ATTENDANCE

Present: Mickie Richtsmeier (President), Scottie Baker (Vice President and Director/Otsego), Wayne Bunn (Secretary and Director at Large), Paul Lord (Director/Otsego), David Sanford (Director/Middlefield), Amanda May (Director/Middlefield), Robert Sutherland (Director/Springfield), Martin Tillapaugh (Director/Cooperstown), Kiyoko Yokota (Technical Advisor), and Tim Pokorny (Webmaster)

Absent: Pati Grady (Treasurer and Director/Springfield), Carl Good (Director/Cooperstown), and Debbie Creedon (Director at Large)

Guests: None

Note: MMSP = Motion Made, Seconded, and Passed

OPENING

1. Treasurer’s Report (Pati via e-mail) – Pati reported the checkbook balance at $16,972.85 as of January 30, 2016; she included the Profit and Loss Standard for January 1, 2015 through January 30, 2016 (copy attached) with her e-mail to Mickie dated January 30, 2016 which Mickie e-mailed to Board members on January 31, 2016; MMSP to accept the Treasurer’s Report.

2. Membership Report (Pati via e-mail) – The current paid membership is about 71 which includes individuals, families, and businesses – same as last November.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

3. No Wake Zone Buoys and Volunteer Dive Team (Paul) – Main compressor has failed and either needs to be repaired (about $4,000) or replaced (about $25,000); Paul is researching alternatives to have SUNY pay for it.

4. Boat Inspections (Paul) – See Boat Washing Station Update below.

5. Merchandise (Scottie) – Sales are going well.

6. Otsego County Water Quality Coordinating Committee (Carl) – Amanda has volunteered to help Carl cover the monthly meetings of the OCWQCC; the Board recognized and thanked Carl for his many years of dedicated service in covering the monthly meetings of the OCWQCC and sending out the minutes via e-mail; the Board wishes to name the new boat washing station in Carl’s honor by calling it the Carl Good Boat Washing Station; a sign or plaque so honoring Carl will be placed on site during construction. Thank You Carl!!

7. Newsletter (Mickie) – Spring 2016 newsletter should be issued in May; newsletter will include the President’s Message, articles on the proposed Mission Statement change, boat washing station, and something technical
regarding the lake plus information on merchandise and a membership drive; Susan O’Handley will be retained again to produce the newsletter. [Note: It was the consensus at the November 2015 Board meeting that the Spring 2016 newsletter should include a list of current OLA members plus the concept of offering a discount for OLA merchandise with paid membership was discussed.]

8. **Website** (Tim) – Everything is good for now; numerous “hits” each month.

9. **Drone Update** (Paul) – Nothing new to report.

10. **Coordination with Other Organizations:** **OLA, Otsego 2000, & Otsego Land Trust** (Board) – Nothing new to report.

11. **Boat Parade** (Scottie) – During the meeting, it was assumed that the 4th of July in 2016 would be on a Sunday so the boat parade would be held on Sunday; however, 2016 is a Leap Year so the 4th of July will actually be on a Monday; a special committee will be formed and meet later on to discuss the 2016 boat parade including what day to hold the event (weekend day or Monday).

12. **Annual Meeting** (Bob) – A special committee to plan the annual OLA meeting will be formed and meet after the Board meeting today; tentative date is Saturday, August 13th. [Note: Aug. 13th is now confirmed.]

**OLD BUSINESS**

13. **Boat Washing Station Update** (Mickie, Paul, Wayne) – Wayne contacted the three local contractors that were recommended by Engineer Jon McManus (designer of the boat washing station) for a construction bid proposal; the three contractors responded within the time frame requested and offered the following construction bid proposals: Thomas Swatling (Fly Creek) $14,500.00, Teel Concrete Construction LLC (Richfield Springs) $16,840.00, and Van Wieren Brothers Contracting (West Winfield) $19,780.00; Mickie and Paul worked closely with the Otsego County Conservation Association (OCCA) to prepare a grant application to NYSDEC for funding of the boat washing station construction and salaries of summer inspectors to monitor the washing of boats; the grant application was submitted by the deadline of January 29, 2016; grant awards should be announced by mid-April; the grant requires a 25% match by OLA; **MMSP** to recommend Thomas Swatling’s construction bid proposal be accepted by OCCA and submitted to NYSDEC for approval if the grant is awarded; otherwise, the construction will be funded by OLA and OCCA plus other organizations if they so wish to participate; Scottie will approach Otsego2000 again for funding assistance (to supplement the salaries of the summer inspectors) to honor recently deceased Founder and Board member Dr. Henry S. F. Cooper; long discussion on hiring, retention, and salaries of summer boat inspectors (average wage of about $10/hour now but need about $15/hour to compete with local businesses); grant application estimated about 188 hours per week for a 10 to 12 week summer season (two inspectors on duty at busy times on Fridays, Saturdays and Sundays); Kiyoko will look for SUNY/Oneonta biology students that might be interested; another potential source of inspectors might be local retired people looking for a part time job.

14. **Temperature Monitoring Buoy Proposal** (Kiyoko) – Several SUNY Colleges are participating in a research program that involves a temperature monitoring buoy (will also monitor other parameters) in various lakes; SUNY Oneonta is proposing such a buoy in Otsego Lake at its deepest point (i.e. off Five Mile Point); buoy would be funded by a grant(s); BFS would monitor and maintain the buoy with help from BFS Dive Team; approval/acceptance by nearest property owner (i.e. Glimmerglass Condominiums) is needed for State permit;
Kiyoko and Wayne met with John Webb, President of the Five Mile Point Condominium Association, on January 20th to discuss the proposed buoy and solicit their support; John was very supportive of the project and was willing to sign the necessary paperwork at the meeting; however, his signature will not be needed until the grant has been awarded (or other funding secured) and the application to the State is prepared; the grant application was submitted in January but an announcement of awards is not expected until sometime this summer.

15. Vacancy for Director at Large (Wayne) – Wayne contacted Debbie Creedon after the November 2015 Board meeting to see if she would be interested in the position of Director at Large (to replace Joseph Zarzynski who resigned last fall); Debbie gladly accepted the position and looks forward to meeting and working with everyone on the Board; she is currently in Alaska helping her daughter and son-in-law (active duty with U.S. Air Force) with a new baby.

NEW BUSINESS

16. Merchandise Donation for Annual Meeting of NY Chapter of the American Fisheries Society (Tim) – MMSP to donate OLA merchandise as selected by Tim and Scottie.

17. Earth Festival (Mickie) – Volunteers needed in Milford on Saturday, April 9th to work at the OLA display; Bob, Tim, Kiyoko, and Wayne (depends on schedule) have offered to help.

18. NYSFOLA Conference (Mickie) – Annual three day meeting will be held in Hamilton from April 29th through May 1st; MMSP for OLA to pay for registration (but not hotel or mileage) expenses for any Board member who attends.

19. Lake Citizen Award (Board) – Think about potential nominees for this year’s award; award is given annually to an individual, group, or organization that has done something good for Otsego Lake.

20. Student Directors (Board) – Positions currently open; think about who might be interested.

21. Date for Next Board Meeting – Set for Saturday, May 7, 2016 at 9:00 AM in meeting room of Village Hall, Village of Cooperstown, 22 Main Street in Cooperstown.

Meeting adjourned at approximately 10:25 AM.

Respectfully submitted,

K. Wayne Bunn
Secretary and Director at Large

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Prepared Feb. 15, 2016
Revised Feb. 15, 2016 per Lord’s comments