

CANAAN LAKE ASSOCIATION (CLA); BOD MEETING MINUTES

6/18/2025 @ 4:30p, Power's Room, Cardigan Commons
Cardigan Mountain School
DRAFT

Members present: Pres. Karen Henry, Vice Pres. Elizabeth Jutila, Sec-Treas. Elissa Close, Maria Clark, Kristi Wilson, Kim Franks

Meeting called to order at 4:30p.

Approval of BOD Minutes

Minutes of May 21, 2025 Board of Directors (BOD) meeting were reviewed

- **Elizabeth made the motion** to APPROVE minutes.
- Kim seconded the **motion. Motion passed unanimously.**

Review of Annual Meeting Checklist

Reports

- Treasurer's Report (Elissa)
 - *Income* increased with incoming dues and donations. Currently about \$200 ahead of this time last year.
 - *Expenditures*, likewise, in line with June last year. Water testing equipment was purchased, and Kristi was reimbursed.
 - *Total Assets* down slightly, reflecting payments made to NH Lakes for Hosting not yet offset by dues and donations. The 5-month, \$10,000 CD matures in July. Rate remains at 4.1% APY. Treasurer will plan to renew the CD for same amount if rate is unchanged or close to same rate next month. The group supported this plan.
- Loon Report (Elissa) No sign of nesting loons to date. Reports suggest 5 loons are current residents or visitors. 2 of the group appear to be a pair and continue to fish and socialize together, (observed last 3 days as a pair, not solo) giving no indication that a bird is on a nest. Rick Roesch reported to Weed Watchers that he had looked for signs of nesting loons, particularly in locations where pairs had nested previously, but saw no nest activity. Likewise, Sophia Havasy, watching last season's nesting site, reports no evidence of nesting birds. Possibility of placing a nesting raft was discussed. The Loon Preservation Committee, together with other NH agencies, oversee placement of rafts and will supply rafts to those who meet established criteria: LPC website notes such evidence includes
 - a territorial pair of loons on the lake,
 - loons attempted to nest
 - loss of eggs/ chicks can be traced to recurrent predation or water level fluctuations.

*Secretary's note from CLA loon data collected since 2016: CLS loons have been consistently able to find suitable nesting sites; only once did they not nest. CLS nesting loons have successfully laid eggs and hatched chicks; only once was an egg laid that did not hatch. Three CLS loon chicks have hatched and have not survived to fledging stage. **Since 2016, 4 pairs of adults have successfully fledged 6 chicks; including 2 sets of twins.** Greatest threats to loons remain habitat loss due to shoreline development, decline in water quality in combination with rising summer temperatures, and lead poisoning.*

Loon Patrol was discussed as a means of protecting chick(s) when they are most vulnerable to loon strikes by power boats. Text messaging to members of the group would alert patrollers who would work together to protect the loons.

Water Quality (Kristi) Testing starts June 30th. Sampling equipment has been purchased. Reservoir buoys are not yet in place due to a property line dispute contesting exact location of the restricted area. Until the case is resolved, buoys are not permitted to be floated. Lake Hosts have been instructed to educate visitors about location of the restricted area.

Lake Hosts (Maria) "Re-hires" are working out well and one enthusiastic individual has indicated interest in picking up a number of Saturday shifts and possibly serving as Manager next year. Two other hosts are picking up open shifts.

- Elizabeth is resigning as Coordinator end of this summer. She mapped out a strategy for coordination of the Lake Host program: The CLA Vice-President would be responsible for filling out the NH Lakes grant application for program funding; once the application is approved, the VP is responsible for hiring a manager; for the remainder of the season, the Manager will oversee and coordinate program operations.

Social Media (Maria) CLA Facebook page has 250 "followers" and over 250 "friends." Maria's note, plus photos and a volunteer flyer will be posted end of this month. More photos are planned.

Weed Watchers (Rick's report) No invasive vegetation identified to date. Numbers of Chinese Mystery snails are increasing. Anyone finding these snails is encouraged to remove them from the lake and dispose of them in the trash or other location where they cannot return to the water. Maria will add photos of the snails to Facebook page to assist in their identification.

President's Report (Karen)

- Website changes - Karen and Ben, with Cody available for backup, will manage the CLA website. Information and photos of Mystery Snails will be added to educate visitors about this invasive species.
- Source Water Protection Committee: work by Horizons Engineering is complete and will be posted on the Town website. The report identifies a protocol to be followed when a cyanobacteria bloom is identified. This plan is similar to that followed by Elizabeth in collaboration with Liz Pelonzi, NHDES.
- In addition to 'on the water' measures (ie, monitoring and testing) additional protective measures aimed at preserving and improving water quality are outlined in the report. CLA will play a significant role in education pertaining to strategies identified in the plan and in coordination of protective activities such as weed watchers, lake hosts, and water monitoring.
- Update from Nominating Committee - Ben Hayden will be nominated for Secretary/Treasurer position and Carol Williams will be nominated to join the Board. Discussion is ongoing regarding possible inclusion of one additional nominee.
- Karen attended NH Lakes Congress and shared information regarding repair of the boat ramp. Multiple parties are involved in oversight and maintenance of the boat ramp: NH Fish and Game, the Town, and State each play a role. Having a plan for repairs, ready to put into action, even if funding has not yet been secured, was identified as key to accomplishing the work required.

Old Home Days: Celebration will be held August 1-3 with CLA attending on Saturday, August 2, from 2-4:00 pm. Ice cream will not be available, but T-shirts, maps, and so forth will be for sale and educational materials related to the CSL and CLA will be available.

Proposed amendment to Bylaws: Elissa proposed an update to the threshold at which Board of Director approval is required for signing checks. In years since Section 15(f) of the Bylaws was written, the requirement for Board approval has not kept pace with price of goods and services requiring payment. Eight checks were written over last 12 months that exceeded the approval threshold.

Elissa made the motion to increase threshold to \$2000 and would amend Section 15(f) to read:

- The Secretary-Treasurer shall perform the usual duties of such office, including but not limited to (f) Handling funds, serving as Signatory on accounts and maintaining adequate financial records. Paying all bills.

Amount of Bill
Up to \$2000
\$2000 and over

Prior Approval Required by
Treasurer
Board of Directors

Motion was seconded by Karen with discussion following. Per Bylaws, vote on the amendment "shall be deferred to a Board meeting not less than 10 days " from today's meeting and requires notice be sent to all Directors at least 8 days prior to voting.

- *Chair provided notice to the Board on 24 June of the **Special meeting** regarding proposed change to BYLAWS to be held Wednesday, July 2 via zoom, 7pm.*

Elizabeth made the motion to adjourn

Kim seconded the motion which passed unanimously, and meeting adjourned at 5:35

➤ Scheduled CLA BOD meetings 2025: Wednesdays at 4:30 (**Special zoom meeting 7/2/2025 at 7pm**)

July 19 (Annual Meeting), August 20, September 17, October 15

Respectfully submitted,

Elissa Close, CLA Secretary/Treasurer, 6/27/2025