

OTSEGO LAKE ASSOCIATION

P.O. BOX 13
SPRINGFIELD CENTER NY 13468

FINAL MINUTES BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

Scottie Baker's Home - Oaksville
Saturday, September 29, 2018 at 1:00 PM

ATTENDANCE

Present: Jim Howarth (Co-President), David Sanford (Co-President), Scottie Baker (Vice-President), Betty VanHeusen (Treasurer), Wayne Bunn (Secretary and Director at Large), John May (Director/Middlefield), Peter Regan (Director/Middlefield), Paul Lord (Director/Otsego), William Murdock (Director/Otsego), Mickie Richtsmeier (Director/Springfield), Bob Sutherland (Director/Springfield), Debbie Creedon (Director at Large), Tim Pokorny (Webmaster), and Kiyoko Yokota (Technical Advisor).

Absent: Martin Tillapaugh (Director/Cooperstown and Legal Advisor) and Gary Kuch (Director/Cooperstown)

Guests: Katie Sanford, Amanda May, and Aviva Schneider

Note: MMSP = Motion Made, Seconded, and Passed

LUNCH

A great buffet lunch was hosted by Scottie with all attendees providing a wonderful assortment of food and beverage.

OPENING (Stated at 1:55 PM)

1. MMSP to accept Final Minutes of Board of Directors meeting held on May 24, 2018.
2. Treasurer's Report (Betty) – Betty reported that there is \$15,000.52 in the checking account. MMSP to accept Treasurer's report.
3. Membership Report (Betty) – Betty reported 86 members with 96 on the mailing list. Long discussion about membership, how to attract new members, previous membership campaigns, mass mailings, and when membership should start and end. MMSP for membership to run from August (annual meeting) to August (annual meeting) with explanation in fall newsletter including anyone who joins or renews in the fall 2018 / winter 2019 will be considered a member for next year – aka the “early bird bonus”.

NORMAL ITEMS

4. Website (Tim) – Everything is up to date and OK. Tim uses Google Analytics to track OLA website usage to determine how many “hits” are made on the website. For the period January 1, 2018 to September 18, 2018, there were a total of 786 sessions with 1128 page views by 620 users. Tim uses the MailChimp tracking program to send out the newsletters and electronic news/updates – approximately 60% to 70% of those recipients are opening the e-mails sent. Tim recently established a page that now shows links to every photo page on the website (previously, these photo links were randomly spread out all over the website). Eventually, he will link the icons/photos that appear on the right side of the website to information/links on boating, fishing, wildlife, and parks on/near the lake. Is there a tie-in with our Facebook page?

5. Newsletter – Susan O’Handley will again coordinate, print, and mail the fall newsletter on or about November 1st. Theme of newsletter will be “Reflections” and all articles and photos should be submitted to Scottie and Susan no later than October 20th. Potential articles include Co-Presidents message, application for membership, merchandise for sale (Scottie), photographs, road salt (Paul), NWZB signs, NYSDOT letter (Wayne), Sisson’s camp, inside the Board (Bill), annual meeting (Mickie), suggestion to recycle newsletter, HABs and weeds (Kiyoko), boat parade (Wayne), welcome letters (Debbie), and lake temperature (Kiyoko). Goal is for 500 +/- newsletters in fall (2018) and spring (2019); John will review and cull various lists for duplications, etc.; Jim will send newsletter to Cooperstown Country Club members; Paul will contact Otsego Sailing Club for permission to send newsletter to their members. A draft copy of the newsletter sent to all BOD members for review would be helpful.
6. Merchandise (Scottie) – Scottie will take photographs of Board members holding various items for sale to be used in newsletter.
7. No Wake Zone Buoys, Signs, and Volunteer Dive Team (Paul) – Fall BuoyFest will be held on October 14th at 9:00 AM using the normal divers and tenders plus many of Paul’s student divers. MMSF for \$2,000 for chains and accessories to support the dive team. OLA has paid for NWZB signs that have been placed around the lake while OCCA and CRISP have paid for Clean / Drain / Treat signs that have been placed around the lake. New signs are needed at Three Mile Point, Lake View Motel, Sam Smith’s Boat Yard, and Shadow Brook.
8. Boat Inspections / Boat Washing Station (Paul) – There were 687 boat inspections at Cooperstown lakefront, 222 boat inspections at Springfield Public Landing, and 2581 boat inspections at Canadarago Lake State boat launch in 2018. The number of boats actually powered washed is unknown.
9. Annual Meeting (Bob) – Scheduled for August 2019 at the Otsego Sailing Club. The Annual Meeting Committee, to be chaired by Bob again, will meet after the holidays to work out the details and topics. After discussing various venues that could accommodate the meeting, everyone seemed to agree that the Otsego Sailing Club would be an ideal location – large tent (pavilion being planned), ample parking, and similar interests in Otsego Lake.
10. Boat Parade (Wayne) – Fifth Annual “We Love Our Lake” Boat Parade was held on Monday July 2nd at 2:00 PM (a normal work day for many this year) with very hot weather in the 90s and a heat index in triple digits. The small number of boats in the parade was disappointing but everyone who attended had a great time. The Boat Parade Committee, to be chaired by Wayne again, has already decided to hold the 2019 boat parade on Thursday July 4th at 4:00 PM with the theme of “Red, White, and Blue – It’s the 4th of July”. The parade will start at the lakefront in Cooperstown, travel along the westerly shore of the lake, and end at Three Mile Point with an awards ceremony at the fishing platform with the Mayor of Cooperstown (hopefully) making the presentations.

NEW BUSINESS

11. Harmful Algal Blooms (Kiyoko) – Kiyoko reported that some dilute HABs had occurred on Otsego Lake this summer. The HABs are becoming more widespread in various NYS lakes.
12. Asian Clams (Wayne) – Wayne reviewed a newspaper article (e-mailed to all OLA Board members this summer) about Asian Clams in Lake George. Just one more invasive species that we need to keep out of Otsego Lake.
13. Use of Glyphosate (“Roundup”) by NYSDOT (Debbie) – Debbie reported that NYSDOT plans to use the commercial product by Monsanto called “Roundup” (primary herbicide active ingredient is glyphosate) along the westerly side of Otsego Lake every five years to kill poison ivy and other weeds that are resistant to the more

environmentally safe herbicide that they have been using in the past. Debbie will coordinate with the Otsego Lake Watershed Supervisory Committee, Otsego County Soil & Water Conservation District, and Senator Jim Seward to stop this practice. Glyphosate is a very harmful to the environment and is a known carcinogen.

14. Future of Otsego Lake Association (Jim) – Long discussion about the future of OLA including maintaining and increasing membership, more advertising, an article in The Freeman’s Journal, etc.
15. Partner Organizations (Jim) – Discussion on using mailing lists from other local organizations for OLA newsletter such as Cooperstown Country Club, Otsego Sailing Club, and properties within 100+/- feet of Otsego Lake (via County Tax Maps).
16. Memorial Contributions to Honor Ginny Hastings’ Friend (Paul) – Seasonal lakeside resident Ginny Hastings would like to set up a way on Otsego Lake to honor her recently deceased friend. Paul has suggested a few ways for this to occur: new buoy location, new NWZ signage dispersal (\$2000), SUNY Oneonta enrolled volunteer diver scholarship (\$500 - \$1500), yearly maintenance of volunteer diver boat (\$800), expanded OLA contribution to Goodyear Swamp boardwalk (\$200 - \$20,000), barrel of chain for NWZBs (\$700), SUNY Oneonta student scholarship for monitoring “continuous lake monitoring” buoy (\$500 - \$2500), yearly maintenance endowment for “continuous lake monitoring” buoy (\$2000), and printing / mailing of newsletter (\$700). Debbie will meet with Ginny and coordinate the donations.
17. List of OLA Board Members (Jim) – A list of all current OLA Board members would be helpful since there are several new additions to the Board. See bottom of last page for the list.

OLD BUSINESS

18. Letter to New Lakeside Home Owners (Paul and Debbie) – Paul and Debbie have completed a letter from OLA to be given or sent to all new lakeside home owners on Otsego Lake in the Town of Otsego advising them to be aware of, and then follow, local Town and Village regulations before they undertake any project. The letter has been distributed to the local real estate firms to be given out upon the closing of the property. Otsego County can also generate a list of properties that have just sold. A similar letter is now needed for the Town of Middlefield and the Town of Springfield.
19. Letter to Renters, Motel/B&B Guests, and Seasonal Residents (Wayne and Debbie) – Wayne and Debbie have completed a letter from OLA to be given to renters, motel/B&B guests, and seasonal residents on the lake advising them about boater safety and regulations, no wake zones, invasive species, etc. Debbie will coordinate distribution of this letter in the spring of 2019.
20. Otsego County Water Quality Coordinating Committee (Mickie) – Mickie, Jim, or Kiyoko will try to attend future meetings (scheduled for last Wednesday of the month).
21. Coordination with Other Organizations: OCCA, Otsego 2000, and OLT (Board) – Mickie and Scottie will continue to work with these organizations; need to mention Otsego 2000 in OLA fall newsletter (if not mentioned in the spring 2018 newsletter) regarding their future funding for the boat washing station. [MMSP](#) for \$250 to support Otsego 2000’s Fall Glimmerglass Film Festival with advertisement in their program booklet ([MMSP](#) via e-mails on October 2nd for an additional \$100 for support for a total of \$350).
22. Lake and Valley Garden Club Zone Meeting (Mickie) – The Garden Club of America (GCA) held its Zone meeting in Cooperstown on May 15 – 17, 2018 which featured the buffer strip project at Lakefront Park - the national contest winner a few years ago. The GCA made a \$500 donation to OLA in appreciation of OLA’s presentation at their meeting.

23. Rain Garden at Cooperative Extension Office on Lake Street (Bob) – Bob reported that the group planning this rain garden is still applying for funding for the approximately \$200,000 project. Further action by OLA is still tabled.

NEXT BOARD MEETING

24. Date for Next Board Meeting – The next OLA Board meeting will be scheduled by the Co-Presidents for some time after the holidays.

ADJOURNMENT

25. MMSP to adjourn the meeting at 4:25 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

K. Wayne Bunn
Secretary and Director at Large

Attachments: None

“OLABODMtg092918” File
Draft Prepared Oct. 29, 2018
Final Prepared Nov. 14, 2018

OLA Board of Directors – Fall 2018

Co-Presidents: Jim Howarth and David Sanford

Vice-President: Scottie Baker

Treasurer: Betty VanHeusen

Secretary: Wayne Bunn

Directors/Middlefield: John May and Peter Regan

Directors/Otsego: Paul Lord and Bill Murdock

Directors/Springfield: Mickie Richtsmeier and Bob Sutherland

Directors/Cooperstown: Martin Tillapaugh and Gary Kuch

Directors at Large: Wayne Bunn and Debbie Creedon

Webmaster: Tim Pokorny

Technical Advisor: Kiyoko Yokota

Legal Advisor: Martin Tillapaugh

