

Canaan Lake Association (CLA)
Annual Meeting Minutes -- APPROVED 7/19/25
Canaan Meeting House, Saturday 20 July 2024

1. Welcome

- a. Meeting was called to order at 10:30 AM by President, Karen Henry who welcomed all Members, especially new Members.
- b. Attendance sheet was passed with an invitation to participate in CLA in any capacity.
- c. Mission statement displayed and read by the Chair.
- d. Bill Van Zandt was recognized, and appreciation expressed for his gracious catering of the day's lunch.

2. Announcements

- a. Introduction to FACEBOOK page. Maria Clark (Social Media Coordinator) seeks a second administrator.
- b. Boating safety reminders regarding Safety Certificate, Direction of Travel around lake, and Headway Speed can be found on Facebook page and CLA website.
- c. BOD introductions.
- d. Notice of change in location of reservoir boundary.
- e. Legislative update regarding wake-surfing: legislation that would have increased current minimum distance from shore for wake boats was defeated in NH Senate but generated much public comment in support of the rule change.

3. 2023 Minutes approval

- a. Bill Stone made the motion to accept 2023 Annual Meeting minutes.
- b. Seconded by Sandy Hayden and passed unanimously.

4. Guest lecture: DES Cyanobacteria Monitoring on Canaan Street Lake

- a. Speaker: Liz Pelonzi, Source Protection Specialist for New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services (NHDES) Drinking Water and Groundwater Bureau, Lead for Cyanobacteria blooms in reservoir lakes.
 - i. Monitoring season on Canaan Street Lake (CSL): end of May to end of October.
 - ii. Liz provided an overview of the history of cyanobacteria on Earth. The bacteria are endemic to virtually all freshwater lakes and waterways. Overgrowth of cyanobacteria and the byproducts they produce can cause blooms toxic to humans and animals at any time of year. Much remains unknown about Cyanobacteria. Changes in watersheds, lakes and streams affecting water quality, combined with a warming climate can drive blooms, but ways to eliminate toxic blooms or prevent them requires further study. Water samples, regularly collected from CSL and analyzed over time may contribute to a growing body of knowledge focused on better understanding of cyanobacteria, avoiding blooms when possible, and identifying effective means of ameliorating impacts of blooms when they occur.

5. Reports

- a. Treasurer's report
 - i. Elissa Close (Sec/ Treas) reviewed proposed budget: little changed from 2023. Income is on target. Expenses look to remain flat. Anticipate moving \$2,000 to Strategic Reserve Fund at year's end. The Association's financial standing remains strong.
 - ii. Claude Lemois made the motion to approve the 2024 budget. Karen Henry seconded the motion; approved unanimously.
 - iii. As in 2023, a question arose regarding investment of some portion of Strategic Reserve Funds in CD or other investment option with appreciation greater than savings account. Elissa responded that she would bring this question to the BOD for further discussion.
 - iv. Treasurer reviewed purpose of Strategic Reserve fund, currently with a balance over \$28,000. Funds are being set aside for use in the event presence of contaminants,

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invasive plants or animals, or bacterial blooms are discovered. Such changes to the lake's ecosystem can be costly to address and difficult to resolve.

b. Loons

- i. Elissa Close, CLA representative to the state-wide Loon Preservation Committee, reported a pair of loons nested in Outlet Cove and hatched a chick on July 1. However, after a busy July 4 holiday for humans on the lake, the chick vanished and was not seen again. A chick separated from parents, for even a couple of hours, in circumstances like July 4 activity, would be unlikely to survive. "Loon Chick" signage was removed the week following its disappearance following a thorough, unsuccessful, search. Over last 9 years of CSL loon data, 4 pairs of adults have successfully fledged 6 chicks.
- ii. 4 (occasionally 5) adult loons continue to socialize and swim together on the lake.

c. Lake Hosts

- i. Maria Clark (Lake Host, volunteer coordinator) described the Volunteer Lake Host program that provides coverage for 12-2PM lunch break for paid Lake Hosts (weekends and holidays, Memorial Day through Labor Day). The program seeks additional volunteers; contact Maria if interested.
- ii. Elizabeth Jutila (Lake Host program, paid host coordinator) provided an overview of 2023 Lake Host program data:
 1. Total of 695 boats were inspected over 272 hours, of which
 - a. 87 were motorboats,
 - b. remaining 608 were 'people powered'.
 2. Hours worked by volunteers at the boat ramp last season earned CSL Lake Host program \$2,290. These funds, together with matching grant funds, are supporting this summer's Lake Host staff.
 - a. Volunteer Lake Hosts worked 250.75 hours (cash equivalent of \$7,509.96)
- iii. To date this year, 338 boats have been inspected; no invasive plants or animals have been identified (aside from Mystery Snails...see below).

d. Weed Watchers

- i. Rick Roesch (Weed Watcher Coordinator) recognized Weed Watcher volunteers and reported that this year, as last, no aquatic invasive plants have been identified in CSL. However, the number of Chinese Mystery Snails is rapidly increasing. Per NHDES, "there is concern that, over time the invasive snails will out-compete native species for food and could serve as host and vectors for numerous parasites, some of which could be harmful to humans." Mystery Snails should be collected, removed from the lake and disposed of in trash.
- e. **Advisory Committee** – Rick Roesch explained the role of the Advisory Committee and invited those interested in joining to contact him.

f. Water Quality

- i. Kristi Wilson (VLAP volunteer) reviewed VLAP data which is collected during June, July, and August. Samples are analyzed by Colby Sawyer College.
- ii. Conductivity remains high; now at the highest level since Canaan Lake data collection began.
 1. Karen Henry reviewed a graph of conductivity values over time. The Town has been approached regarding a plan to limit salt use along Canaan Street. Karen continues to follow this issue.

6. Nominating Committee

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- a. The following names were submitted to serve as Officers and Directors of the Canaan Lake Association for the July 2024 to July 2026 term:
 - i. President: Karen Henry
 - ii. Vice President: Elizabeth Jutila
 - iii. Director: Deborah Hutchinson
 - iv. Director: Bill Stone
- b. The Committee extended sincere thanks to those noted above. Also to Chris Day, Head of CMS and Stephen Freese, Selectboard representative for their participation on the BOD.
- c. Kim Franks made the Motion to approve all candidates, as submitted.
 - i. Seconded by Rick Roesch and approved unanimously.

7. Bylaws Changes

- a. No discussion related to new Mission Statement.
- b. Review of bylaws generated questions regarding use of “ski craft” on the lake. were reminded that while “ski craft” are specifically prohibited from recreating on CSL, the craft currently in question are not, by definition “ski craft” and are thus PERMITTED on the lake.
- c. Concern was voiced regarding development underway in various locations around the lake and by what manner accountability to zoning guidelines is assured. Concerns centered on increased potential for runoff and amount of clearing, particularly along shoreline, in some locations.
- d. Elizabeth alerted Members to the repositioned reservoir buoys protecting town water intake pipe. A notice with diagram indicating new buoy placement has been posted on the Association web site. NHDES will continue to collect and analyze water samples, weekly, in the reservoir.
- e. Karen reminded the group that as defined under DIRECTORS in CLA Bylaws, the CMS Head of School has joined the BOD.
- f. Bylaws changes included an invitation to the Select Board to identify a Member to join the Board; Stephen Freese has volunteered and has been welcomed to BOD.
- g. Bylaws requirement for Officers of the Board now reads that at least one officer must be a full-time resident of Canaan.
- h. There were no questions, nor further discussion of Bylaws.

8. Other Business - none

9. Photo Contest Results

- a. 1st place: Michelle Carman
- b. 2nd place: Karen Albert
- c. 3rd place: Sandra Hayden
- d. Honorable mention
 - i. Monica Rowe
 - ii. Sharon Weaver

10. Next Meeting

- a. Karen Henry announced next Annual Meeting is scheduled for **Saturday 19 July 2025.**

11. Elizabeth Jutila made the motion to adjourn.

Dudley Smith seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Elissa Close

Secretary/ Treasurer

(Reviewed by BOD 8/20/24)