who have volunteered or are on the schedule to volunteer your boat and time! Also, please reach out if you are interested in driving your boat for sampling next summer or to learn more about the water sampling effort! It is usually just a 2-hour commitment where we work with people from the UNH Lakes Monitoring Program in collecting samples, and is a lot of fun!
- In terms of cyanobacteria blooms, we had a localized and short-lived bloom in the beginning of June but since then, the water has been quite clear!
- Also, just a reminder, to either reach out to the PLA or the NHDES Cyanobacteria Hotline if you see something that looks like cyanobacteria. Some blooms can only last a few hours, so reaching out to the PLA would allow us to quickly grab a sample before it dissipates and provide additional information to NHDES. Finally, a reminder that the NHDES guidance is to not swim and keep pets away from the water if there is a cyanobacteria bloom present.

## **Lake Host Program– Lee-Ann Cammett**

- As of Thursday, July 21: Total inspections 384 boats of which 78% are Province Lake boats. The next most visited lake is Ossipee Lake.
- Busiest time of day is between 12:00-2:00 with 10:00-12:00 being the second busiest.
- Launching and Leaving - 75% arriving and 25% leaving.
- Motorized vs non-motorized - 90% motorized and 10% non-motorized
- Cleaned vs not cleaned - 80% are clean and 20% are not. We cannot stop any boat from coming in.
- We have a fabulous Lake Host team this year. Paul, Gunnar and Sara have stepped up filling in for each other at the last minute and also when there are open shifts. I couldn't ask for a more dedicated team.
- The question was raised as to how we recruit people to do the lake host. It is advertised via Facebook and word of mouth. Volunteers are welcome to fill in when needed. Also asked if there is a pay scale. The employees are paid \$15 an hour.
- There was a round of applause thanking the Lake Host employees.

## **Dam, Bailey Rd Bridge and Beavers – Mark Hempton**

- The dam is the only physical asset we own. We are in a drought so water level is low and without the dam the water would be 13 to 14 inches lower. The dam is doing its job. For 28 years records of the dam observations have been kept. Mike Stevens monitors the South River once a month. Mark will take the boards out in October. The Bailey Road culvert repair project has been postponed for, hopefully another year, due to the state needing a permit approval.
- Carl asked if the money that was appropriated to fund this work on the culvert will be available for next year. Mike Cahalane from the Town of Effingham said it appears that monies will be available. We may need to attend another town meeting to confirm the money is available.

## **Weed Watch – Tucker Vye**

- The weed watch program is important to keep Province Lake free of invasive weeds. So far, we have not had any invasive weeds. The first defense is the Lake Host program that inspects a large majority of watercraft launches in the lake, Unfortunately, watercrafts are launched around the lake and have not been inspected. 14 volunteers patrol the lake for invasive weeds, unusual or unidentifiable weeds. There have not been any samples identified as invasive thanks to the people of the Lake Host and the weed watch programs. Volunteers are always welcome.

- Carl encouraged anyone to call us if they suspect an invasive weed. The website has a link to what the invasive weeds look like and the Lake Host have copies.
- Shirley McCormack asked a question about pollution on her corner due to what the town puts on the road during the winter months. Jim thanked Shirley for bringing that concern to us.

- **Loons – Thom Townsend and Steve Craig**

- The loons arrived in late April and the loon raft was put out.
- LPC comes to our lake three times a year. On July 5, Tom and Emma Purington (LPC summer intern) saw 4 loons. The LPC state wide loon count was on July 16 and 3 loons were spotted on the lake. There were no chicks this year. The signs are taken down but the raft is still on the lake. Since 2019 there have not been any eggs laid.
- Carl asked about the man-made structure being any more successful than a natural setting. The year there were 2 chicks the nest was on the shore.

**Invitation to join the celebration for Donna Davis and bench dedication at Ames Park today at 2.00**

**Q&A**

- Do people need permission to put dock and boats along 153? Province Line Associates has given permission for people to do that and in Maine you can put docks and moorings in as long as it doesn't get in the way of the property owner.
- How are the public hearings going for the new campground to be constructed? What about septic? There will be one septic for the whole campground. People are encouraged to be involved in the planning board. You don't need to be an abutter to be involved.
- The question was raised about the geese along 153. They poop 3 to 5 pounds a day. Permits can be obtained to shoot the geese. Geese won't go in to tall grass so vegetate along your property.
- **ACTION: Tucker will ask Province Lake Golf if there is a plan to work on eliminating the geese and post the answer on the website.**

- David Luce acknowledged the clean-up that Larry Moody does along 153.

**Upcoming events: Beach Cleanup- Saturday, Sept 10, 10:00 am**

**10:31 Jim concluded the meeting and used the gavel for his first time.**

Respectfully Submitted,  
Donna Luce, Secretary

### **A Proclamation**

by the Province Lake Association of Wakefield & Effingham, New Hampshire, and Parsonsfield, Maine

**Whereas** Lorie Dunne has served as President of the PLA for the past 3 years,  
and

**Whereas** Lorie Dunne served as Vice President and Membership chairperson  
for the preceding 2 years,  
and

**Whereas** during her time as President she led by example and consistently  
encouraged us all to follow best practices as caretakers of Province Lake,  
and

**Whereas** during her tenure she organized, hosted and ran 12 Board meetings via Zoom during the Covid-19 Pandemic  
and

**Whereas** during her tenure she met with and secured excellent working relations with numerous Partner Organizations  
and



**Whereas** Lorie is, quite frankly, a fun person to be around:

\* \* \* \* \*

Be it known that this day, July 23, 2022, is to be officially known as:

**LORIE's DAY**

... in Honor and Thanks to our outgoing President Lorie Dunne of Bailey Road in Effingham - for all that she has done for the Province Lake Association - and for the Lake that she loves.

And be it known that also today, - the former PLA Presidents: Carl Davis, Jon Samuelson, Peter Dinger, and Mindy Schuman-Vye do officially welcome her into the prestigious **PLA Past Presidents Club**.