

Cossayuna Lake Improvement Association
Election Meeting August 23, 2025



Meeting called to Order at 10:00AM by the President, Lynn LeCours.

Officers and Directors present: President Lynn LeCours, Vice President Peggy Pahoulis, Secretary Kathy Gaughran, Treasurer Rick Ryan, JoAnne Bonacker, Gene Henry, Tom LeCours, Marie Dumas, Tom Atkin, Karen Ryan, Lynn Jackson, Lisa Zibella, Bob Reilly

Directors present by proxy: Sheila Rappazzo, Charlie Rappazzo

Directors and Officers not present: Star Schmalzer

Guests: John Felicetti for newsletter, database and website. Lynn Wilbur for Lake Management Plan

Minutes: Due to a mistake, the August 24, 2024 Election Meeting minutes will be approved at next meeting.

Treasurer's Report: Motion to accept by Gene Henry, and seconded by Tom Atkin. Motion approved.

Report of Officers:

President Lynn LeCours thanked the Board members and membership for attending the meeting.

Report of Committees

Nominations:

JoAnne Bonacker thanked Tom LeCours, Tom Atkin and Cheryl Stanford-Smith for their service on the Board. Since this year's election is uncontested, the following Officers will be reelected and 4 Directors will be elected for 3 year terms.

Officers:

- Lynn LeCours for President

- Peggy Pahoulis for Vice President
- Kathy Gaughran for Secretary
- Rick Ryan for Treasurer

Directors:

- Cathy Cavanagh
- Christine Cooke
- Susan Holbritter
- Sheila Rappazzo

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 Reilly thanked the members for joining the Lake Association. He asked them to remind friends to join the association and that suggestions are always welcomed. Please drop them in the suggestion box.

Communication:

John Felicetti reported

Newsletter: We continue to make steady progress with encouraging members to receive electronic versions of the newsletter; with the Summer 2025 edition, we physically mailed 120 newsletters. For comparison, for the Summer 2024 edition, we mailed 149 newsletters. That's an improvement of almost 20%. If you've missed an issue or are new to the lake and would like to see past editions, please go to the Newsletter Archive page on the website – we have past issues from 2008 available

Regarding the Ad program for the newsletter, 20 Advertisers in the Summer issue of the newsletter (increased 4 Advertisers from the Summer 2024 edition). This is the largest number of advertisers in 13 years.

Ad program non-renewals: Bunker Hill Inn

2 Advertiser programs expire with the Summer issue

If you use a service provider and are happy with the results, encourage them to become an advertiser! A \$100 subscription covers ad placement in 4 CLIA newsletters and on the CLIA website. Prospective advertisers can go to our website's Contact Us page to request information.

Database: We've been using Caspio database software since December, 2022 and up until now it has been free for our use. There is a possibility that Caspio will begin charging us in October for use of their product; I will research free alternatives if this is the case and report back to the Board.

Website: Online usage of the CLIA website (cossayunalake.com) is robust. For this season, we've had over 2,000 visits to the site. Visitors to the site average about 4 web pages per visit. In addition to the home page, the most popular pages viewed are the Event Calendar, Online Sign-up, Forms and Applications, Area History and Lake Reports. The flyer for the Boating Safely course was the most downloaded form on the site this season. We encourage members to use Online Sign-ups for Membership, Harvesting and Social events.

Karen Ryan reported

Email Blasts: These communications are timed according to events throughout the season. In the past 4 years only 4 people have unsubscribed. Please do not reply to email blasts, call the appropriate Board contact and we will help you.

Building and Grounds: Tom LeCours reported ceiling tiles have been replaced (thank you John, Jeff, Gene and Charlie!) The new oven installed, lawn mowed and windows washed.

Insurance: Tom LeCours reported we have switched to a new insurance carrier, same price, better service. The new insurance policy has better coverage for the harvester.

Promotions: Tom LeCours reported profits from the online store are donated to the Lake Management Fund. The store will close this year 9/2. Merchandise will be ready for pickup 9/13/2025.

Social: Marie Dumas reported the Pancake Breakfast had a great turnout, as did our other social activities:

- Ladies Night
- Dance Party
- Hoola Hoop
- Yoga on Dock
- Lakesiders
- Pizza Trivia
- Rummycube
- Chicken BBQ/Raffle (there were over 90 donations for raffle)

Upcoming activities are

- Chili Fest
- Ladies Luncheon

Next year look forward to "Thirsty Thursdays". We are always looking for new ideas and volunteers for our social activities. Thank you Social committee volunteers for a job well done.

Education: Lynn Jackson encouraged members to see the CLIA website links for new information that has been added. She also noted the 2025 NY Invasive Species Expo is taking

place in Saratoga Park on 9/15 – 9/16 for anyone interested in learning more. We have many property owners that are working with the Washington County Soil and Conservation District.

Spillway: Gene Henry reported the Spillway is closed most of the Summer, nothing more to do now. The dam is prepared for the Winter at first ice or in November. It is monitored almost daily during “ice out” by Tom A and Frank M. Gene would be happy to show members how it works.

Harvesting: Gene has a list of all docks done to date this Summer. The team has logged 168 hours of open water work at boat launch, around Hemlocks, little island and Pratt’s Point. We have a contractual obligation with Towns of Argyle and Greenwich to harvest open waters. The customers properties are being harvested 3 times per season, property line to property line. Lynn Wilbur asked Gene not to harvest through the milfoil beds around Pratt’s Point. Lily pads can be cut by harvester because they are not protected/endangered. It is recommended that customers submit their Harvest payment early in the season. Kevin offered to take a ride on the harvester to see what it’s all about.

Herbicide: Lynn Wilbur presented the proposed 2026 Cossayuna Lake Management Plan. The current plan with Lake and Ponds was good the first 2 years, but this 3rd year has not been good, especially with milfoil. Lynn and Sheila will meet with Carrie Woerner to discuss financing for a new harvester and new plant study. Lynn and Sheila will also be meeting with 3 new herbicide application companies to address milfoil treatment.

CSLAP: Lake water is tested every 2 weeks. There will be 3 more tests before the end of this season. Also noted, New York State Adirondack Lakes Alliance is looking into the impact of wake boats on shallow lakes.

Water Chestnuts: Property owners are encouraged to pull the water chestnuts from your shoreline as the seeds can last for 10 years.

Old or Unfinished Business: N/A

New Business: N/A

Adjournment: 11:10AM Motion to adjourn by Gene Henry seconded by JoAnne Bonacker. Motion approved.