

MINUTES
MEETING OF BOARD OF DIRECTORS
THREE LAKES COUNCIL
DATE: January 19, 2023

A Zoom meeting of the Board of Directors of the Three Lakes Council was held on January 19, 2023. Present were:

Janet Andersen, President
Peter Gross, Vice President, Two Lake Club alt.
Ellen Bailey, Treasurer, Perch Bay Association alt.
Jean Lewis, Secretary, at-large rep.
Doug Housman, Lake Waccabuc Association representative, Membership Chair
Paul Lewis, Twin Lakes rep.
Jonathan Peter, South Shore Assoc. rep.; Water Clarity Comm. Chair
Kevin Karl, Lake Oscaleta Assoc. alt.; Long Pond Preserve Trail Steward
John Lemke, Lake Waccabuc alt.; Long Pond Security Steward
Bonnie Robins, Perch Bay Association rep.
Linda Broudy, Waccabuc Landowners Council alt.
Ron Tetelman, Lakeside Association rep.

President Janet Andersen called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM.

CONFLICT OF INTEREST POLICY: Non-profit board members are required by the State to certify annually that they have reviewed the Three Lake Council Conflict of Interest Policy. Jan Andersen said she will distribute the form and ask board members to copy and paste the certification statement into an email, electronically sign and date it, and email it to her.

TAX RETURN: Jan will distribute the Three Lakes Council tax return to the Board for review before filing it on May 15th. She indicated we had a good year financially – although we spent more than typical, we had some very generous donations as well.

ACTIONS SINCE OUR LAST MEETING

Channel maintenance: The Beaver Committee has successfully cleared beaver debris from the culvert area since about 2012, but last year residents reported that canoe/kayak passage through the Waccabuc-Oscaleta Channel had become difficult or impossible because of mid-channel beaver debris which had been accumulating for years. Cooney Tree & Landscaping Service was hired to clear mid-channel debris, and as a result, residents can once again enjoy paddling between the lakes. Because this will not stop beavers from continuing with their construction work, there will be an ongoing need for debris removal, and we will budget for it. Previous discussion of dredging the channel has been dropped because the channel is too narrow for large dredging equipment, and we don't have a place to launch it.

Long Pond Preserve maintenance: Ten or eleven dangerous ash trees were cut down on the Preserve by Cooney Tree & Landscaping Service. Jan thanked Kevin for all his work on Long Pond preserve and for overseeing this project.

Oscaleta Culvert Replacement: After observing serious deterioration inside the culvert between Oscaleta and Waccabuc, the Town Engineer recommended to the Town Board that it be replaced. Since the Town Board did not budget for its replacement, Jan Andersen worked on the grant application with the town. If the Town wins the grant, it will be about 2 years before the culvert replacement will be installed.

Long Pond Preserve EOH Stormwater Retrofit Project: Jan reported that the previously distributed design plan has not changed. As one erosion control measure, East of Hudson is hoping to install willow stakes, but is concerned that there might be a supply issue. Two Tarry-a-bit homeowners gave verbal agreement to allow work to be done on their properties; a signed document is pending. EOH hopes for installation this Spring, after they have obtained any necessary permits from the Town.
(Project details were included in the 10/27/22 Board Minutes which are posted on the Three Lake Council Website).

Motion: Jonathan Peter made a motion to approve having the Executive Committee approve the installation agreement, and the committee will come back to the board if they feel it is necessary. The motion was seconded by Kevin Karl and unanimously approved.

Clarity Committee - Sewer Committee Concept Plan Update: Jonathan Peter reported on the plan under consideration to install a sewer line to go from all small parcels on our three lakes, plus those on Truesdale and Kitchawan, to an expanded sewage treatment plant at the former Lewisboro Elementary School. To move this effort forward, representatives from the Sewer Committee and the Lewisboro Lakes Committee are meeting with Town, County and State legislators. Jonathan said there is consensus among all that it is worth looking at a proposal.

Clarity - Septic Committee: The focus of the Septic Committee is to get lake residents to regularly pump out their septic tanks. County pump-out reports have proven to be flawed, which has made enforcement difficult. The committee met with Lake Association presidents to see how they felt it would be appropriate to proceed with their members.

Plants and Algae: Jan reported that nutrient inactivation measures have not yet been approved by the DEC.

ONGOING PLANS FOR 2023:

- Geese patrol will resume in April.
- The annual membership appeal is scheduled for April.
- Trout stocking will be done in April.
- CSLAP testing will continue as normal, with supplemental shoulder season testing.
- The Newsletter will be mailed in June and include information on the septic/sewer project.
- Mile-a-minute weevils will be purchased and released on Long Pond Preserve.
- The annual meeting will be held in July or August, at a date convenient for the Waccabuc County Club.
- An aquatic plant assessment will be done on Waccabuc with the goal of early identification of any invasive species.
- Stewardship/septic postcards will be mailed, including some on the septic topic.

TREASURER'S REPORT: Treasurer Ellen Bailey reported that for seven years our liquid assets have been growing, and we have not spent much of what we budgeted for. She asked the Board to consider making some of our money work for us by purchasing CDs that offer a good interest rate and provide liquidity, if needed.

Motion: Following discussion, Ellen made a motion that the Board put \$100,000 into two M&T Bank CDs as follows: \$50,000 in a 12-month CD with 3.680% interest, and \$50,000 in an 18-month CD with 3.920% interest. She will ask M&T Bank to let her know if they are offering CD specials with higher interest rates. Jonathan seconded the motion, and all voted in favor. Jan thanked Ellen for taking the lead on this.

BUDGET REQUEST: T Rajwer was unable to attend the meeting but sent an email requesting that \$20,000 be budgeted "for the hiring of engineers and attorneys (as needed) for the Water Clarity Sewer/Septic Concept plan initiative...to show that we are fully behind this initiative." Board members didn't support budgeting for it at this time but agreed that the Executive Committee will bring it to the Board when more is known about the plan.

LAKE OSCALETA REPORT: Kevin Karl reported that T Rajwer sent out pumping information from the County to the 25-30 members of his association. After that, an association member asked Kevin which pumping company he uses, which Kevin reported as a positive result. Jan mentioned that a list of septic pump-out companies with their contact information is on the Three Lakes Council website.

COMPREHENSIVE PLAN: The Board was reminded that the Comprehensive Plan process is underway and this is an opportunity to voice your vision of Lewisboro.

NEXT MEETING: The next meeting of the Board will be held on April 20th, or earlier if necessary.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:15 PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Jean Lewis, Secretary