

RAINBOW LAKE GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING

JULY 10, 2021

Attendance: 33 people representing 22 camps attended at the VIC. 13 people representing 10 camps logged in to the zoom meeting. Unfortunately there were technical difficulties and we were not able to include them in the meeting.

President Sue Fallone requested a moment of silence for those members who passed away since last year. They were Virginia Bristol, Lou Rubin, and Barbara Silber.

Welcome and Introductions: Sue welcomed everyone. Everyone introduced themselves. We were able to have those attending via zoom start to introduce themselves. That was when the difficulties began and we had to eventually close down the zoom connection. Nora Teter, Roger & Linda Gorham, and Mike Brickman were unable to give their reports personally and others filled in the gap.

Welcome Scott Van Laer- Scott is the new director of the VIC. He is a retired forest ranger and a Paul Smiths alumni. He will continue improving on the things we all love about the VIC such as maintaining and grooming trails all year long. You can go online to see the different programs that are available including guides for rock climbing, fly fishing, and navigating. There is also a new art exhibit.

<https://www.paulsmiths.edu/vic/>

Minutes: the minutes from the August 2020 meeting were sent via email to all members. John McKeon made a motion to accept the minutes and Jim Harper among others seconded. Minutes approved.

Treasurer's report: - Peter Geertz reported that as of June 30, 2021 there were 150 members. There was \$19,640.21 in the General Fund with \$4,260 restricted for the mapping project. There was \$88,586.87

in the Reserve Fund. Peter also noted that we were awarded a \$15,000 grant from the Lake Champlain Basin Program for a steward at Buck Pond, which is administered by Paul Smiths College. The town of Brighton and PSC have also committed to the cost of a steward for one day per week. These amounts will be paid to Paul Smiths College directly.

Nominations: Susan Whitehurst said that whatever you can do for the RLA is very much appreciated. She then nominated Jonathan Allen for the position on the Board of Directors. There were no nominations from the floor. This will be voted on at the August meeting.

Buck Pond Stewards: Sue Fallone reported for Nora Teter. Volunteers are needed from 4 to 6pm on Fridays and Saturdays. You can sign up on line at the RLA website, www.rainbowlakeassn.org. You can also contact Nora directly at 518-569-2207 or norateter@gmail.com. Nora will be available to help new volunteers. For information to take part in an online educational program go to <https://www.adkwatershed.org/community/events>.

Invasive Species Survey: Sue Fallone reported for Mike Brickman. Mike Brickman will reach out to last year's volunteers and encourages others to volunteer. You can contact Mike at m.brickman@me.com. Sue also reported that no Aquatic Invasive Species were found last year. The Paul Smiths Boat Stewards inspected 1,081 boats at Buck Pond. Three boats were found to have Eurasian Milfoil. Two were from Chateauguay Lake and one from Lake Flower. The AIS was removed.

Rainbow Lake Water Protection District Board of Commissioners

Report: Peter Geertz reported for Roger Gorham. Currently there are 5 commissioners. They are Roger Gorham, Peter Geertz, Ralph Bennett, Peter Shrope, and Gordon Sawyer. Commissioners must be a Rainbow Lake shore owner and also a permanent resident. He explained that

there was a change in the law (section 3 & 7) concerning the number of commissioners due to the fact that the DEC decided that it was a conflict of interest to be one of the Commissioners. Peter invited interested and eligible shore owners to contact one of the commissioners. Their last meeting took place at the Dam and the engineer was pleased with the condition of the dam and improvements. The question was asked, "Who owns the dam?" Franklin County owns the Dam.

Fishing Report: John McKeon reported that people have been catching bass, pike, sunfish, perch, and walleye. There is a 2 year rotation in stocking Rainbow Lake with walleye fingerlings. This is the off year. It was also reported that the trout population is healthy.

RLA Clothing/Hats: Sue Fallone asked for a show of hands to see if members were interested in ordering RLA clothing. This will be for next season. Susan Whitehurst will be researching this.

Water Quality Report: Joe Deignan reported that this is the 24th consecutive year of water quality data. PH levels and phosphorus levels are good. Oxygen levels in Kushaqua are excellent. The oxygen levels in Clear Pond and Rainbow Lake are good for the first 30 feet. The oxygen levels start going down in July with the warmer weather.

NEW BUSINESS

BOD Positions/Change to Bylaws: Sue Fallone asked the membership to consider reducing the Board of Directors from 9 to 7 and instead of electing 3 new board members every year we should elect 2 board member every year. John McKeon made a motion to make these changes in the Bylaws and Susan Whitehurst seconded. This will be put up for a vote at the August general membership meeting.

Adirondack Center for Loon Conservation- Sue Fallone reported for Linda Gorham who is on the Board of the Adirondack Center for Loon Conservation “which is dedicated to promoting and inspiring passion for the conservation of Common Loons.” Please go to their website, info@adkloon.org. You can find out about the Loon Friendly Lake Certification Program, threats to the Adirondack Loons, and other lake certification projects. There are brochures on the table where you signed in.

Rainbow Lake Map Project- Stephanie Ratcliffe reported that this is still a work in progress with the board discussing printing options to be approved at the Board Level. The field work is complete and there is good information on invasive species. The goal is to get this map to all those using the lake. The question was asked about the quality of the Green Goat maps. Scott van Laer then passed around one of the Green Goat maps for the membership to see. Peter Geertz then thanked all those who have donated to the map project. So far 34 camps have donated.

Professional Water Quality & Invasive Plant Surveys- Peter Geertz and John McKeon will be doing the bacterial survey. This should be done by our next meeting. Sue Fallone reminded us that the RLA agreed to survey specific areas on the lake in 2021 and 2022 (these areas include Boot Bay, the Narrows, Railroad Bay, and Garondah Bay) with a full survey of the lake in 2023.

Picnic- Sue Fallone asked the membership for a show of hands to see how many wanted to have a RLA picnic this year. The majority raised their hands. We will let the membership know when a place for the picnic is decided. We will also need a picnic committee to purchase food and sundries, set up, and clean up. Marilyn Leitch volunteered to be on the committee. Thank you Marilyn!

We will need more volunteers for the picnic to be a success.

Coffee & Donuts- Kathy Bonham-Yeager volunteered to set up for coffee and donuts starting in 2022. Thank you Kathy!

Joe Deignan made a motion to adjourn the meeting with a second from Peter Shrope.

Respectfully submitted,

Ilene Geertz

RLA Secretary