

RAINBOW LAKE ASSOCIATION MINUTES

JULY 11, 2015

Phil Holstein called the meeting to order and thanked everyone for a wonderful turnout. There were 55 people representing 36 camps attending. Phil apprised us of his goals for the next two years. They included: increased vigilance of invasive species both water & land, increase the number of volunteers, increase the number of new and active members, increase inclusiveness, and financial sustainability. We went around the room so everyone could introduce themselves.

The minutes from the August 9, 2014 meeting were read and approved by the membership.

Jim Hauber introduced Kristen and Lauren, the primary stewards for the Buck Pond boat launch. They intercepted one boat so far this year with Eurasian Water Milfoil. Last year 607 boats were inspected by Paul Smith's stewards and 25% of the boats had aquatic invasive species on them. Thirteen of the boats came from Lake Champlain. There is still an issue with getting a garden hose down to the boat launch to wash off boats. According to Eric Holmlund the RLA is the most active association in the effort to protect the lake from invasive species. Jim stressed the importance of having volunteers at the boat launch on Fridays and passed around the sign-up sheet.

Phil informed the membership that Joe Costa and Gordon Sawyer resigned their positions as Board Members. As per our by-laws the Board elected Mike Brickman to take over the rest of Gordon Sawyer's term which is two more years and John Aleinikoff to take over Joe Costa's three year term.

Ralph Bennett gave the treasurer's report. So far we have 155 members. Anne Joyce reminded everyone that all dues and donations are tax deductible. To date there is \$10,659.02 in the checking account and \$31,512.95 in the reserve fund.

Chuck Gibbs updated us on the Rainbow Lake Water Protection District. The dam is in good shape. They are in the process of fixing the center boards to be able to remove them in case of high water. The cost will be \$35-50 thousand dollars. At this time there is one position for Commissioner open and two more positions will open up during the next few years. The RLA nominated Ralph Bennett, Peter Shrope, and Joan Allen to fill those openings in the order stated. Anne Joyce made a motion to vote on the presented slate and Linnae Hamilton seconded the motion. All members approved.

Peter Geertz let us know that we received a \$15,000 grant from the Lake Champlain Basin Program again this year for the Lake Steward Program. He explained the history of the grant and how instrumental Pat Willis was in getting this started. The grant pays for lake stewards 4 days a week at the Buck Pond boat launch and 1 day for administrative duties from Memorial Day through Labor Day. The RLA covers the boat launch Fridays in July and August.

Joe Deignan gave the Water Quality Report. The official report is on the RLA website at www.rainbowlakeassn.org. In 2014 chemical levels are all stable in Rainbow Lake, Clear Pond, and Lake Kushaqua. Roger Gorham and Tom Sansone assist in the chemical survey in June, July, and August. We are in the top 5 percentile in the amount of data that has been collected (18 consecutive years). This is the 5th consecutive year that phosphorus levels are down perhaps due to less construction around the lake. Joe gave us a brief tutorial on the importance of oxygen in the health of a lake.

Sue Fallone presented the nominations for 2016. Roger Gorham and Faith Lundgren's terms are up this year. They both agreed to run again for a 3 year term. Sue explained what the position entails and if anyone is interested to please contact her or Phil.

John McKeon reported that fishing has been hit and miss. Walleye fingerlings have been stocked in the lake for the past 2 years.

Linnae Hamilton gave an update on the National Grid Spraying Program. The next spraying will be in 2016. If you have land adjacent to the National Grid Right of Way, they need updated information for their data bases.

Faith Lundgren let us know that the Welcome Document is being worked on. It is designed to inform people how they can respect the lake and keep it safe. Eventually there will be a downloadable document on the website.

Phil announced that Mike Brickman is the new Invasive Species Survey Coordinator.

Our RLA picnic will be held August 8th. Please let Phil know if you are available to help out.

We are joining the Adirondack Lake Alliance. The Adirondack Lakes Alliance (ALA) represents lake associations within the Adirondack Park and has as its primary mission the protection and preservation of our Adirondack waters. Cathy Unruh will be attending a symposium they are giving at Paul Smith's College on July 28th. If anyone else is interested in attending, please contact Phil. To learn more about the ALA visit their website at <http://www.adirondacklakesalliance.org/about.html>

Stephanie Radcliffe introduced Hannah Hanford who is the Director of the Adirondack Health Foundation. She informed us of the medical services available to summer residents. For further information you can go to www.adirondackhealth.org.

The Board is continuing to look at changes that need to be made in the by-laws to be up to date with current laws.

John McKeon made a motion to adjourn, Lionel Schuman seconded. The meeting was adjourned at 10:30am.

Respectfully submitted, Ilene Geertz, RLA Secretary