

Cossayuna Lake Improvement Association
Election Meeting August 24, 2024



Meeting called to Order at 10:10AM by the President, Lynn LeCours.

Officers and Directors present: President Lynn LeCours, Vice President Peggy Pahoulis, Kathy Gaughran (serving as Interim Secretary), Rick Ryan (serving as Interim Treasurer), JoAnne Bonacker, Gene Henry, Tom LeCours, Bob Reilly, Cheryl Stanford-Smith, Marie Dumas, Sheila Rappazzo, Tom Atkin

Directors present by proxy: Karen Ryan, Lynn Jackson

Directors and Officers not present: Star Schmaler, Lisa Zibella

Guests: John Felicetti for newsletter, data management and website.

Minutes: Motion to accept minutes of the General Membership meeting held July 13, 2024 moved by Sheila Rappazzo and seconded by Joanne Bonacker. Motion approved.

Treasurer's Report: Motion to accept by Peg Pahoulis, and seconded by Kathy Gaughran. Motion approved.

Report of Officers:

President Lynn LeCours wished a very Happy 70th Birthday to the Cossayuna Lake Improvement Association.

Report of Committees

Nominations: JoAnne Bonacker introduced Tom Atkin who volunteered for the one year open Director vacancy.

Since this year's election is uncontested, the following candidates will be reelected:

Officers:

- Lynn LeCours for President
- Peggy Pahoulis for Vice President

- Kathy Gaughran for Secretary
- Rick Ryan for Treasurer

Directors:

- Marie Dumas
- Gene Henry
- Lynn Jackson
- Karen Ryan
- Tom Atkin

JoAnne submitted a single ballot to Secretary Kathy Gaughran to confirm the election of the slate of candidates and thanked all the Board members who donate so much of their time to our association.

Membership:

Bob Riley recommended members sign up early in the season, especially with regards to signing up for Harvesting, August is too late for the Harvester to get to your lakefront. We have 379 paid members. Please remind your friends to join the association. Suggestions are welcomed, please drop them in the suggestion box. We always need volunteers that can stay and help clean up after an event. Donations to the CLIA are always appreciated.

Spillway: Gene Henry reported the Spillway is fine, he checked it yesterday. Running about 1 inch water overflow.

Newsletter: John Felicetti reported we continue to make steady progress with encouraging members to receive electronic versions of the newsletter; with the Summer 2024 edition we physically mailed 149 newsletters. For comparison, John provided the number of printed newsletters for the past two years: February 2022 – 515 copies, April 2023 – 180 copies, November 2023 – 165 copies. John encouraged members to review the catalog of newsletters on the website dating back from 2008 to present.

Regarding the Ad program for the newsletter, we had 16 Advertisers in the Summer issue (increase on 1 advertiser from Spring issue). There were 2 ad program non-renewals: 4J Farm and Empire Septic Services. No Advertiser programs expire with the Summer issue. If you are happy with your service providers, we encourage you to ask them to become an advertiser. A \$100 covers ad placement in 4 newsletters and on the CLIA website.

Building and Grounds: Tom LeCours reported all good. Jeff Jackson is amazing! Next project will be to replace ceiling tiles. We are happy to see more people using the CLIA shoreline.

Insurance: Tom LeCours reported we have a new insurance policy that is much better for harvester liability. Previously, the harvester was only insured when parked. Since the old truck has been sold, we no longer have to pay insurance on it.

Promotions: Tom LeCours reported CLIA makes a profit each time the online store is open. The store is currently open until 9/1/2024 so please check out the link on the website.

Website/FB/Database: John Felicetti reported online usage of the CLIA website (cossayunalake.com) continues to increase. Below are examples of online sign-ups:

- Membership - 101 families signed up online
- Memorial Day Breakfast - 71 tickets sold online
- Bingo Family Night - 96 tickets sold online
- Chicken Dinner - 62 tickets sold online
- Harvesting Program - 70 members signed up online
- Harvesting Donation - 10 member donations received online
- Lake Management Donation - 19 member donations received online
- Ad program – 3 advertisers signed up or renewed online

Social: Marie Dumas reported we are coming to the end of our social calendar.

Upcoming events:

8/30–Lakesiders 7:00–10:00PM: Bring your own beverage, \$5.00 donation and a snack to share
9/14 – Chili cookoff

Weedeaters will get together in the Fall to work on the shoreline garden for next Spring.

We are looking for new ideas for next year's events. Please put your ideas in the suggestion box, call or email us! There has been a request to bring back Friday Night Dinners but it is difficult to coordinate food when we don't know how many people would attend. Ladies night, Crafts and Trivia will be planned for next year. Lynn Wilbur suggested a dart league or tournament.

Gene thanked John and Marie for keeping track of everything!

Education: No update

Harvesting: Gene Henry reported the team has logged 1,000 hours harvesting on the lake. He tracks when harvesting is done on a property. 217 loads (1,100 tons) of weeds were harvested and unloaded at Campbell's Maple Farm to be used as fertilizer. The harvester will be taken out this week.

Gene, Lynn LeCours, Sheila Rappazzo and Lynn Wilbur met with Carrie Woerner and Matt Simpson, members of NYS District 114 Assembly to request funding for a new harvester. Carrie has visited our lake and agreed, along with Matt, to look into a grant for us

Herbicide: Sheila Rappazzo and Lynn Wilbur accompanied Pond and Lake Connection as they did the post-treatment assessment of the various weeds in the Lake. A variety of native plants were found, which is what DEC is looking to see, that the herbicide treatments are not damaging native plant diversity. The treatment has worked well in controlling Milfoil and Curlyleaf Pondweed. However, significantly reducing those invasive weeds is one factor in allowing the native weeds (Southern Niald, Coontail and Longleaf Pondweeds, and others) to flourish.

CSLAP: Lynn Wilbur, reported the water was tested every 2 weeks this Summer. Next year it will be tested 4 times. There is now a new Administrator at the State department and the revised report format is difficult to get into a format that John can post to the website.

Water Chestnut:

This is a good time to pull water chestnuts along your shorelines. CLIA sent an email and posted pictures of water chestnuts on FB. If you are unsure if the weeds on your shoreline are water chestnuts, contact Sheila, she will come to your house to look at it.

Email Blasts and Communications: (Reported by Karen Ryan via email)

Summer 2024 (August 20, 2024)

Seasonal communications began on May 2, 2024, with a Save-the-Date email for the Memorial Day Breakfast. Since then there have been approximately 37 blast emails to date sent to the Lake Community with only one request to unsubscribe.

The blast emails include: CLIA events, Lake Herbicide Treatment, USCG Boat Safety, Watercraft Steward Job, Online Store, NYISAW, Summer Newsletter on 7/1/24, and Washington County Shoreline Educations info session. I have designed ten posters for events with two more in the works.

John Felicetti forwards any changes to the email lists that I need to keep the lists up to date. Our system works well.

Respectfully submitted, Karen Ryan

Old or Unfinished Business: N/A

New Business: N/A

Adjournment: 10:57AM Motion to adjourn by Lynn Wilbur, seconded by Tom LeCours. Motion approved.