

**Canaan Lake Association (CLA)  
Annual Meeting Minutes  
Saturday, July 17, 2021, 10:30 AM, via Zoom**

**Welcome**

The meeting was opened online at 10:30 AM by President Karen Henry who welcomed the 19 members in attendance via Zoom (see Notes). She displayed the CLA's mission on the screen, followed by the agenda for the meeting.

**Announcements and Meeting Instructions**

Karen asked everyone to mute their audio unless speaking, if possible, during the meeting. She then made the following announcements:

- John Bergeron received the 2020 NH DES Limnologist Award at a Volunteer Lake Assessment Program (VLAP) Webinar meeting in May. Karen congratulated him, and thanked him for all his work monitoring water quality over many years. (Karen explained that a limnologist is a lake scientist).
- Thanks to all volunteers whose time and effort are key to the success of CLA's mission (see Notes below).
- There will be a dog waste station and a trash container at the beach for the winter, in cooperation with the Town. Dog waste left on the ice and snow become pollution in the lake after the ice melts.
- The NH Lakes organization offers free advice to lakefront property owners on actions they can take to protect the health of the lake through the LakeSmart program. Members of the Board can direct anyone interested to the NH Lakes website for detailed information on how to participate.
- The CLA Board has designated August as "Purple Loosestrife Awareness Month". More later during the Weed Watch Committee report.

**2020 Annual Meeting Minutes**

Karen reported that the Minutes of the 2020 Annual Meeting were approved by 47 of the 58 ballots received, with no negative votes.

## **Treasurer's Report**

Claude Lemoi presented the actual financial results for 2020, which were audited and found to be complete and accurate. Results were quite favorable, with income \$1,991 higher than budgeted due to a number of very generous donations. Regarding expenses, the Lake Host program cost about \$300 less than budgeted, and \$200 was not contributed to the Canaan swim program as budgeted, since the program did not operate due to COVID-19. With all other items on or close to budget, there was a \$3,656 surplus. As a result, \$3,500 was deposited to the Strategic Reserve Account, which made up for the lack of any strategic reserve savings the year before.

The 2021 proposed budget was approved by 47 of the 58 paper ballots received, with no negative votes. The budget is similar to the prior year, and is balanced, including \$600 for a Lake Celebration Day lunch and \$200 for a swim program. If, as now expected, these expenses don't materialize, the funds will be transferred to the Strategic Reserve account. Claude reported that income from member dues is on budget this year, and generous donations are once again being received, in excess of budget.

## **Lake Hosts**

Elizabeth Jutila reported that the Lake Host Program's goal is to protect the lake from invasive species, and is running well again this year. She thanked all the volunteers who provide coverage for paid hosts during their mid day breaks, and encouraged more people to volunteer for this pleasant 2 hour stint. Last year's volunteers are recognized in the Notes below. Elizabeth reported that 518 boat inspections were performed in 2020, with no invasive species found, and that over half of boaters at the launch were familiar with New Hampshire "Clean, Drain, and Dry" laws. Also, Lake Hosts were recognized by the State with the "Spirit of NH" award last year.

## **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. Rick encouraged anyone who might be interested to join his fun group.

Rick then discussed Purple Loosestrife, an invasive plant which is beautiful but foreign, and if left unchecked it will replace native vegetation in the wet marshy areas around the lake shore. Rick stated that we don't know how much of a problem we have, but Purple Loosestrife is prolific once it gets established, so it's important to be proactive. He then outlined the strategy that Weed Watchers will employ to detect and deal with this invader. Rick asked for more participants, and any ideas which might help.

## **Loons**

Elissa Close, the CLA representative to the state-wide Loon Preservation Committee, revealed some “fun facts” about loons, reported a few statistics about the loon population in NH, and provided a summary of chick hatches and survival on Canaan Street Lake in the past five years. She has not seen the chick which hatched this year on our lake since the July 4th weekend, and asked anyone who might spot the chick to contact her. Elissa also reported that New Hampshire law has banned the sale of lead tackle since 2016, and that efforts continue to remove it from use, including a funded “buy-back” program. Nonetheless, a loon was discovered with lead poisoning at Mascoma Lake just this past week!

For more information on loons, feel free to contact Elissa at the following email address: [Norwich612@gmail.com](mailto:Norwich612@gmail.com)

## **Water Quality**

John Bergeron characterized the water quality of Canaan Street Lake as “pretty good”. The drought of 2020 reduced the level of nutrients flowing into the lake, but conductivity and chloride levels are still rising. These are mainly due to septic systems and the use of road salt. Road crews have been trained to reduce salt as much as possible, and proper maintenance and pumping of septic systems in the watershed is important. These levels are not yet harmful, but will be in future years if current trends continue.

John reported that the town beach was closed by DES a few times last year due to high levels of E. coli. Large numbers of human swimmers contribute to this, but **no one should feed the ducks and geese, nor leave food scraps behind on the beach to attract them.**

John identified cyanobacteria as another threat to water quality, exacerbated by phosphorous in lawn fertilizers, and by long, dry, hot summers. There has not yet been a “bloom” in our lake this year.

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 - it's illegal.

### **Board of Advisors**

Rick Roesch reported the Board of Advisors is made up of former CLA Board members and other interested volunteers (see Notes). There has not been much activity required in the past year, since both the 2020 and 2021 Annual Meetings could not be held 'live' due to COVID-19. However, Rick stated that the Board of Advisors will assist with “Purple Loosestrife Awareness Month”, especially on the 'land side' of the issue.

### **Photo Contest**

David Cole displayed a stunning slide show of photographs of the lake submitted by 9 entrants which are now on display at the Canaan Lake Association website (Canaanlakenh.org). He thanked Linda Roesch who judged the photos anonymously and was struck by the quality of the photos and the extraordinary views of our lake.

Gift certificates donated by Canaan Hardware & Supply, Jake's Market, 603 Bakery and Cafe, Red Wagon Bakery, Mickey's Roadside Cafe, and Canaan Village Pizza are being presented to the following award winners:

First Place: Scott Berry

Second Place: Joy Clancy

Third Place: Kathy Kuy

Honorable Mentions were awarded to  
Donna Allen, Elizabeth Jutila, and Gary Hobstetter

## **Election of Officers and Directors**

The election of officers and directors was conducted by paper ballot again this year. Karen Henry reported that every officer and director recommended by the Nominating Committee received between 52 and 56 yes votes of the 58 ballots received, with no negative votes. Karen Henry thanked John Bergeron for his many years of excellent service as President and Vice President of the Canaan Lake Association, and Scott Berry for his service as a Board Member. She also announced that she has appointed Elizabeth Jutila as Vice President to replace John Bergeron after his mid-term resignation (in accordance with the by-laws). The following elections were confirmed:

Claude Lemoi - Secretary/Treasurer

Kim Franks, Maria Clark, Kristi Wilson - 2 year terms as Directors

Bill Stone - 1 year term as Director (balance of term due to a resignation)

## **Next Meeting**

Karen Henry announced the next annual meeting is scheduled for Saturday, July 16, 2022, 10:30 AM, with the hope of returning to a 'live' in person meeting and Lake Day Celebration.

## **Other Business**

There was no other business raised by anyone in attendance.

## **Adjournment**

With no other business, the meeting was adjourned by Karen Henry at 11:24 AM.

Moved: Elizabeth Jutila

Second: Kim Franks

Approved: All in attendance

Respectfully submitted,

Claude Lemoi

Secretary/Treasurer

## Notes

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

Carol Bergeron	Audrey MacLean
John Bergeron	Thomas Oppel
Elissa Close	Sylvia Rich
David Cole	Rick Roesch
Kim Franks	Mike Samson
Susan Franks	William Stone
Sandra Hayden	Andrew Terhune
Karen Henry	Jane Van Etten
Elizabeth Jutila	Kristi Wilson
Claude Lemoi	

## **VOLUNTEER RECOGNITION**

### **Canaan Lake Association Volunteer Lake Hosts 2020 - 2021**

Ann Berry - Coordinator	Sandra Hayden
Elizabeth Jutila - Coordinator	Karen Henry
Jim Adler	Beth Jamison
Maria Clark	Claude Lemoi
David Cole	Keith Roy
Kim Franks	Brett Schmidt

### **Canaan Lake Association Weed Watchers 2020 - 2021**

Rick Roesch, Coordinator	Dan Forbush
Maria Clark	Julie Smith
Linda Pendleton	Elissa Close
Skip Pendleton	Rob Schaffer
Claude Lemoi	Ben Hayden
Carol Williams	

## **Canaan Lake Association Nominating Committee 2021**

Kris Burnett, Chair  
Carol Bergeron  
Suanne Milligan

## **Canaan Lake Association Advisory Committee 2020-2021**

Rick Roesch, Chair  
Charlotte Abington  
David Auerbach  
David Cole  
Richard Fox  
Kristi Wilson

## **Canaan Lake Association Board of Directors 2020 - 2021**

Karen Henry - President  
John Bergeron - Vice President  
Claude Lemoi - Secretary/Treasurer  
Elizabeth Jutila  
Chris Day  
Deborah Hutchinson  
Maria Clark  
Kim Franks  
Scott Berry  
Elissa Close