

OTSEGO LAKE ASSOCIATION
P.O. BOX 13, SPRINGFIELD CENTER NY 13468

FINAL MINUTES
ANNUAL GATHERING
(Formerly Called Annual Meeting)
Virtual Via Zoom
Saturday, August 14, 2021 at 9:00 AM

ATTENDANCE

Board of Directors Present: Jim Howarth (Co-President), David Sanford (Co-President), Betty VanHeusen (Treasurer), Wayne Bunn (Secretary and Director at Large), Paul Lord (Director/Otsego), William Murdock (Director/Otsego), Robert Nelson (Director/Springfield), Peter Regan (Director/Middlefield), Doug Willies (Director/Middlefield), Debbie Creedon (Director at Large), Sarah Coney (Student Director), Tim Pokorny (Webmaster), and Kiyoko Yokota (Technical Advisor). A special “Thanks” to Gary Kuch for setting up the Zoom meeting – greatly appreciated!

Board of Directors Absent: Scottie Baker (Vice-President), Mickie Richtsmeier (Director/Springfield), Martin Tillapaugh (Director/Cooperstown and Legal Advisor), Gary Kuch (Director/Cooperstown), and Ginny Hastings (Winter Update).

Members/Guests: Approximately 30 including OLA Board Members

OPENING (Started at 9:00 AM)

Welcome (Co-President Jim Howarth)

Jim welcomed everyone and thanked them for attending OLA’s second virtual annual gathering via Zoom due to the ongoing Covid-19 pandemic. Due to the CDC and NYS Dept. of Health guidelines, we were not able to meet in-person as we have normally done in the past. Jim read the OLA Mission Statement and then mentioned the various projects and events undertaken by OLA this year and our accomplishments. Election of Board members is being postponed until we can have an in-person annual gathering in 2022. Jim paid a special tribute to long time OLA member and Otsego Lake resident Bruno Talevi who passed away in April of 2021. Jim also mentioned the need to renew your OLA membership or join OLA for the first time. He further mentioned all of the OLA merchandise that is for sale (i.e., hats, shirts, vests, tote bags, aprons, blankets, & golf towels) - either on the website or by contacting Scottie Baker.

Treasurer’s Report (Betty VanHeusen)

The current balance in the checking account was \$ 13,850.

Membership Report (Betty VanHeusen)

Betty reported that there are currently 181 members. We normally see a large increase in membership renewals and new members at, or shortly after, the Annual Gathering. However, since we were forced to hold another virtual gathering in 2021, there was large drop off in membership renewals or people joining for the first time after this year’s Annual Gathering. Members are reminded that the OLA membership year runs from the Annual Gathering in August to the next Annual Gathering in August.

Lake Citizen Award (Peter Regan)

The Lake Citizen Award was presented K. Wayne Bunn for his decades of leadership and commitment in preserving and protecting Otsego Lake and, most importantly, for his genuine interest and dedication to ensure the health, well-being, water quality, and future of Otsego Lake. Wayne accepted the award via Zoom and thanked the Board of Directors for recognizing his commitment to, and love of, Otsego Lake.

Technical Presentations (SUNY Oneonta Faculty and Students)

Note: For additional information, a complete video of each technical presentation below is available on the OLA website (www.otsegoassociation.org).

Otsego Lake Science Update

Professor Kiyoko Yokota of SUNY Oneonta and the Biological Field Station discussed various water quality parameters and the chemistry of Otsego Lake. She also updated the members on the function and research importance of the Continuous Lake Monitoring Buoy (CLMB) located off Five Mile Point.

Research on Zebra Mussels and Quagga Mussels

SUNY Oneonta student Julie Gifford gave a presentation on her research project involving both the Zebra Mussels and the Quagga Mussels.

Zebra Mussels vs Quagga Mussels

SUNY Oneonta student Sierra Stickney gave a presentation on the similarities and differences between the Zebra Mussels and the Quagga Mussels.

Catskill Regional Invasive Species Partnership (CRISP)

SUNY Oneonta student Jared Stauss gave a presentation on CRISP which is a collaboration of organizations and agencies that work cooperatively to promote prevention, early detection/rapid response, and control of invasive species to protect natural resources, the economy, and human health. Many of the boat inspection stewards on the lake work through, or are funded by, CRISP.

No Wake Zone Buoys (NWZB)

OLA Board member and Dive Master of the SUNY Oneonta BFS Volunteer Dive Team Paul Lord gave a presentation on the No Wake Zone Buoys placed around the lake to remind boaters that all boats must travel no faster than 5 MPH between the NWZB and the shoreline (generally 200 feet) to help prevent shoreline erosion due to the wake of their boat.

Steamships on Otsego Lake

Cooperstown Graduate Program Professor Cindy Falk gave an illustrated presentation on the various steam ships that were once prominent on Otsego Lake. They carried passengers and freight from one end of the lake to the other end of the lake on a daily basis. The first steam ship, launched in 1865 but destroyed by fire in 1875, was the Natty Bumppo. The new Natty Bumppo was launched in 1877. The steam ship Mohican was launched in 1905 and made its last trip in 1931. Additional steam ships on the lake included the Cyclone, Pathfinder, and Pioneer among others.

ADJOURNMENT

Co-President David Sanford thanked everyone for attending and reminded them that they were attending the virtual annual gathering of the Otsego Lake Association in New York State – not the Otsego Lake Association in Michigan! David also made reference to the OLA website and to “Our Glimmerglass” (the OLA newsletter). He thanked all Board members, officers, advisors, patrons, members, and friends for their support and work throughout the year.

A motion to adjourn the meeting was made, seconded, and passed at 10:34 AM.

Respectfully submitted,

K. Wayne Bunn, Secretary

Motions Made, Seconded, and Passed by Board of Directors After 2021 Annual Gathering

August 18, 2021: Authorized the Treasurer to reimburse Tim Pokony for \$222.25 for OLA website/e-mail fees.

August 31, 2021: Authorized up to \$800 to replace the temperature loggers connected to the CLMB that were lost last winter due to the shifting ice sheets on the lake. The motion also recognized a \$500 donation from two new OLA members to be used towards the replacement cost of the temperature loggers.

OLA BOARD OF DIRECTORS – Summer 2021

Co-Presidents: Jim Howarth and David Sanford

Directors at Large: Wayne Bunn and Debbie Creedon

Vice-President: Scottie Baker

Student Director: Sarah Coney

Treasurer: Betty VanHeusen

Webmaster: Tim Pokorny

Secretary: Wayne Bunn

Technical Advisor: Kiyoko Yokota

Directors/Middlefield: Peter Regan and Doug Willies

Legal Advisor: Martin Tillapaugh

Directors/Otsego: Paul Lord and Bill Murdock

Ginny Hastings (Winter Update)

Directors/Springfield: Mickie Richtsmeier and Robert Nelson

Directors/Cooperstown: Martin Tillapaugh and Gary Kuch

“OLAAnnualGathering08142021” File

Draft Minutes Prepared January 11, 2022

Final Minutes Prepared February 13, 2022