

Minutes of ELPOI Annual Meeting July 15, 2006

The meeting, at Chilson Community Center, began at 10:02 with 33 people present.

President Sue Barwig, presiding, welcomed everyone. Bryon Brandow and Bill Armeno, two new residents, introduced themselves. A table at the back of the room had an attendee sign-in sheet, an Adopt-A-Highway volunteer sign-up sheet, and offered copies of a Lake George Assoc. flyer on invasive species, and a safe boating flyer.

AGENDA:

The Agenda was posted on the wall blackboard.

ROLL CALL:

Rin explained that membership is established by paying dues. The bylaws specify a membership date of record for voting in the Annual Meeting. However, ELPOI precedent has been that anyone paying dues prior to the Annual Meeting is a “member in good standing” and can fully participate in the affairs of the organization. The gathered meeting voted to continue operating under that precedent.

ANNUAL RESOLUTION:

Secretary Caroline Baldwin read this document that defines the mission of ELPOI and the meeting adopted it.

2005 ANNUAL MEETING MINUTES:

Caroline Baldwin read these and the meeting approved them as written.

ANNUAL REPORT:

Caroline Baldwin read the Annual Report of the Board of Directors. Rolf Tiedemann requested one change: the addition of Allied Biological as participants in the December 15 meeting about using herbicides within the APA to combat milfoil.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

- 1) Membership - As of the meeting, 54 residents were members and 4 families were associate members.
- 2) Water Quality - Paul Burroughs reported no beaver action at the dam during the past year. During 2006, the lake level has been as high as 17 inches above the neutral mark on the gauge at the causeway, and as low as 2 inches. It is now at 8.inches

Three programs check annually on water quality.

- A) ELPOI participates in the Citizens Statewide Lake Assessment Program (CSLAP) to test for minerals in the lake water. Access is via the Federation of Lake Associations (FOLA.) Rolf recommended the FOLA conference held every

Spring. Rin has the latest CSLPA report on his PC. He will ask Carlos Alden to add this information to the website; earlier reports are on the website. Lloyd and Paul Burroughs reported that the lake continues to have very good quality water with high clarity. They take, and mail to CSLAP, samples from Eagle Lake every 2 weeks during the summer. Testing this summer began in June; the 5th test will be on July 16.

According to Rin Fraize, the calcium content reported for 2005 averaged 12; in 2004 the average was 11.8. Limestone around the lake, not salt run-off from the road, is believed to be the source of the calcium in the water. Limestone also keeps the water from being acid. Zebra mussels, an invasive species, cannot survive in water with levels of calcium under 10. No zebra mussels have been reported to date.

B) Secchi disk transparency readings, taken by the Burroughs, measure visible distance. In 2005, clarity consistently measured near six meters, a slight reduction from previous years attributed to sediment washed into the lake from heavy rains.

C) Rin Fraize reported that he takes supplemental water samples from four sites in the lake soon after Labor Day - from Ti Bay, near Charles Island, east of the causeway, and from the west end to the south of the causeway. These samples go to a lab to test for coliform bacteria. All measurements have been well within the state criteria for personal recreational use. This testing is supplemental and is not covered by CSLAP it is conducted with ELPOI funding.

Note: Over the past few years ELPOI has applied to International Paper for grant monies to help defray the costs associated with the CSLAP and supplemental water testing costs. Thanks to IP for their support of ELPOI on this issue.

- 3) Fish Stocking - Rin Fraize read a report from Andy Belkevich that the lake was stocked twice with trout from the Crown Point Hatchery: 800 two-year olds running 15-18" in October and 1600 fingerlings in April.
- 4) Adopt-A-Highway - Todd and Tonya Condon have made 8 or 9 major clean-ups along the Route 74. Lloyd and Paul Burroughs also have cleaned along the route. Everyone was invited to volunteer to clean trash from along the roadside.

Neighborhood Watch - handouts are on table at back of the room.

- 5) Milfoil Control - Rolf Tiedemann summarized the recent research, meetings, and work toward eradicating milfoil. Hand harvesting off Forest Lisle's property on the west end during September and October of 2005 was a not cost effective or an efficient removal method. About 30 hours of diver time, and several hundred hours of topside support volunteer time, yielded only enough removed milfoil to barley fill 3 small pick-up trucks, and the milfoil patch remains. At a December 15th 2005 conference, that ELPOI initiated, a representative from Allied

Biological, who chaired the meeting with Rolf, explained about sonar application to curtailed isolated patches of dense milfoil. Lake George was denied a permit for such herbicide application several years ago. The conference was well attended and important for sharing views and networking.

A NYS Invasive Species Eradication Grant application submitted in February to NYS DEC for eradication of milfoil was not successful. A meeting scheduled for 12th July with Senator Betty Little and members of ELPOI, DEC, APA, and Adirondack Council has been postponed until end of the month. The purpose of this meeting is to discuss future directions for milfoil control. Rolf believes the Executive Director of the Adirondack Council is supportive of ELPOI efforts to fight milfoil. Rolf said Eagle Lake is known state wide for its work on the milfoil problem.

International Paper donated about 5,000 sq. ft. of mill wire (a very heavy plastic window screen type material) in 25 foot X 18 foot pieces and several pieces of 20 foot X 50 foot of mill felt (a very heavy cloth felt material). Both can be used, with rebar for weighting, to make mats to smother milfoil.

Recommendation is for mats to remain 60-90 days in place. Elsewhere, mats were left in the lake over the winter and then removed or relocated. Milfoil normally grows 3-15 ft. deep; in Eagle Lake some milfoil grows as deep as 30 feet, due to the especially clear water.

Rolf offered copies of son Michael's data sheet on milfoil identification and removal and offered to loan the photo booklet Michael prepared that depicts all the plants found in the lake. (Copies of this information is also available on Eagle Lakes web site) Rolf said the Darien Lake Freshwater Institute compiled plant lists in 1933, 1960s, and 1987, that include some endangered and threatened and rare plants. These lists were used to compile the booklet depicting the plants. He mentioned a Glens Falls newspaper article and the first annual Adirondack Park Invasive Species Awareness Week (ISAW), July 9-15, an initiative of Hillary Oles and the Adirondack Nature Conservancy.

Bill Baldwin spoke about the danger of using an herbicide since there is no complete inventory of all the microorganisms nor understanding of their functions. Wendy Davis spoke up to clarify that, while we have some lists, not all species have been discovered.

Rin said he believes the likelihood is not high that the APA and other officials will permit use of herbicide in the APA. A question of whether the bottom of the lake is inside the special category called "Forest Preserve" is important. No approval has yet been given for use of herbicide within the "Forest Preserve."

Forest Lisle asked about presence of moths and weevils in Eagle Lake. Dr. Bob Johnson, research scientist at Cornell, reports that the number of moths and weevils needed to kill milfoil is 10 times the number normally found on the plants.

Wendy Davis asked about homeowners clearing milfoil from their property's waterfront. Rolf explained that the APA permits hand harvesting of up to 1000 sq. ft as long as at least 200 sq. ft. of vegetation remains.

Sue Barwig thanked the Board for its work over year, much of it via email, in preparing the NYS milfoil eradication grant and dealing with other lake issues.

TREASURERS REPORT:

Rin presented 2005 - 2006 annual report and proposed budget for 2006-2007. The proposed budget shows a deficit; 2005-2006 showed a surplus. The deficit is associated with the cost of Liability insurance for the Board. It is included in the budget at an estimated figure of \$1500. Adequate insurance may cost more. Rin reminded all that the picnic is a fundraiser, and that ELPOI is a 501 (c) (3) organization. Report and budget were approved. Rin offered copies of a map showing residents' names and locations around Eagle Lake.

NOMINATIONS & ELECTIONS:

No nominations were made from the floor. The slate proposed by the Board of Directors was elected unanimously, as follows:

President - Jere Paddack

Vice President - Rolf Tiedemann

Treasurer - Rin Fraize

Secretary - Todd Condon

Officer terms are one year.

New Board Members:

Andy Belkevich and Lloyd Burroughs for full 3-year terms.

Jim Schultz for the 2 year unexpired term vacated by Rolf Tiedemann.

Continuing Members:

John Pynn and Lew Zankel - both have one more year on term.

NEW BUSINESS:

Jim Davis asked is anyone knew the long range plans of NYS Dept. of Transportation plans for work on Route 74, particularly any reconstruction of the causeway. A major change to the height of the causeway bridge could lead to a change in the character of the lake, as larger boats would be able to pass under the bridge. No one had any information. Jim suggested ELPOI keep current with NYS DOT plans and request that the height of the bridge not change.

Donations from ELPOI funds will remain at the same level as last year:

Chilson Fire Department \$200

Ti Emergency Squad \$100

Interlakes Health Center \$200

Crown Pt. Fire and Emergency \$50

Announcements:

Jim Davis is selling tickets for the annual Chilson Volunteer Fire Department barbecue on July 22. On behalf of the Volunteer Fire Department, Jim thanked those at the meeting for their donations and participation in the annual Fire Dept. raffle, a major fundraiser.

Bill Knauss is selling Rotary Club raffle tickets for a kayak - the proceeds benefit town projects.

2007 ANNUAL MEETING date will be on:
July 14, 2007

2006 ANNUAL MEETING was adjourned at 11:30