

Lake Eden Association Annual Meeting Minutes
Held at 138 Peninsula Drive on July 9, 2022

The Lake Eden Association Annual Meeting convened at 10:03 a.m. with Association President, Art Curcillo, commencing the meeting with the announcement that Kimberly Jensen would be our speaker.

Before Kim's arrival, Association business commenced.

Anne read out the minutes from the 2021 meeting, were moved by Marylou Durett, seconded by Jackie Larson, and approved.

Tara reported that two loon chicks had successfully hatched – the first chicks in three years. She rebuilt the platform and added a hoop to protect the nest from aerial predators. The loons showed up early but were able to use the new platform. Tara noted that an eagle had been spotted and that a third loon was on the lake, making for some conflict. She reminded us to call Eric Hanson if the loons appeared to be in danger or distress.

Art presented the Treasurer's report (attached here) and noted that we have just over \$43,000 in the invasive species account, and approximately \$11,000 in the operating account. \$2,000 was added to the IS account before rolling it into a new CD.

Art requested volunteers to update the lake map with the current owners. Because we don't have the software to update the map, it will be a challenge. Someone will be contacting Roland to see if he still has it, and Jackie Larson volunteered to help. Candy Vear will have the most current ownership and Anne will provide the current LEA mailing list to assist.

Christina Fortin-Malheux was in charge of this year's boat parade on July 3rd. Nine boats entered the contest and the winners were announced on the Friends of Lake Eden Facebook page.

Steve Walsh discussed the Friends of Lake Eden Facebook page and the monitoring he conducts every summer.

- The FB page was created (and administered by Steve Walsh) to promote a sense of community. We currently have over 1500 members, from the immediate area and out of town/state who love the lake. Steve reminded everyone that no advertising on the page is allowed until there is a benefit to the LEA – such as a percentage of sales being donated to the LEA. People who abuse this rule are removed from the page.
- Steve also monitors the lake and takes 8 samples from locations around the lake for water quality and visibility. Currently, mercury measurements are being added but we have none detected. Mark Mitchell comes out to summarize the test results each year. Lake Eden is just above average for water quality, and monitoring for algae bloom is being done with training to publish results.

Jackie Larson noted our collective appreciation for the work Steve does on behalf of the lake, to applause, and Steve further noted the same gratitude to Art to further applause.

The discovery of Eurasian Milfoil in the lake has raised concerns about sources of infiltration and remediation. Art got buoys and had them installed around the area of detection, off the public beach,

and after someone mistakenly returned them to the beach, thinking they were stolen, the barrier was set in place. The Wood family first discovered the milfoil.

Meeting business paused when Kim Jensen of the Vermont Department of Environmental Conservation, director of Invasive Species arrived to make her presentation at 10:23 a.m.

Kim discussed the declining funding for her department. Of the \$1.8M funding request, \$450K goes to for programs, including her salary. Her support staff has been reduced to the point that she is now the sole administrator, down from 3. Further cuts have been mandated – about \$200K available net year. Federal grants are submitted to support the program. The Greeter program is about 40% of the budget, and aquatic invasive species management accounts for about 20%.

Highlights from Kim's presentation:

Discussion included:

- Non-native animals are surveyed, including a mystery snail
- Funding goes to support Lake Champlain in addition to other bodies of water for milfoil control, water chestnut control, etc.
- Lake Eden's Eurasian Milfoil detection was confirmed by the Public Beach, Boy Scout camp on the west side, and the boat launch near the loon nest. These were marked by bouys.
- A certified diving crew will be required to harvest the milfoil, which spreads by seeding and broken pieces. Essential to capture it all and it will take multiple approaches to prevent spread.
- Only 3 companies are certified to dive, and a head diver is required to monitor, as well as spotters.
- Other ways to stop spread is to put down mats to suffocate the milfoil, which requires a permit, vacuum method, and herbicide as a last resort. Must start with harvesting.
- Kim provided pictures and samples of various types of aquatic plants, including other milfoil varieties that are not considered harmful. Only the Eurasian Milfoil is the issue.
- VIP training is scheduled for July 11th at Lake Salem and there are online workshops.

This concluded Kim's presentation.

Chris Bishop spoke about the Scout Camp.

- He mentioned that Lake Eden is a watershed contributor to Lake Champlain, so part of that ecosystem. Peter Danforth is working on a watershed program for the Scout Camp, pending funding.
- The Scout Camp is 1000 acres and the BSA is working to make the property more sustainable. There is a maple grove on the property and with 15,000 taps, it is now certified organic.
- It was discussed that fiber is due to be installed in the area within 3-4 years, which should enhance reliability and availability to the community.
- It was reported that eight beavers were relocated and lodges that could be removed have been or are being dismantled.
- **Next year's meeting is scheduled for July 15 at the Scout Camp. After the meeting, attendees can get a tour of the facilities.**

The meeting was temporarily interrupted so that two parties who had to leave early could get their cars out of the parking area.

The meeting resumed after 15 minutes.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. The LEA's annual donations were discussed and voted on for the following distributions:

\$750.00 Vermont Department of Environmental Conservation

\$250.00 Vermont Green Up Program

Amber will be instructed to cut checks to these groups.

2. The nominating committee presented the following for officers for the 2022-2023 board:

President - Art Curcillo

V. President – Charlie DiStefano

Secretary – Colleen Brennan

Treasurer – Amber Wilson

Motion by Anne Ford, Seconded by Dave Greiner – Motion carried. Anne will hand off LEA documents to Colleen.

3. Gary Durett raised the issue of the Executive Committee as required by Article 18 of the By-Laws. It should consist of past president, existing president and two members of the association. Currently, we need to reach out to Robin (past president) and ensure this committee is whole. Gary and Vinnie Curcillo volunteered. Motion by Marylou Durett, seconded by Donna Cyr, carried.

This concluded the business meeting. A motion was made by Anne Ford and seconded by Marylou Durett to adjourn, approved, and the meeting adjourned at 12:13 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Anne Ford, Secretary