

ELPOI Board of Directors Meeting

July 14, 2001

Meeting was at Tiedemann home with the following present: Rolf Tiedemann, Todd Condon, Cole Hickland, Jim Davis, and Rin Fraize. There was not a quorum at the beginning of the meeting - Jim Davis arrived later.

Rolf Tiedemann conducted the meeting. Purpose of the meeting was to review status of ELPOI initiatives and communications.

A couple of sweatshirts remain available for sale. 11 sweatshirts were given away to politicians and others. Rin Fraize supported the Sect. And VP in recommending that gifts to politicians and anyone else is not a good practice, especially in lieu of ELPOI expenses exceeding income. The matter was discussed again later after Rin Fraize left. Rolf said that everyone who has been given a sweatshirt had done something specifically for ELPOI. The Board members agreed that such gifts are an inexpensive thank you gesture.

APA denied the request from the Lake George Association to use SONAR to treat milfoil in Lake George. The APA has requested a public hearing be held. Among the reasons were presence of 4 endangered plants and concerns on method of application. Pat Hyde suggests this is a good time to write a letter to the Times of Ticonderoga about milfoil in Eagle Lake. Todd Condon suggested Rolf speak with his mother at IP to get pictures of IP grant presentation at Annual Meeting and use that in a letter to press. Rolf presented ideas for letter content.

Rolf reported that an ELPOI member offered a \$500.00 donation to the organization to serve as a base to the bank account at Charter One Bank in Ticonderoga. The donor wishes to remain anonymous. As long as \$500 is maintained in that account no bank fees will be incurred.

No bill has been received from Tom Hebert for removal of three beavers. One remains to be removed from dam area. Since Paul Burroughs will be away for a few days, Todd Condon volunteered to clean beaver construction material from dam area this week. Later, Rolf said he would handle the clearing or get Pete Stone to do it. Todd said he would monitor the lake level.

Carlos Alden has set up a website for ELPOI to provide minutes, correspondence, pictures, and other information about the lake, milfoil, etc. The service will cost about \$15 - \$20 per month. Several people have accessed the site to date. Rin Fraize suggested that the costs per those served maybe too great. About 40% of members have email. Carlos Alden has been paying bills for the website. Roger Wickes has donated \$100.00 for the website. Should ELPOI continue to pay for this website? A counter can determine the number of website visits over a few months to indicate website utility to ELPOI.

Roger Wickes suggested to Rolf that ELPOI might not need to continue purchasing liability insurance for the Board of Directors. Rin Fraize strongly recommended that ELPOI continue purchasing the insurance.

Roger Wickes will head up a committee, to include Jim Davis and Paul Burroughs, to review and revise By-laws. Simplification of By-laws should facilitate understanding and compliance of ELPOI operation with the By-laws. Also, too much detail and specificity may impede members from volunteering to serve.

Discussion ensued about the lack of voting power for the ELPOI officers. The current VP, Treasurer, and Secretary believe these officers should have the vote as well as the Board of Directors.

Members at the meeting agreed that, while sympathy cards are appropriate to families of deceased members, no greater expenditures should be made for such purposes.

Jim Davis pointed out that gate and key issues have not been resolved for access to Wickes property. Fire Department cannot get through gate to access fire hydrant that would facilitate fire protection in that area Jim pointed out that water supply from the fire hydrant is quicker than setting up equipment to pump from the lake.

A resolution was created concerning operation of bank account with Charter One Bank, the bank of the ELPOI in Ticonderoga. This is a revision of an earlier Annual Resolution. The other Annual Resolutions were briefly reviewed. Discussion will continue at next BOD meeting. Todd Condon will make copies of the By-laws, the Annual Resolutions, and Rolf's list of contact people. These will be provided to all those Board members without copy. Rolf pointed out that the organization has not signed the Annual Resolutions each year as it should but had voted to accept them as previously written..

Considerable discussion transpired in regard to people fishing from the causeway, parking cars on private property near the causeway, and making fires in Town parking property at west end of the lake.

A policy on giving plaques was discussed: who should get one and who not ? Jim Davis recommended Peter Buechner should be given a plaque for his long service of 30 years duration but that those who serve shorter terms (Roger Wickes) not be so recognized. Recognition of others would be discussed further. Rolf would like to recognize all past officers in some way - perhaps a list of all past presidents could be posted on the website.

Caroline Baldwin said she would consider helping run a yard sale next year. How to handle the leftovers?? Dump it? Return it to original owner? Rolf reported that Pat Hyde offered to work on fund raising also.

Jim Davis recommended that ELPOI make an effort to show interest in continuing its membership in COLAM by sending a letter to Don Milne at COLAM. The letter should request information on the status of COLAM and the status of ELPOI membership. The letter should state that ELPOI believes that COLAM is a valuable entity and that ELPOI wishes to continue being an active member of COLAM. A related issue is that COLAM was the entity awarded grant money by NYS for use in a SONAR demonstration project in Eagle Lake.

A write-up of the visit by Army Corps of Engineers would be valuable – from ELPOI and from the Corps. Rolf recommended asking the Corps for a budget of how they will spend the money (\$10,000) they have committed on behalf of Eagle Lake. Is there an issue that Corps expenditures may only be paid on a reimbursable basis? Since the Corps does not normally deal with plants, does the Corps have the expertise to help Eagle Lake? Or should ELPOI work with Waterway Experimental Station (WES), a research arm of the CORPS. WES may be a more expensive involvement. Rolf estimated a SONAR treatment of Eagle Lake might cost \$200,000 including all pre and post application monitoring

\$25,000 was appropriated two years ago from Sen. Stafford's office and may still be available for use in implementing milfoil treatment. A \$15,000 NYS grant is due at some point, including \$7,500 pending completion of the stormwater run-off report from DEC and a further \$7,500 from ELPOI in kind work. About \$23,000 was pledged by ELPOI members but \$10,000 of that was from someone now deceased. How much can be raised from members may be revealed in survey returns?

Cole Hickland will take water samples late August or early Sept. from:Ti Bay, middle of lake, and off the point and one from west end across causeway. These need to be done on a weekday or late on a Sunday so samples can be dropped off on a weekday at Bolton Landing for analysis. CSLAP is continuing to test as well.

Caroline Baldwin