

**BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
OTSEGO LAKE ASSOCIATION
SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 4, 2012 at 9:00 AM
COOPERSTOWN VILLAGE MEETING ROOM**

In Attendance: Wayne Bunn, Carl Good, David Sanford, Burr Southworth, Carolyn Mook, Scottie Baker, and Mary Crouthamel

Absent: Martin Tillapaugh, Paul Lord, Mickie Richtsmeier, Suzanne Kingsley, and Tom Horvath

MMSP = Motion Made, Seconded, and Passed

OPENING OF MEETING

1. Treasurer's Report (David)
 - Net income for 2011 was \$3,294.12; total cash on hand was slightly over \$15,000.
2. Membership Report (David)
 - Total membership is about 150 (about three times as many as last year due to fall campaign).

SPECIAL TOPICS

3. Resignation of Burr Southworth as Director for Town of Middlefield (term expires in 2012)
 - MMSP to accept Burr's resignation as Director (Middlefield), with regret, effective Feb. 4, 2012.
4. Appointment of Dr. Carolyn Mook to fill Burr Southworth's unexpired term
 - MMSP to appoint Dr. Carolyn Mook (Middlefield) to fill Burr's unexpired term effective Feb. 4, 2012.
5. Resignation of Tom Horvath as Director at Large
 - MMSP to accept Tom Horvath's resignation as Director at Large, with regret, effective Feb. 4, 2012.
6. Appointment of Tom Horvath as Technical Adviser
 - MMSP to appoint Tom Horvath as Technical Adviser effective Feb. 4, 2012.
7. Recommendations for Director at Large (Appointed by President)
 - Paul Lord, via e-mail, recommended Joseph Zarzynski (known as Zar) of Saratoga Springs who is a current member of OLA and a diver with the BFS Volunteer Dive Team. Wayne will contact Zar.
8. Website
 - Tim Pokorny, SUNY/Oneonta and a co-worker of Paul Lord, has agreed to accept the position

of Webmaster effective as soon as he and Burr can work out the details; Wayne will coordinate.

9. Newsletter

- New editor is desperately needed as soon as possible. Wayne will ask Zar (see #7 above) if he would be willing to accept that position since Zar is a retired history teacher and an author. Paul has agreed to write one article per newsletter plus other information is always available.

10. General Membership Meeting(s)

- Wayne suggested that OLA revise its general membership meeting schedule to combine the June and August meetings into one meeting in July. Paul Lord, via e-mail, was in favor of the traditional schedule but the rest of the Board agreed to try the July meeting to see how it works. In order to avoid various conflicts in July (4th of July, Middlefield Fire Dept. Fly In Breakfast, Hall of Fame Induction, etc.), the date of Saturday, July 28th was selected. One suggested topic is an update of hydrofracking due to it being the number one issue in Otsego County at the moment and its potential impact on Otsego Lake.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

11. No Wake Zone Buoys (Paul)

- Wayne reported no major damage to any of the buoys in 2011.

12. Boat Inspections and Sheriff's Boat Patrol (Carl & Wayne)

- Carl reported that the Village has funded the boat inspections for 2012 and the schedule will be about the same as in 2011.

- Wayne reported that Sheriff Devlin said there is funding in the County budget for boat patrols in 2012.

13. Merchandise – Shirts, Hats, Bags, Other (Scottie)

- Scottie reported that she enough merchandise on hand for now. No new order needed.

14. Otsego County Water Quality Coordinating Committee (Carl)

- Carl reported that he has missed some meetings in the past few months but the minutes have been sent to the OLA Board members. The amount of annual dues for supporting organizations is \$100.00.

- MMSP to send OCWQCC \$100.00 for OLA's annual dues; Carl and David will coordinate.

15. Lakefront Park Buffer Strip (Suzanne, Carl, Mickie, & Paul)

- Mickie, via e-mail, reported that the annual BOCES students and Lake and Valley Garden Club work day is scheduled for Friday, June 1st.

- Paul, via e-mail, questioned whether Mayor Booan signed and submitted the permit application to NYSDEC for placing rip-rap in the lake to protect the retaining wall; need to follow up before he leaves office.

16. Springfield Landing Buffer Strip (Mickie, Suzanne, & Paul)

- Mickie, via e-mail, reported that she and Suzanne have been in contact with Supv. Bill Elsey and everything is set for spring construction; Lynn Marsh has the plantings and they are looking for sources for the boulders and landscape netting.
- Carl questioned the status of sediment traps for this project; need to follow up on this.

17. Fenimore Art Museum Buffer Strip (Suzanne)

- Mickie, via e-mail, reported that Lake and Valley Garden Club had a seed workshop to gather and catalog seeds which will be offered to NYSHA for the buffer strip; LVGC members will also donate plantings from their own gardens.

NEW BUSINESS

18. Annual Dues for OCCA (\$250. in 2011) and NYSFOLA (\$75. in 2011)

- MMSP to send \$250.00 to OCCA for 2012 dues; Wayne will submit with request that it be used for Otsego Lake projects only.
- MMSP to send \$75.00 to NYSFOLA for 2012 dues; Wayne will submit.

19. Registration Fee (\$25.) for Earth Festival on April 14th

- MMSP to send \$25.00 to OCCA for Earth Festival registration for 2012; Wayne will submit.
- We need Board members to attend the Festival from 11:00 AM to 3:00 PM.

20. Authorization for Board Members to attend NYSFOLA Conference (May 4th – 6th)

- MMSP to authorize any Board member to attend all or part of the Conference and be reimbursed for registration and meals but not hotel expenses.
- Wayne urged Board members to attend at least part of the Conference – excellent topics, speakers, and, perhaps most important, a chance to talk with other lake associations (both large and small) about how they do various things; car pooling is encouraged; Wayne plans to attend and will alert Board members as soon as the schedule and agenda are available.

21. Citizens Against Unsafe Gas Drilling Coalition & OLA Statement (Wayne & Paul)

- Wayne receives numerous daily e-mails from various Coalition members and forwards announcements of meetings to OLA Board members. Paul, via e-mail, felt that no additional statement from OLA was necessary since OLA is already a member.

22. Support for BFS Volunteer Dive Team (Paul)

- Paul, via e-mail, reported that the dive team is very appreciative and grateful for OLA's financial support which allows them to focus on the no wake zone buoys, purchase winter spar (ice resistant) buoys, overhauling the oxygen regulators in the diver medical emergency kits, "pigging" of Cooperstown's water intake line, and lake research.

23. Problems, Issues, Concerns, Suggestions, Etc.

- Jeff Reynolds, via e-mail to Wayne, noted that he needs to resume the process of reinstating OLA as a tax exempt organization under Section 501(c)3 of the IRS regulations. Carl noted that Martin offered to help with this process as well; Carl will coordinate with Jeff and Martin. Until we are approved by the IRS again, we can not advertise OLA as being a tax exempt organization and must pay sales tax on any new merchandise, supplies, or services; very important that this gets done soon.
- Carl will also contact Jeff Reynolds to obtain the coded envelopes from last fall's membership campaign so Board members can see the results of their personal notes. There was a discussion about conducting a follow up survey to see why new members joined and why prospective members did not join. Members who joined in the fall of 2011 should not be asked to pay dues again in 2012; next major membership campaign should be done in late winter or early spring of 2013.
- Mickie, via e-mail, suggested that we send a letter or note to all of our members thanking them for joining, telling them what projects we are working on, and showing them where their money goes; perhaps include an OLA oval sticker as a thank you gift.
- Mickie, via e-mail, also suggested that OLA create and distribute an informational brochure (about no wake zone bouys, etc.) for rental boats in particular but available to other boaters as well. This would be a way of educating boaters and promoting lake safety.
- Paul, via e-mail, suggested that the Lawn Products brochure that he e-mailed to Board members could be ready for distribution at Earth Festival on April 14th; need to follow up on this.

24. Dates for next Board of Directors and Membership Meetings

- Board of Directors (Spring Mtg.): Saturday, May 19, 2012
(School Break is April 6-15, 2012)
- Annual and General Membership Meeting: Saturday, July 28, 2012 at 8:30 AM (Location TBD)

25. Motion for Adjournment

- MMSP to adjourn (about 10:30 AM)