

Lincoln Pond Association Annual Membership Meeting
July 23, 2011 Minutes

The meeting was called to order at 10:20 AM. President Gerry Zahavi thanked Jeff Sienkiewicz for allowing us to meet in his cabana.

Introductions Officers, directors, and members introduced themselves.

Minutes from last year's meeting were approved.

Treasurer's Report and Budget for next Year were presented and approved. See report for details. Generally, finances are okay. Paid membership is about 30 out of a potential 100 properties. Dues are \$15. A form was passed around for any address changes or new members. Members requested a list of all property owners and possibly a resident directory; Board will look into this and explore a voluntary opt-in system.

Lake Quality and CSLAP/NYSFOLA Report – Wayne Johnson

- Elizabethtown Town Board agreed to and has paid \$225 of the CSLAP cost. The president, Gerry Zahavi, and/or Wayne will follow up to get the town to pay all or continue to pay at least this much of the CSLAP cost every year. Thank you expressed to the Town for this.
- Citizens' Statewide Lake Program (CSLAP) is part of New York State Federation of Lake Associations (NYSFOLA). Wayne collects samples about every 2 weeks and sends to labs for reports. CSLAP does lab work and sends it to DEC. DEC writes the report. www.cslap.net for information about these organizations.
- Our lake is healthy.
- Report any observed algae bloom – it could be harmful, toxic. We have a special kit to get it tested.
- State tests for E. coli because they have the campsite.
- Heavy rain in spring brought more nutrients and sediment.
- Free floating weeds – possibly bladderwort – not harmful. Gives shade to fish and turtles.
- CSLAP Report is online – go to www.lincolnpod.org or the CSLAP website.
- Our water sample site is on upper pond. Might be some difference between upper and lower pond, but not likely.
- We are considered a “deep lake” so Wayne takes two samples – one at 25.5 feet (6 meters) and another at 4.5 feet (1.5 meters).

Kingdom Dam Reconstruction Project – Gerry Zahavi

- Dam was scheduled for reconstruction by DEC. Money taken out of their budget. Not an extremely high priority. Other dams in more imminent danger and have people downstream who would be impacted.
- Gerry met with Jim Reagan and his supervisor at DEC in Albany and also met with Jim as he inspected the dam in June.
- DEC is for the project, ready to go, but no money.
- All we can do is pressure politicians to put the project back in the budget.
- Gerry is doing photo exams of the dam once every 4 to 6 weeks in addition to DEC's inspections.

- Names of politicians to contact will be put up on the Website. People should write to push the project.
- Peter Zegarelli gave a presentation of his daughter, Clare's, project on what would happen if the dam went out. She did the project as part of a GIS class at Colgate University.
Lower Pond 64 % would become exposed land. In Upper Pond would have 16 – 17 % of land exposed. Project will be posted on the website.
- Upper Pond is possibly being silted up by the causeway. We need to get more information on this. How would changing the flow affect Lower Pond? Perhaps it should be dredged.
- DEC needs to do more research about the causeway when the dam project is back on.
- DEC now generally lowers the lake level two weeks after Labor Day. The lake goes down about an inch per day once the gate is opened. DEC has been responsive to calls to open or close the dam.
- Dam project details are on the website. The state plans to make the spillway the full width of the dam and not have a gate to open and close. So talking about a v notch in the spillway. Might not be bad depending on the size of the v.
- There is a screen in front of the dam that will stop people from being washed over. It may or may not be intact. Ask DEC to put up a warning sign.
- We should have a plan for what needs to be done when the project is back on.
- Gerry talks to Noel Merrihew at least once a month. Noel has sent letters on behalf of the dam project.
- Send items you want raised with Noel Merrihew (Etown Supervisor) and Jim Reagan (DEC) to one of the officers or directors.

Road Conditions and Plans for Restoring Access to Payne's Way

- Wayne Johnson: Lower Pond Way is in pretty good shape this year after some work.
- Frances Myers Way is okay.
- Pat Ellsworth: Twin Brooks needs more material, getting to the stage it needs more work.
- Payne's Way is awful. They need to get organized and get others on their road to contribute and someone to do the work. Have most owners contacted.
- Some four wheeler users are harming the private roads. Majority are okay. People need to stop them and ask them to be careful, go slow... Can put a sign to go slow by your property.
- A meeting is scheduled the first week in August with Noel and Jim Reagan to discuss possible solutions to the road below Kingdom Dam. Gerry, Wayne and people on Payne's Way will be attending the meeting.

Revision of the Bylaws – Debbie Maxwell

The officers and directors suggested the following three amendments to the Bylaws of the Association. These amendments will be on the agenda for a vote at next year's meeting. The new wording is in italics. A brief explanation is given for each change.

- **Fiscal Year (Section 3) *The fiscal year shall end on December 31st. Officers elected at the last election meeting shall assume office immediately.***

Currently the fiscal year ends July 31st. The rest of the section is staying the same. Dues come in all summer so it makes no sense to end the fiscal year in July.

- **Quorum (Section 12) *Ten households of the association present at any regular meeting shall be considered a quorum.***
Currently a quorum is fifteen members of the Association. We felt it should be households. FYI each household gets up to two votes.
- **Amendments (Section 15) *Any amendment to these Bylaws, if approved by the Board of Directors, shall be posted on the website, www.lincolnpond.org, at least one month prior to the annual meeting of the Association and sent out in the mailing (e-mail or land mail) prior to the annual meeting. The amendment will be adopted by majority vote at that annual meeting.***
Currently an amendment has to be presented at the annual meeting one year and then voted on the following year.

Membership – Gerry Zahavi and Judy Schwarz

- T-shirts available for \$10. A vote was taken to leave the logo “Lincoln Pond” only or to add Adirondacks or Elizabethtown. Lincoln Pond only won. Contact Judy Schwarz if you are interested in getting t-shirts.
- A Lincoln Pond Association Pamphlet distributed for feedback. The brochure will be given to members, and perhaps given out in town etc. Also would also be used to introduce ourselves to new property owners.
- Membership last year was 27 paid memberships. Three years ago it was 24, and then went up to 34, and then 32.
- A suggestion was made that we might want people to pay dues to launch their boats. The town could take it and give it back to us for roads. Members were not interested in pursuing this idea.
- We now have a reciprocal membership agreement with BRASS.

Elections

The terms for President, Gerry Zahavi, Secretary, Debbie Maxwell, and two directors, April Spilling and Wayne Johnson are up. They were re-elected.

Old/New Business

- How should we be interacting with the Fish and Game Club around the fishing tournament? Are there impacts to the lake or fish? Should we be using this as a time to educate people about cleaning boats? Should we ask DEC to inspect boats and give out information that day? The directors should follow up on this issue.
- A concern was raised about dog safety. Others knew the dogs involved and that we would get nowhere with this issue.
- FYI – A camp on Payne’s Way was robbed. Everyone should be careful.
- A suggestion was made to once again create a directory of property owners around the lake.
- Laurie Walker offered to create a Facebook page for members.

- We should get more information about Carp as a way to deal with the milfoil. Concerns were raised that they might then become a problem.
- What should be done for those occasional dangerous or drunk boaters? Solutions offered included trying to talk to people to encourage them to be more responsible, call DEC, take their boat numbers, or take a picture. DEC will come out and patrol the lake from time to time. Always trying to talk to people first is a good idea.
- Maybe we need two clean-up days, one at the beginning and one at the end of the season?
- Wildlife report – moose sighted, 2 loons, 4 bald eagles...
- Should we have a Lincoln Pond garage sale next year? The board will follow up.

The meeting adjourned at Noon.

Respectfully Submitted,
Deborah Maxwell
Secretary

For your information, our website is: www.lincolnpound.org. The minutes, treasurer's report, and a recording of the meeting will all be posted on the website.