

**Canaan Lake Association  
Annual Meeting Minutes  
Saturday, July 18, 2020, 10:30 AM, via Zoom**

**Welcome**

The meeting was opened online promptly at 10:30 AM by President John Bergeron who welcomed the 20 members in attendance (see Notes) via Zoom. A special welcome was extended to new members Skip and Linda Pendleton, Canaan Street, Tim Galvin and Patricia Malone, Cottage Lane and Cyrus and Kelly Silvester, also of Cottage Lane.

**Announcements and Meeting Instructions**

John asked everyone to mute their audio, if possible, during the meeting and raise their hands if they wished to be recognized to speak to the group.

**2019 Annual Meeting Minutes**

Regarding the minutes of the 2019 Annual Meeting, Claude Lemoi reported that 51 paper ballots had been received, with 40 approving the minutes as presented, 11 abstentions, and zero opposed. Therefore, the subject minutes were approved with a favorable vote of greater than 75%.

**Treasurer's Report**

Claude Lemoi, Treasurer of the Canaan Lake Association, presented the following report: The financial results for 2019 were a little better than budgeted. The actual net loss was \$666, better than the budgeted loss of \$910, because of generous donations from some members. Claude reminded everyone that the reason for the expected loss last year was that the Town of Canaan was financially unable to provide the expected funding - but is expecting to resume funding in 2020.

Claude also reported that the financial records for 2019 were audited and certified by a local businessman who is a member, but not a director, of the Lake Association.

The 2020 budget projects a \$900 net gain, which will compensate for last year's loss. Claude reported that income and expenses are on track so far this year. Again, 51 paper ballots were received, and 39 voted to approve

the proposed 2020 budget, 12 abstained, and zero were opposed, so the budget was approved by greater than 75% of the votes.

## **Election of Officers and Directors**

The election of officers and directors was also accomplished by paper ballot this year. Claude Lemoi reported that every officer and director recommended by the Nominating Committee was approved by greater than 90% of the 51 paper ballots received.

Karen Henry - President

John Bergeron - Vice President

Elizabeth Jutila, Chris Day, Deborah Hutchinson, and Elissa Close - Directors.

## **Lake Hosts**

Coordinators Ann Berry and Elizabeth Jutila reported a successful 2019 Lake Host program with no invasive plants or animals identified at the boat ramp, the likeliest entry-point for invasive species. Volunteers contributed 125.5 hours, valued at over \$3000. We obtained a 325% matching grant from NH Lakes and came up with an extra \$300 in funds for this year.

Our four paid high school and college hosts were Kyle Wilson, Tatum Schmidt, Kerrigan Stone and Mavin Parrish. Together with local Canaan resident volunteers, hosts inspected 440 non-motorized boats and 104 motorized boats.

Ann reminds us that nearby bodies of water - including Mascoma Lake, the Connecticut River, Lake Sunapee, Lake Fairlee, Lake Morey, Post Pond and Pinneo Lake - all have milfoil, so it is vital to inspect boats at our boat ramp in order to prevent the spread of this invasive species from other bodies of water to our lake.

Elizabeth thanked all volunteers (see Notes) and paid hosts and welcomes new folks to the program. Please call Elizabeth Jutila at 704.664.0526 or email her at [elizabethbjutila@gmail.com](mailto:elizabethbjutila@gmail.com) if you would like information and/or you are interested in participating through donations or volunteer hours.

## **Photo Contest**

David Cole reported a great year for the annual photo contest with 12 adult submission and 2 young adult submissions. Thanks were extended to Linda Roesch who judged the photos anonymously and was struck by so many extraordinary views of our lake and the wildlife who inhabit it.

Adult winners were awarded to

First Place: Fe Ramos for “Early Spring”

Second Place: Dan Truesdell for “Lake”

Third Place: Karen Henry for “Chair on Dock”.

Young adult winners were awarded to

First Place: Lily Silvester for her off-center rainbow image

Second Place: Abby Drake for her soft sunset image

Honorable Mention were awarded to

Alix Olson, Donna Allen, Edilberto Ramos and Marty Sartin.

## **Loons**

Elissa Close reported, as of June 20, no nesting site for Canaan Street Lake loons had been identified. There are some indications that “our” loons may not yet have nested, so we continue to watch for nesting indicators and are hopeful our loons have chosen to be late-season parents. We do have three loons on the lake, two fishing as a pair and the third generally fishing at a distance from the pair.

Concerns regarding loons include lake levels that threaten nesting behavior and lead sinkers left by fishermen. It is recommended that hooks be taken in when in close proximity to loons so the birds don’t accidentally become snared by fishing lines and hooks. Elissa reminds us that lead-free tackle is available through the Loon Preservation Committee.

(<https://loon.org> or 603.476.5666)

For more information on loons, feel free to contact

Elissa at the following email address: [Norwich612@gmail.com](mailto:Norwich612@gmail.com)

## **Weed Watchers**

Rick Roesch, Weed Watcher Coordinator, began his report by thanking the many volunteer watchers (see Notes) who are safeguarding our lake against invasive plants and animals through the Weed Watcher Program. Each volunteer monitors a section of the lake monthly and reports findings to the coordinator. To date there have been no reported invasive weed

species identified, however, there is still a presence of the invasive Chinese Mystery Snail (a look-alike to the Brown Mystery Snail), but this is not considered a major threat to the lake ecosystem.

A lake of our size typically will have 10 - 12 watchers to make sure there is comprehensive and frequent monitoring, and to achieve this we need several additional volunteers to join the group. One needs only a kayak, a canoe, rowboat or paddle board to help out. Training is provided. Rick invites others to join his fun group! Please contact Rick Roesch ([rickroesch@aol.com](mailto:rickroesch@aol.com)), John Bergeron ([bergeronjh@gmail.com](mailto:bergeronjh@gmail.com)) or Karen Henry ([kshenry1024@gmail.com](mailto:kshenry1024@gmail.com)) if you would like to get involved. Rick encourages everyone to be a weed watcher!

## **Board of Advisors**

Rick Roesch reported the Board of Advisors (see Notes) is made up of former CLA Board members and folks interested in becoming more involved with CLA activities. Members are a source of advice and memory for the Board and provide helping hands when needed. They meet with the Board once a year in the spring to participate in planning the Annual Meeting and Lake Day, and they assist in the execution of these events.

## **Water Quality**

John Bergeron reported most water quality parameters remain similar to last year and are generally acceptable. We do see an increase in chloride and conductivity which are both above the State lake averages. The numbers are not harmful, but the trend could eventually present problems. Both chloride and conductivity come from road salt and septic systems, with road salt being the major contributor. Phosphorous numbers crept up slightly this year, but not dramatically. Phosphorous, which comes from stormwater, certain fertilizers and septic systems, causes weeds, algae, and cyanobacteria to flourish - however, there were no cyanobacteria blooms this year.

The beach was tested for E. coli on several occasions, with samples taken from the left and right sides of the beach. Only the June 19, 2019, right side sample failed. This failure was due to a faulty beach bathroom septic system and was not a lake-wide problem. While the beach bathroom system is under repair, a portolet has been installed. Feces from wildlife and pets is the typical source of E. coli.

General reminders: Please don't feed the waterfowl. Please do pick up pet waste. Please maintain your septic systems. Use zero phosphorus lawn fertilizer and use no fertilizer at all within 25 feet of the lake.

## **Volunteer Recognition**

John Bergeron thanked the many volunteers who contribute in myriad ways to maintain the health of our lake (see Notes).

## **Other Business**

Charlotte Abington brought up the topic of variations in lake level and resulting erosion to some areas of the lake. Several neighbors have expressed similar concerns.

Questions were voiced about the effect of the new dam; removal and replacement of dam boards to try to control lake levels; lack of rain; and concerns about speed boats moving too fast and too close to the edges of the lake.

Karen Henry noted the New Hampshire Lakes program is willing to visit sites and recommend ways to prevent erosion, especially planting along the edges of the lake. Her personal experience with the organization was very positive.

Kris Burnett noted the wetlands on the west side of the lake are vital for filtering run-off from Canaan Street and neighboring residences on the west side. Wetland water levels are very low at present, allowing water in the wetland to stagnate. She asked that any study of fluctuations in lake water level include a study of the impact of those variations on these essential wetlands.

John Bergeron and Karen Henry suggested NH LAKES and DES would be good starting points in a study of this issue.

Karen Henry thanked John Bergeron for his many years of excellent service as President of the Canaan Lake Association.

## **Next Meeting**

John Bergeron announced the next annual meeting is scheduled for Saturday, July 17, 2021, 10:30 AM.

## **Adjourn**

With no other business, the meeting was adjourned by the Chairman at 11:15 AM.

Moved: Claude Lemoi

Second: Karen Henry

Approved: All in attendance

## **Display of Photo Contest Entries**

David Cole closed the meeting with a stunning slide show of photographs of the lake by residents which are now on display at the Canaan Lake Association website ([Canaanlakenh.org](http://Canaanlakenh.org))

## **Notes**

### **Canaan Lake Association Annual Meeting attendees (via Zoom)**

John Bergeron

Carol Bergeron

Kris Burnett

Jane Van Etten

Claude Lemoi

Elizabeth Jutila

Bill Rich

Charlotte Abington

David Cole

Karen Henry

Rick Roesch

Cyrus Sylvester

Audrey MacLean

Lisa Close

Sue Franks

Kim Franks

Mike Samson

Sandra Hayden

John Coffey

Dan Forbush

Pam Ch... (Perhaps Pam McClean Chandler)

Ann Berry

Andrew (Perhaps Terhune)

Ruth P. Weinreb

### **Canaan Lake Association Weed Watchers**

Rick Roesch

Maria Clark

Linda Pendleton

Skip Pendleton

Claude Lemoi

Carol Williams

Dan Forbush

Julie Smith

Elissa Close

Rob Schaefer

Ben Hayden

## **Canaan Lake Association Volunteer Lake Hosts**

Ann Berry - Coordinator

Elizabeth Jutila - Coordinator

Charlotte Abington

Paula Aldrich

Jim Adler

Kris Burnett

Maria Clark

David Cole

Kim Franks

Sandra Hayden

Karen Henry

Beth Jamison

Kirsten Jutila

Claude Lemoi

Rick Roesch

Keith Roy

Brett Schmidt

Carol Williams

## **Canaan Lake Association Photo Contest Submitters**

### **Young Adult Category**

Abby Drake

Lily Silvester

### **Adult Category**



Donna Allen

Ashley Arsenal

Karen Henry

Alix Olson

Martha Popp

Fe Ramos

Edilberto Ramos

Marty Sartin

Jai Smith

Dan Truesdell

Karen Wolk

Sharon Weaver

### **Canaan Lake Association Nominating Committee**

Charlotte Abington, Chair

Rick Roesch

David Auerbach

### **Canaan Lake Association Advisory Committee**

Rick Roesch, Chair

Charlotte Abington

David Auerbach

David Cole

Richard Fox

Kristi Wilson

### **Canaan Lake Association Board of Directors**

John Bergeron - President

Kris Burnett - Vice President

Claude Lemoi - Secretary/Treasurer

Elizabeth Jutila

Chris Day

Karen Henry

Deb Hutchinson

Maria Clark

Kim Franks

Scott Berry

Respectfully submitted,

Kris Burnett