

**Cossayuna Lake Improvement Association**  
**Board Meeting May 28, 2024**



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**Meeting called to Order at 6:19 pm by the President, Lynn LeCours.**

**Officers and Directors present:** President Lynn LeCours, Vice President Peggy Pahoulis, Kathy Gaughran (serving as Interim Secretary), JoAnne Bonacker, Gene Henry, Tom LeCours, Bob Reilly, Cheryl Stanford-Smith, Lisa Zibella, Marie Dumas, Lynn Jackson, Star Schmalzer

**Directors present by proxy:** Sheila Rapazzo, Karen Ryan

**Directors and Officers not present:** Tim Hopkins, Rick Ryan (serving as Interim Treasurer)

**Guests:** None

**Minutes:** Motion to accept minutes of the previous meeting held October 24, 2023 moved by Bob Reilly and seconded by Peggy Pahoulis. Motion approved.

**Treasurer's Report:** Marie Dumas had a question regarding Lake Management, but in Rick's absence, she will send an email to Rick.

Marie Dumas moved to accept the treasurers report and seconded by Gene Henry. Motion approved.

**Report of Officers:**

President, Lynn LeCours: The Memorial Day breakfast, hosted by Tim and Donna Hopkins was successful – 110 people were served. Board members noted that the young girl who served the meals was a great help! Lynn sent a thank you card and plant to Tim and Donna.

An anonymous donation of \$300.00 was made. Tim donated OJ, bread and eggs to the breakfast. The carton of sausage was able to be returned. Leftover butter will be saved for the Chicken BBQ. Any remaining items will be donated to the Cossayuna Food Pantry.

Regarding baked goods for next year's breakfast, Bob Reilly suggested buying baked goods at COSTCO and reimburse board member that made purchase. Marie Dumas made a suggestion for next year as well, to possibly pay Darlene for baked goods for the breakfast.

The conversation led to a discussion regarding the same people always contributing to CLIA events. Bob Reilly made a recommendation to extend the request for volunteers to help at events to the entire membership, not just the CLIA Board. In addition, the lack of meeting attendance by Board members was discussed. As per the CLIA By-Laws, "A Director missing three consecutive meetings without reason can be asked to resign." Cheryl Smith offered to speak to the absent Board members regarding attendance to ask them if they are still interested in serving on the Board. Lynn asked her not to do that at this time.

### **Report of Committees**

**Membership:** Bob Reilly reported the membership numbers are dropping:

2022 – 410 members

2023 – 390 members

2024 – 317 members (expect 53 additional members to join after June 1<sup>st</sup>)

Bob sends letter and CLIA pamphlet welcoming new homeowners around the lake.

Suggestion to put up signage around lake:

"We need your help! Come to the 7/13 Membership meeting and see what CLIA is all about!"

A Board member should follow up with any newcomer that expresses interest in volunteering. As an example, at last year's meeting, someone with background in water control expressed interest in helping but no one from the Board followed up after the meeting.

**Spillway:** Gene Henry reported there were complaints about the Spillway over the winter. A request came in that lake level is too low . Gene noted it is difficult to manage if rain is predicted, he opens the dam but it doesn't rain, the lake level becomes too high. If the lake level is impacting owner's septic system, that is not the Board's fault, the septic is too close to the lake.

The Spillway is managed following the Lake Management Plan. JoAnne recommended the Board communicate to the Membership via the Newsletter. Gene would write an article summarizing the Spillway concerns he hears from the membership along with the Board's response to those concerns.

Marie sighted a beaver lodge in Baldwin Cove. It is only a lodge for now, not a dam. Gene will report it to EnCon.

**Newsletter:** John Felicetti requested via email, any articles that will be published in the Summer newsletter must be submitted prior to the last week in June.

**Building and Grounds:** Lynn Jackson reported for Jeff. The “Swim at your own risk” signs for CLIA shoreline have been posted. The kitchen light is out, there is a plan to replace the kitchen ceiling and the kitchen light will be replaced at that time.

Lynn also reported someone is interested in taking the pool table. Pickup needs to be coordinated.

Cheryl reported the handicap ramp is not code compliant, it is too steep. She has code specifications and will share with Tom LeCours and Jeff Jackson.

Keys are in office lockbox.

**Insurance:** Status Quo

**Promotions:** Tom LeCours reported \$658 to date in online sales.

**Website/FB/Database:** All good

**Social:** 70<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration will be held on June 29<sup>th</sup> 7:00pm. Tickets are to be purchased online.

Marie and John are collecting wine bottles to decorate as centerpieces. Possibly sell the decorated bottles at end of night for \$10.

Marie will schedule a craft night for volunteers to help with decorating the bottles. There will also be surprise party favors (Cossayuna cup). Marie is looking into purchasing a disco ball (approximately \$50) and string lights for the event. Also requesting Board to bring 70's theme snacks and hors d'oeuvres.

Lynn LeCours will schedule cleaning for day after the event. Marie proposed to take \$150 from profit to pay cleaner. It's OK if we don't make money from the celebration.

Other scheduled events:

7/5 – Bingo

7/6 – Boat Parade

8/10 – Pizza/Trivia

8/17 - Chicken Dinner

Lakesiders Grillin' & Chillin' has not yet been scheduled. It was agreed to skip the ice cream social this year.

**Fundraising:** Marie Dumas reported on estimate for new tables and chairs.

New tables run \$100 per table. Cost for new tables and chairs will run approximately \$3500.

Marie made a request to purchase 4 tables prior to 70<sup>th</sup> Anniversary party – approved.

*Fundraising suggestions:*

Advertise to membership to “Buy a Chair” for a \$20 per chair donation.

Have a community garage sale and arrange for Salvation Army to pick up whatever doesn't sell.

Sell Cossayuna stickers and etched glasses. Sue will charge \$2 to make sticker, Board will sell for \$3. Etched glasses would cost \$8 for stemless wine and \$10 for pint...discuss with Jordan Wills for better pricing.

**Education:** Lynn Jackson reported boating books for ABS class have been ordered and posters are up. Lynn will write article for the newsletter.

**Lake Management:** No update

**Harvesting:** Gene Henry reported harvester should be in by 5/29 and operating by 6/1. Brian Bromly has been hired to work on harvesting.

Green floating vegetation is not toxic.

**Herbicide:** Sheila Rapazzo reported via email:

The herbicide treatment was done on May 10 th . ProcellaCOR was used to treat Milfoil and Aquathol was used to treat Curlyleaf Pondweed. We were permitted to treat up to 70 acres with ProcellaCOR and up to 60 acres with Aquathol. I have requested, but not yet gotten, the final map of treatment areas.

The water samples were taken on Monday May 20 th , and sent to a lab for analysis, but have not as yet gotten notification of the results. I would expect that we should get results of the analysis within the next couple of days, and if below the threshold levels, water use restrictions can be lifted.

The next issue is the native weed, Southern Naid, which we experienced extreme overgrowth in some areas of the Lake last summer. We had wanted to have an option of possible treatment of that weed this summer if we experienced a recurrence of the overgrowth. In the warm weather we experienced over the last several days I have observed some widespread growth of Southern Naid in a few areas, so as the summer moves along we may again experience this overgrowth condition. However, I'm not sure if we do have an option for any treatment if that happens. The DEC permit provides for treatment using Aquathol only between May 1 and June 15 th . I need to discuss this with the people from Pond and Lake Connection as to what was their interaction with DEC regarding treating Southern Naid. As a native weed, DEC may not be inclined to allow treatment. Also since Aquathol can affect many other plants depending on when you treat, DEC does not like to have treatments allowed in times when many other plants are growing, as in summer, and that is why they restrict treatment after June 15.

One more issue, in Rick's reports, on Lake Management, I note that donations were just under \$10,000, while expenses for the treatment are just under \$25,000, leaving a deficit for this year of \$14,000. While I know we have funds available, it is concerning that every year the money that we raise from donations goes down. Calls into question whether we would be able to do additional treatment for things like the Southern Naid even if we had authorization from DEC.

**Water Chestnut Pull:** Gene Henry scheduled water chestnut pull for 6/24, with 2 additional dates in July and 2 dates in August.

**CSLAP:** Lisa Zibella took the class and Lynn Clauer also attended.

**Email Blasts:** Karen is doing a great job!

**Old or Unfinished Business:** N/A

**New Business:**

Survey – Cost is \$5,000. Surveys can be looked up online, but they are not always accurate. Brian Holbriiter will donate his time to do the survey and only charge for things he has to pay for. Peg Pahoulis will follow-up with Brian as to when he will come to survey the property.

Marie Dumas noted the Board is working on a wish list:

Priority:

Kitchen ceiling

Replace stove

Lower priority:

Floor in pavilion

A/C

Floor in the kitchen

Paint kitchen

Lights in pavilion

Director and Officer positions – JoAnne Bonacker reported

4 Director positions are coming to end of term:

Lynn Jackson

Karen Ryan

Gene Henry

Marie Dumas

Floor is open for nominations. Lisa Zibella mentioned Mike Kopcheck is interested in serving on the Board

2 Officer positions may be open:

President

Vice President

Secretary – Kathy has agreed to continue if elected

Treasurer – Rick has agreed to continue if elected

6/3 – 6/9 is NYS Invasive Awareness Week

Lynn LeCours has a list of the board's many accomplishments over the past few years and would like to get that out to the general membership in the near future.

**Adjournment:** Motion to adjourn 8:20 by Gene Henry, second by Lynn Jackson