

RAINBOW LAKE GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING

JULY 11, 2020 9:00AM VIA ZOOM

President Cathy Unruh welcomed all. There was a moment of silence for members who passed away since the last meeting. They were Ginny Bristol, Sid St. Louis, and Ann Cantwell.

Cathy then had us all introduce ourselves. There were 46 people from 29 camps participating via Zoom.

Minutes from the August 2019 meeting were approved. John McKeon made a motion to accept the minutes and Anne Joyce seconded. All approved.

The issue of voting via Zoom was discussed. No one had a problem with votes being done by a show of hands. Anne Joyce made a motion to do a show of hands for voting but just do the “nays”. Alyse Holstein seconded and the motion which was unanimously passed.

Treasurer’s Report – Peter Geertz - As of June 30th there were 125 members and as of this meeting there are 146 members. As of June 30th there was \$9,318.51 in the General Fund and \$74,025.64 in the Reserve Fund.

AIS Professional Survey – Stephanie Ratcliffe & Anne Joyce – Stephanie reported that the RLA did not have to spend money on the AIS Professional Survey. It was funded through the Nature conservancy and APIPP is doing it at no cost to us. APIPP subcontracted Ezra Schwartzberg to do the testing. While conducting the testing he also finished the bathymetric mapping of the entire lake chain. RLA’s goal is to get a professional map done through Ezra’s company Green Goat Maps, for shore owners and those who rent out their camps.

Anne Joyce informed us that the grant submitted to the Cloudsplitter Foundation was not approved. The Foundation has changed their focus to meeting community needs due to the Covid pandemic. Anne will resubmit the Grant for the Foundations August meeting without the \$10,000 for the bathometric survey which has already been completed. Anne will speak with Executive Director Chenelle Palyswiat, next week.

Jennifer Borders asked if we can include information on invasive terrestrials not just invasive aquatics. Japanese knot weed and purple loose strife are two of the invasive plants seen around the lake. It would be important to know how to properly remove invasive plants. Cathy felt that this should be of no cost to the RLA. It would just be shared educational information. Cathy also asked Jennifer if she would chair this committee and she agreed. We should have information on the RLA website with pictures. The “Welcome Kit” would be a good place to add this information. If you see a “suspicious” plant, take a picture and send it to Jennifer.

AIS Volunteer Survey - Mike Brickman will be putting out an email shortly with basic instructions on conducting an aquatic invasive survey and particularly identifying Eurasian milfoil. He will also include a link to a You Tube video on invasive aquatics and terrestrials. It is important to do the survey from mid-July through mid-September. He is also looking for more volunteers. You can email Mike at m.brickman@me.com.

AIS Class & Buck Pond Stewards – Nora Teter will be sending out an email on how to be a volunteer boat launch steward and how to sign up/link to an AIS class. The Paul Smith’s College Adirondack Watershed Institute started covering the Buck Pond Boat Launch June 25th, 7 days a week, from 8:30am – 4:30pm. The RLA volunteers would cover Fridays and Saturdays from 4 – 6pm.

Fishing – John McKeon reported that fishing in May was slow. It picked up in June and with the heat in July it has slowed down again. People have been catching perch, pike, bass, and walleye. The DEC stocked the lake with 7,000 walleye fingerlings.

Water Quality – Joe Deignan informed us that a pamphlet on the water quality for 2019 is on the RLA website and also available at the Rainbow Lake Post Office. Water samples are taken at the deepest part of Rainbow Lake, Clear Pond, Rainbow Narrows, and Kushaqua. This is the 23rd consecutive year of water quality testing.

Rainbow Lake Water Protection District Board of Commissioners Report – Roger Gorham told us that the dam construction project is completed. The high Spring water run off was not a problem due to the addition of the 3rd flashboard. The flashboards were lowered on April 19th.

Nominations – Sue Fallone presented the 2021 slate to be voted at the August 8th general membership meeting via Zoom.

President – Lou Rubin Vice-President – Susan Whitehurst

Secretary – Ilene Geertz Treasurer – Peter Geertz

Board of Directors – Mike Brickman, Anne Joyce, and David Haury

There were no nominations from the floor. Anne Joyce made a motion to accept the slate as presented. John McKeon seconded. The presented slate passed.

RLA Clothing – Tom Flanagan informed us that we will not be ordering RLA clothing this year.

RLA Picnic – The RLA Board decided it would be best to cancel the picnic for this year.

Old Business - At the August General Membership Meeting, Joe Deignan asked the Board to consider diverting some of the Reserve Fund to the RLA Water Protection District, to cover part of the loan taken for the Dam Project. The way the loan is structured makes it not possible to do this. The loan was taken out by Franklin County and not the Water Protection District.

Jennifer Borders inquired if it was possible to incorporate an in person meeting (when allowed) with a virtual Zoom meeting. This would allow people to attend if they are not able to be there in person. Stephanie Ratcliffe will work on this.

John McKeon made a motion to adjourn. Lou Rubin seconded.

The next general membership meeting will be via Zoom, August 8th, at 9am.

Respectfully submitted,

Ilene Geertz

RLA Secretary