



swains lake association
BARRINGTON, NH

PO Box 2, Barrington, NH 03825
www.swainslake.com

May Board Meeting

MONDAY, MAY 11TH, 2015 @ 6:30PM
TREMBLAY RESIDENCE

ATTENDEES

President - Deb Winter; Treasurer – Jan Shaw; Secretary – Wendi Tremblay; Road Representatives and Water Testers – Pat Lenzi, Cynthia Harrington, Zak Downing, Matt Niswender, Pat Gingrich, and Cliff and Karen McKenney,

Deb Winter opened the meeting at 6:35. She suggested to the Board that we have a form letter, (or template), to use to send a “greeting and welcome” to new members. This will be completed prior to the next Board meeting.

She also stated that the SLA is now, once again, officially a non-profit organization. All the board members acknowledged Deb’s hard work and tremendous effort to make this a reality.

Treasurer’s Report: Janet Shaw

\$1,000 in checks has been deposited since the last board meeting held in October of 2014. Payments are as follows: Stamps: \$34.00, (for mailings); UNH Water Testing for 2014: #328.00; State of NH Filing Fee: #25.00; PO Box Rent: \$62.00.

Website Review - Zak Downing

Zak brought up that he has had several requests from non-member Lakeside residents as to how to gain access to the Swains Lake Association's Web site. This was reviewed last year, and the Board, once again, decided that in order to gain access to our website, one must first pay their dues and become a member. This is the same as last year's policy. The Board feels that if one can have access to the web site and all related information without being a member, than the incentive to join is lessened.

Water Testing - Pat Gingrich

Although the bill for water testing has been paid, we are still awaiting the written report and analysis for the testing done in 2014. Deb Winter asked Pat Gingrich to forward the report to her when she receives it. When received, Zak will post it on the web site.

Due to spring getting a later than usual start this year, 2015 water testing has yet to commence. We are hoping to get monthly readings beginning in June, and continuing through September. Readings solely for temperature and clarity will be done twice a month. The readings will be taken at the same 2 locations as previous years. These are the deepest area of the large section of the lake, and the deepest area of the smaller section. (Water temperature will be updated on the web site from the 2014 results, to "information pending").

Porta-Potties and E-Coli

Pat Lenzi mentioned that the porta-potties adjacent to the boat launch area, are now chained to a tree. This is apparently in response to them being tipped over last year. Also, in response to a question at the annual meeting last summer, by a member whose neighbor appears to have an inoperative septic system, and is using a porta-potty as the bathroom for the entire household, Deb Winter stated that she is

speaking with the town about this. 1. Is it the town's responsibility? Or is it the State's? 2. Can a town, (or state), official check this situation out before the summer season begins, and water temperatures get warmer, raising the risk for e-coli?

Cliff McKenney brought up that an oil tank on Stadig Rd, appeared to have leaked or ruptured recently. Booms and flotation devices were in the water, perhaps to contain it. No one had heard about this, or had read anything on it.

Lake Host Program

Deb Winter said that the Association is not obtaining any grants this year to pay Lake Hosts, since the Lake Association obtaining any grant money must match it. We want to have more money in our bank account before we can afford this. Also, the date to sign up for these grants has passed.

We are hoping to get volunteers to help monitor the boat launch this year, and be sure those entering our lake are educated in the spread of exotic weeds. There are free training sessions. One can register on line, and several dates in June are still available.

Potential Volunteers Include:

Paul Silver: paulsilver69@gmail.com ... Mike Briggs: ski2mikebriggs@yahoo.com ... Kelly Landry: Klandry@moynihanlumber.com ... Mike Groover: groove@metrocast.net ... Holly: santaskis@gmail.com

Deb Winter mentioned that she thought Paul Silver may be willing to take the lead on this. Cindy Harrington will get information on upcoming training dates to Paul.

“CLEAN-DRAIN AND DRY” signs are still up at the boat launch, and at the campground.

Cindy Harrington mentioned that for anyone wishing to become a weed watcher, there is a packet with samples of what weeds look like.

Lake and Launch Issues:

The installation of a pump at the boat launch was discussed. This had been brought up by a member of the SLA at the last annual meeting. His hope was that if there was a hand operated pump at the launch area, people could wash their props outside the lake. He hoped that there might be less chance of spreading weeds in the lake. However, after speaking with those knowledgeable on this matter, the Board agrees that whatever is washed off boats at the launch area, will be washed into the lake. Plus, we do not want to encourage people to wait and wash their boats off here... we want to encourage them to do it when they are home, or when they pull out of whatever lake they launched at prior to putting in at Swains Lake. So having a pump just doesn't make sense.

The Board discussed Maine's fines for boaters with milfoil, (and other exotic weeds), on their trailers and boats. It is agreed that NH should too. We agreed to talk to the NHLA about this at one of their seminars this summer. We agree that NH should fine these boaters too, and the funds generated, could be put towards fighting exotic weeds in NH lakes. Wendi Tremblay made a motion to bring this up to the NHLA to lobby for this, if a fine is not already in place. Motion seconded by Karen McKenney. 5 votes in favor. 5 abstained.

Marking Rocks: The large rock adjacent to the boat launch area, known to lake residents as "Walter," is now marked. Cliff McKenney mentioned that the boat launch needs dredging. Boats are "bottoming out" and people are losing props on the lake bottom. Deb Winter said that the launch is state-owned and operated, so the most we can do is ask them to dredge. As far as any additional marking of rocks, we should limit it to those that are just below water. The large rocks that people can see, are obvious, and should not pose a problem to boaters.

Loon Preservation Society, and NH Lakes Association:

Membership in these organizations was discussed. It was agreed to continue them because of the valuable information each one provides to us. Each membership is \$100.

Possible Activities for 2015:

Pat Gingrich noted the sometimes large amounts of **litter along the roadsides**. She would like to see a day or two where Lake Association members could post a date in their area, and people could bring a bag with them when they walk.

Possible **Boat Parade** on July 4th ???

Bonfire: How do we tactfully suggest that only pallets be used. Last year they placed a plastic paddle boat on top of the pile of wood pallets, and it burned green/ blue, etc. We wonder what chemicals go in the lake from that. According to Rick Walker, (Barrington's Fire Chief), there is no fire permit needed because the burn is on an island. Zak Downing said that we could just publicize the boat parade, and leave it at that.

Meeting adjourned at 8:05pm

Minutes submitted by Secretary Wendi Tremblay

Next Board Meeting is Monday, June 15th at Deb Winter's home on Rocky Point at 6:30pm.