

Friends of Lake Williams
Annual Meeting
6/9/18 10:00 am

Attendees: (Board Members) – Ryk Nelson, Diane Marquis, Barb Lesh, Rich Lesh, Ladd Lethune, Mark Coletta, John Collison, Brenda Quesnel; 6 additional members of FLW

Call to order of the meeting by President Ryk Nelson at 10:05 a.m.

Presidents Report:

We need volunteers and new members. New blood and new ideas are vital to the mission. It becomes a problem when so few people do the work. We need to talk to our neighbors and friends to help.

We have looked at another company to perform the lake treatments. Current company (Solitude) communications have been lacking. Ryk has had to take on a lot of this on his own which has been difficult. Especially being gone most of the summer. As a result we have had to cram all the major activities into June. We need others to step up to ensure we have visibility all year long.

State DEEP Fishery commission performed a survey of the lake. Every few years they come down and perform a fish survey. They reported that the fish community of Lake Williams is typical for the area and similar lakes in CT. Top level fish are above average, mid-level fish are average. They had no recommended changes.

The campground sold and is now an association. No more public launching and no more transient camping.

Over the winter someone sprayed anti-sematic symbols on the state property. The State will be coming in to remove.

John Collison has heard the town of Lebanon is considering an electric motor only boat launch. The State has no interest in a boat at this time. If the Town launch goes through, we will need to post more notices and provide education. Awareness includes an understanding that it is generally the trailers that cause the issues with bringing plants from other lakes. Expansion of current issue could be caused by more folks driving through the vegetation.

Tom Sholly and Tom Cartelli put the buoys out last week. These can't be enforced legally, but do provide a visual to avoid the weeds.

Secretary's Report:

Minutes from last meeting were included with the agenda. Diane made a motion to accept which was seconded by Brenda. Minutes were written by prior secretary John C.

Treasurers Report:

We have \$9,620 in checking and the CDs have renewed bringing us to a balance of \$18,115. Payment to Solitude will be included in the next fiscal budget. Next couple of weeks should bring in more dues. Diane motioned to accept the report and Norm seconded motion.

Communications Report:

Ryk has been in touch with the town on various issues. He worked with them on the drawdown at the town's request. We helped to monitor and requested it to be filled back up. The town initiated the draw down, not the FLW. It was very helpful for the weed control and the lake has been very clear so far. We will not consider for 3- more years.

Membership Report

Mailings were not performed this year and it seems to have negatively impacted membership. We have 31 new members. Barb will wait a week and then do a mailing to supplement the email outreach. Ryk will check with Dave Gendreau to see if we can get the names/addresses of all new residents over the last 3 years. Barb will send the welcome packets out to those families in hopes of drawing new members.

Old Business

2017 treatment report from Solitude did not say much at all. Communication from Solitude last year was abysmal. The company decided to do the pre-treatment survey on the same day they performed the treatment even though we pay for both separately. They did not cover all areas agreed to. Diane called Solitude back out, but it was ineffective. We are working on strengthening that for coming year. 2018 treatment is in the works. Pretreatment scheduled for next Friday with actual treatment on June 27th.

2019 Options:

- Town is the contract signatory. There are companies on the state approved list and any of them can be used without an RFP. One is strictly a consultant, one is Solitude, and one is diver assisted and costs 125k/year. The only other viable option is "All-Habitat". We were not able to get them this year, but did have them perform a survey last week. They found significant areas where the mill-foil has spread (from the dam to the campground to end of big island is scattered with patches of heavy density. The various coves have scattered patches of moderate density. This areas near Fox Island have low patches of low density. Draw down helped the coves considerably.
- Solitude picks the date – it has to be done after the plants are well established and taking photosynthesis.
- Fanwort has almost been eliminated so that is very good news.
- All-Habitat - \$16,000 without sonar. May be better to use them at the higher cost if we get a better product. Sonar is for the Fanwort. We generally do 35-40 acres.
- Brewster pond is now covered with Mil-foil.
- We should consider an informational packet about the invasive species issues to share with newer folks on the lake.

Lake clean-up next Sat at 9 am. Starts at second beach. Bags will get dropped at dam launch area and Town will pick up on Monday.

Mile-long tag sale – 9-3 June 30th. \$5 per house – to cover costs. Some folks donate income to FLW. Ryk, Diane and Brenda will work on the signs.

Water quality testing – all equipment is with Tom S. Diane is going to research how to use it. Barb has past data to help.

Fundraiser – calendars sold out and we made \$500. Photos should go to Barb who needs winter pics. Barb will have them done again before October. Several years ago we had a whole campaign with t-shirts, jackets, towels, etc. Not sure it was worth the effort. How do they get distributed? Consider grocery bags and t-shirts?

2018-19 budget – staying same as last year. There will likely be a 4% CPI increase from vendors. The increased price to lake treatment would hit the 19k budget. Need to get more membership!

Election of officers and Directors. – Motion was made to re-elect all Board Officers, seconded, voted on and approved.

New Director voted in to replace Lynn who has moved from the lake - Chris Kosswig

Motion to adjourn at 10:53