

Canaan Lake Association Board of Directors Meeting Minutes

9/17/2025 6:00 PM | Powers Room, Cardigan Commons, Cardigan Mountain School

Attendees Present: Karen Henry (President), Chris Day (CMS Head of School), Stephen Freese (Canaan Select Board, via Zoom), Maria Clark (Director), Kristi Wilson (Director), Bill Stone (Director), Carol Williams (Director, via Zoom), Elizabeth Jutila (Vice President)

Meeting was called to order by Henry at approximately 6:00 PM.

Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes

- 8/20/25 Board Meeting Minutes: No comments from the board. **Motion to approve** was made by Jutila and seconded by Stone. **The motion passed unanimously.**

Announcements:

- Gifts and Endowments: at the next BOD meeting (October) **Chris Day** will walk the board through information on gifts and endowments.
- LakeSmart: 18 families have signed up for the LakeSmart program and at least three properties have received the LakeSmart award.

The Great Snail Hunt: Williams reported on the snail hunt which took place at the end of August. Five of the six expected volunteers from Hypertherm turned out and all were enthusiastic to participate; $\frac{3}{4}$ of a garbage can full of snails were collected. The board discussed whether to hold the event again in 2026 and concerns about safety due to the cold weather on snail day. A suggestion was made to hold the event again, but perhaps earlier in the year, as well as to extend the time of the event to greater than two hours. Williams agreed to coordinate the hunt again next year.

Lake Hosting Leadership Transition: The board discussed the transition of the paid Lake Host coordinator position because of Jutila "retiring" from the role, in particular the need for someone to write the grant proposal. Clark has agreed to be the coordinator for both the paid and volunteer programs until someone else can be found to lead the other program. Jutila will assist Clark with grant writing for the 2026 season since it will be a new process for Clark. Two people are interested in the Paid Lake Host Manager position for the 2026 season.

Water Testing: The board discussed the presumed presence of cyanobacteria in Canaan Street Lake, discovered in August. Samples were collected and sent to the state for testing and confirmation. There was no active advisory as of the date of this discussion.

Meeting Times: Discussion took place around the scheduled BOD meeting time (6:00PM vs. 4:30PM) and reconfirmed that Wednesday will continue to be the meeting day. Henry will poll the absent board members regarding their time preferences.

Road Race: Discussion of a road race, like that held at Stinson Lake, including what the course might look like, safety concerns, and what program(s) should benefit from race proceeds. It was noted that the Lake Host program is the most effective of the CLA's programs and that additional funds could be used to expand the program to weekdays. Sarah Booker is very likely to agree to be the coordinator, should the race take place, and Henry will ask her to approach the Stinson Lake Association with some questions regarding their race and the outcome. There was discussion regarding potential sponsorship opportunities to raise additional funds, if the Association decides to host such a race.

Issues with Beach Area: Drainage issues at the public beach and the boat launch, exacerbated by runoff from the parking lot and the museum was discussed. The Board awaits feedback from the LakeSmart tour of the beach to be held later in September.

Jutila made a **motion to adjourn** that was seconded by Henry. **The motion passed unanimously and the meeting adjourned at approximately 6:50PM.**