

OTSEGO LAKE ASSOCIATION

P.O. BOX 13
SPRINGFIELD CENTER NY 13468

ANNUAL GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING

OTSEGO GOLF CLUB – SPRINGFIELD CENTER

AUGUST 8, 2015 at 8:30 AM

Note: Pati Grady was elected Treasurer at a special Board of Directors meeting prior to start of general membership meeting (see separate minutes of that meeting); Wayne Bunn was appointed Secretary by the President prior to general membership meeting.

ATTENDANCE

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Present: Mickie Richtsmeier (President), Scottie Baker (Vice President and Director/Otsego), Pati Grady (Treasurer and Director/Springfield), Wayne Bunn (Secretary and Director at Large), Paul Lord (Director/Otsego), David Sanford (Director/Middlefield), Michael Richtsmeier (Director/Middlefield), Robert Sutherland (Director/Springfield), Tim Pokorny (Webmaster), and Kiyoko Yokota (Technical Advisor).

Absent: Carl Good (Director/Cooperstown), Martin Tillapaugh (Director/Cooperstown), and Joseph Zarzynski (Director at Large).

MEMBERS AND GUESTS: Approximately 60 plus above Directors for a total of approximately 70.

GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING

Social Gathering Before Meeting: sign in, dues payment, purchase of merchandise, review of posters and literature, and silent auction plus coffee, tea, juice, donuts, fresh fruit, vegetables, cheese, and crackers.

Opening Remarks by President Mickie Richtsmeier: welcome to all members and guests plus introduction of Board of Directors, summary of OLA participation at various events (Earth Day, Lake Festival, NYSFOLA, buffer strip day, etc.) during past year, reminders for membership renewal or joining for first time, purchase merchandise, e-mail addresses for newsletter, website, and silent auction; introduction of Pati Grady as new Treasurer and Wayne Bunn as new Secretary.

Business Meeting:

- Treasurer's Report: Approximately \$14,000 in all accounts; now accepting payments via Square method.
- Election of President and Directors (President called for motion by Secretary to cast one ballot to elect following Officers; passed by members in good standing):
 - President – Mickie Richtsmeier
 - Director (Otsego) – Scottie Baker
 - Director (Springfield) – Pati Grady
 - Director (Middlefield) – Amanda May
 - Director (Cooperstown) – Martin Tillapaugh

- Lake Citizen Award: presented to the group known as “Friends of Otsego Lake and Route 80” for their work in saving and protecting the shoreline of Otsego Lake north of Five Mile Point by preventing NYSDOT’s original plan to replace an old wood retaining wall by demolishing two camps and one boat house and then dumping tons of heavy crushed stone rip-rap in the lake similar to what they have done near Three Mile Point; NYSDOT eventually constructed a concrete retaining wall and landscaping plants to blend in with the area plus the two camps and boat house were saved.
- James Fenimore Cooper House: update by Carol Akin on plans to save this house in Westchester County.
- Directors’ Award: to be presented at a later date.

Special Presentations :

- Otsego Golf Club: Past, Present, and Future by John Reynolds, Club President. Club has been in continuous existence and operation since 1894; currently working with Otsego Land Trust to place a conservation easement on the land to preserve the property for the future.
- Shaping Otsego Lake: Road, Docks, and Dams by Prof. Cindy Falk and Prof. Will Walker of Cooperstown Graduate Program / SUNY Oneonta. Various historical photographs showing early infrastructure projects around the lake plus recorded comments by local residents regarding the lake.
- Anticipated Resurgence of Otsego Bass by Tim Pokorny, NYSDEC Fisheries Biologist. Various changes in the fish populations and food sources over the years have made the resurgence of the Otsego Bass more realistic and probable in future years; currently about 24 different fish species in the lake.
- Update on Plans for Boat Wash Station (Cooperstown) by Paul Lord, OLA Director and Biological Field Station. OLA is working with the Village of Cooperstown to gain final approval for a permanent boat wash station on Fish Road next to the Village bathrooms; OLA and OCCA have committed funds so far but project is still about \$7,000 short of estimated project cost of about \$23,000; goal is to be in full operation by spring 2016.
- Update on Volunteer Dive Team by Paul Lord, OLA Director and Dive Master. Dive team reported the loss of 5 spar buoys over the past winter due to corroded chains; new heavier chains are now being installed as their budget allows; dive team is grateful for OLA’s continued financial support.
- Using Drones to Monitor Mud Plumes in Otsego Lake by Peter Booth, SUNY Oneonta nontraditional undergraduate student and Biological Field Station Summer Intern (included field demonstration after meeting adjournment). OLA donated \$1,500 this year to the Biological Field Station for the purchase of a 3D Robotics Iris + drone (unmanned aerial system) and OCCA donated funding to support his work as a summer intern; various aerial photos were shown that documented mud plumes in the lake after heavy storms; now able to take accurate photos and videos shortly after storms occur rather than trying to schedule a piloted airplane plus a photographer (unsuccessful in the past).
- Announcements of Silent Auction Winners

Meeting adjourned at approximately 11:35 AM

Respectfully submitted,

K. Wayne Bunn
Secretary and Director at Large