

MINUTES
MEETING OF BOARD OF DIRECTORS
THREE LAKES COUNCIL

December 9, 2019

A meeting of the Board of Directors of the Three Lakes Council was held on December 9th at the home of Jean and Paul Lewis. Present were:

Janet Andersen, President

Peter Gross, Vice President and Two Lake Club representative

Katie McGinn, Treasurer

Jean Lewis, Secretary

Darrell Alfeiri, Waccabuc Country Club representative

Doug Housman, Membership Chair

Kevin Karl, Lake Oscaleta Association and Long Pond Preserve Trail Steward

Tim Kennedy, South Shore Association representative

John Lemke, Lake Waccabuc Association representative and Long Pond Steward

Paul Lewis, Lake Preservation Committee Chair

Ron Tetelman, Lakeside Association representative

President Janet Andersen called the meeting to order at 7:30 PM. She welcomed the attendees, and thanked Jean and Paul Lewis for again hosting the meeting.

“Planning for the Next Year with 2020 Vision” was the title of a presentation on the proposed budget made by Jan Andersen and Katie McGinn. The primary purpose of the meeting was to review and discuss budget items.

Katie began by reviewing 2019 finances to date and the outlook. We are about \$26,000 under budget, however expenses are slightly greater than our income from donations.

Priorities for 2020, as discussed at the prior meeting, include:

- Communicate the message taken from the Watershed Report findings that if we do nothing, we will soon approach a crisis, especially for Waccabuc.
- Foster partnerships to achieve outreach with the Waccabuc Country Club, Lake Associations and others. Darrell Alfieri, representing the Waccabuc Country Club, has already begun addressing stormwater issues at the beach, and expressed enthusiasm about finding other ways of partnering.
- Starting to build funding mechanisms for expensive lake management plans that we might want to carry out.

Katie elaborated on several lines in the budget relating to the agreed upon priorities, recognizing that many of our expenses will be stable from one year to the next.

Income is from a mixture of donations and dues. Jan said that we usually have around 200 members, which is about half of the families that live in the watershed. Many give more than the basic membership fee of \$55. Fees alone would be about \$11,000 of our approximately \$35,000 annual income. In a discussion of funding sources, Jan offered to send out an analysis of donation history and how many people give at different levels.

Stormwater Drain Filters Many actions recommended in the Lake Management Plan require extensive fund raising. At the last meeting, Ron Tetelman proposed starting with a lower cost initiative: retrofitting the stormwater catch basins with filters. This was briefly discussed with the EOH Watershed Corp. The Board expressed interest in investigating this approach. Paul Lewis suggested that any interested members could begin the

investigation by walking around to inspect stormwater drains that empty into the lakes, and identify possible candidates for filters. Since filter boxes work best when clear of debris, Jan Andersen suggested that if we go forward, we might want to ask residents to “adopt a stormwater basin” and clear away any leaves, debris and sediment that accumulates. We agreed to get more information on this.

Other Possible Initiatives:

- Doug Housman suggested encouraging demonstration projects that would showcase good shoreline practices that reduce phosphorus entering the lakes.
- Darrell Alfieri suggested that we could make and post interpretive signs on sample projects to explain the purpose of stormwater mitigation plantings, and include a description of “Here’s how you can help.”
- Tim Kennedy suggested making a map of “lake smart houses” that have buffer plantings along shorelines that people could check out while boating on the lakes.

Project cost estimates Jan Andersen has asked Solitude Lake Management and Princeton Hydro for preliminary cost estimates for the application of alum or Phoslock. This would help get a better idea on the scale of fundraising that might be needed.

Fish Stocking Ron Tetelman requested that the Board include funding for fish stocking in the 2020 budget. Doug Housman made a motion that \$2,000 be put in the budget for stocking Brown Trout. The motion was seconded by Ron Tetelman.

Discussion points:

- Those in favor noted that previous stocking has provided about 20 years of good fishing. They estimated that about 20 people fish on the lakes. Ron Tetelman will try to verify the active fishermen that have lake rights.
- Some board members wanted to know more before including stocking in the budget:
 - How is the warming of lake waters affecting fish die-off?
 - What are the long term effects on the lakes of stocking non-native fish such as brown trout?
- Some felt that with lakes near crisis level regarding phosphorus levels, it seems unwise to add phosphorus via non-native fish.
- Although the Lake Management Plan suggested having a fish survey done, several questioned what would be learned, and the consensus was to not initiate a fish study at this time.

The motion to include funds for fish stocking in the budget was narrowly defeated. The general view of those who voted against the stocking was that the vote was at a point in time when more needed to be known about the effect of stocking a non-native fish in our lakes, recognizing that the scientific view of stocking fish had changed over the years. The group emphasized that this was not primarily a monetary decision, but a question of lake impacts. We agreed to continue this discussion after Jan Andersen and Ron Tetelman gather more information.

Outreach and Education In response to our decision to do more resident outreach on phosphorus reduction actions, Jan has drafted wording for **postcards** that highlight “best lake practices” for each season. Since these ideas are in place, it will be easier to mail postcards to watershed residents during 2020. The budget should cover these mailings.

The Board supported Ron Tetelman’s suggestion that we consider scheduling one communication or fundraising event for next year. The Board agreed to increase the amount budgeted for an **educational seminar** from \$1,000 to \$2,000. Darrell indicated

that Waccabuc Country Club would be interested in hosting. Jan will investigate possible speakers, including someone from the Cary Institute, the DEC, or a speaker at one of the regional lake conferences she organizes regularly.

Doug Housman said that he is out of **new member packets** and they need updating. These packets are given to new residents to introduce them to our organization and inform them about what they can do to protect the health of the lakes. Several volunteered to help review the materials and stuff packets including Ron Tetelman, Peter Gross, Darrell Alfieri, and Paul and Jean Lewis.

Budget Approval Upon a motion by Ron Tetelman, seconded by Paul Lewis, the Board unanimously approved the proposed budget.

Other Business:

50th Anniversary in 2020 The Board brainstormed about how to mark the 50th Anniversary of the Three Lakes Council, which will occur in 2020. A book of historical lake photos will also be considered. Jean Lewis has been compiling old photos. This discussion will continue at the next meeting.

Trees for Tribs The Board approved having Jan apply for Long Pond Preserve to be included in the 2020 Trees for Tribs program. The trees are provided at no cost by the DEC and come with deer protection guards. If approved, volunteers will be needed to plant these trees at Long Pond Preserve to reduce runoff and erosion.

Other fundraising ideas: The group discussed items that might remind residents of the Three Lakes Council and encourage them to donate, such as a calendar or static cling sticker. The general feeling was that adding incentives to the mailings was not worthwhile. Darrell mentioned a fundraising approach by Waccabuc Country Club using an A1A company website. The site has promotional materials that can be ordered directly from A1A with a portion of proceeds going to the sponsoring organization. In addition, we discussed having stand-alone fundraising events or making meetings more appealing by combining them with music or a party atmosphere. We will continue this discussion.

The next meeting will be in February or March.

The meeting adjourned at 9:15 PM with warm holiday wishes for all.

Respectfully submitted,
Jean Lewis, Secretary

3LC 2019 Annual Budget (New Format)_As of December 4, 2019

	2016 Actual	2017 Actual	2018 Actual	2019 Budget	2019 YTD	2019 Outlook	2020 Budget		2019 Amount Under/Over Budget (vs Outlook)
Income									
Membership & Donations	\$ 35,607	\$ 35,101	\$ 35,257	\$ 35,000	\$ 27,653	\$ 35,000	\$ 60,000	**	\$ -
Expenses									
Lake Studies									
CSLAP	\$ 1,410	\$ 1,410	\$ 2,820	\$ 1,410	\$ 1,410	\$ 1,410	\$ 1,410		\$ -
NYS FOLA Dues	\$ 175	\$ 175	\$ 350	\$ 175	\$ 175	\$ 175	\$ 175		\$ -
Lake Consultant Goop/Zoop	\$ 1,700	\$ 1,200	\$ 420	\$ 1,250	\$ 1,326	\$ 1,326	\$ 1,400		\$ (76)
Water Testing (Non-CSLAP)	\$ 802	\$ 1,061	\$ 2,971	\$ 2,000	\$ 2,107	\$ 2,507	\$ 2,500		\$ (507)
Watershed Plan	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 12,583	\$ -	\$ 2,517	\$ 2,517	\$ -		\$ (2,517)
Implementation of Watershed Plan*	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 5,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 5,000	**	\$ 5,000
Equipment*	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 700	\$ 700	\$ 250		\$ (700)
Software (Biobase Mapping)*	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 1,500	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -		\$ 1,500
Stewardship (3 Lakes Only)									
Fish Stocking	\$ 1,950	\$ 2,000	\$ 2,000	\$ 2,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	**	\$ 2,000
Goose & Beaver Control	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 1,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -		\$ 1,000
Waccabuc Dam	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -		\$ -
Tree work (Not on Long Pond)	\$ -	\$ 1,300	\$ 700	\$ 1,500	\$ 1,500	\$ -	\$ 1,500	**	\$ 1,500
Weed Committee	\$ -	\$ 337	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -		\$ -
Boat Stickers	\$ -	\$ 2,517	\$ 20	\$ 30	\$ 11	\$ -	\$ 30		\$ 30
Aerator Consult/Maint*	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -		\$ -
Equipment*	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -		\$ -
Petruccelli*	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 10,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 10,000		\$ 10,000
Stewardship (Long Pond Only)									
Long Pond Preserve Stewardship	\$ 4,952	\$ 901	\$ 1,133	\$ 5,000	\$ 508	\$ -	\$ 5,000		\$ 5,000
Long Pond Preserve Security	\$ -	\$ 3,032	\$ 2,847	\$ 7,500	\$ 5,918	\$ 5,918	\$ 7,500		\$ 1,582
Long Pond Management Plan*	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 5,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	**	\$ 5,000
Invasive Species									
Invasive Species Monitoring	\$ 13,469	\$ 2,941	\$ -	\$ 5,600	\$ 11,927	\$ 11,927	\$ 8,434		\$ (6,327)
Education & Outreach									
Annual Meeting Potluck	\$ 1,488	\$ 1,276	\$ 1,394	\$ 2,000	\$ 1,187	\$ 1,187	\$ 2,000	**	\$ 813
Newsletter / Stewardship Mailings	\$ -	\$ 1,788	\$ 1,926	\$ 2,500	\$ 1,914	\$ 2,114	\$ 5,000	**	\$ 387
Website	\$ 1,224	\$ 50	\$ 312	\$ 750	\$ 1,076	\$ 1,076	\$ 200		\$ (326)
Software (GIS)	\$ 100	\$ 107	\$ -	\$ 150	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -		\$ 150
User Survey	\$ 499	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 200		\$ -
Professional Conf/Meetings*	\$ -	\$ 259	\$ 259	\$ 1,500	\$ 294	\$ 710	\$ 1,500		\$ 791
Educational Seminars*	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 1,000	\$ 91	\$ 91	\$ 1,000	**	\$ 909
Overhead/Administrative Expenses									
Insurance	\$ 4,008	\$ 4,008	\$ 4,148	\$ 4,200	\$ 4,411	\$ 4,411	\$ 4,500		\$ (211)
Taxes/Fees	\$ 843	\$ 611	\$ 593	\$ 625	\$ 523	\$ 523	\$ 625		\$ 102
Admin-Printing/Membership/Fundraising	\$ 3,519	\$ 3,676	\$ 1,916	\$ 2,000	\$ 1,145	\$ 1,655	\$ 2,500	**	\$ 345
Software (Quickbooks)	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 50	\$ -		\$ (50)
Disputed Charges/Bank Fees	\$ (971)	\$ -	\$ 29	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -		\$ -
Misc. Expenses				\$ 750	\$ 156	\$ 156	\$ 750		\$ 594
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$ 35,169	\$ 28,649	\$ 36,422	\$ 64,440	\$ 38,894	\$ 38,451	\$ 61,474		\$ 25,989
* Denotes "soft items" - managed depending on organization resources and volunteers									
FIRM EXPENSES: TOTAL EXPENSES LESS SOFT ITEM	\$ 35,169	\$ 28,390	\$ 36,163	\$ 40,440	\$ 37,809	\$ 36,950	\$ 43,724		
Income - Total Expenses	\$ 438	\$ 6,452	\$ (1,165)	\$ (29,440)	\$ (11,241)	\$ (3,451)	\$ (1,474)		
Income - Firm Expenses Only	\$ 438	\$ 6,711	\$ (905)	\$ (5,440)	\$ (10,156)	\$ (1,950)	\$ 16,276		