



SLPID APPROVED MINUTES

July 14, 2020, 2:00 pm

A meeting of the Saratoga Lake Protection and Improvement District was held on July 14, 2020 at 10:00 am at the Town of Malta Community Park due to COVID-19 NYS "Pause".

SLPID Lake Administrator: Cristina Connolly . SLPID Commissioners: Tom Carrangi, Karl Hardcastle, Kathy Simmonds, Walter Supley. Assistant Treasurer: Michael VanPatten. Weed Harvesting Supervisor, Lonnie Van Buren, Lake Consultants: Tracey Clothier, Dean Long. SLPID Attorney: Michelle Anderson. Public attended: Pat Tuz, Victor Mazzotti, Jennifer Glagov.

Call to Order: The monthly meeting was called to order at 10:00 am at the town of Malta Community Park by Secretary, Debbie Curto. The Agenda was presented for review. Dean Long presented COVID attendance sheet and questions to all present, which all verbally agreed to no symptoms of COVID-19.

Public Comments:

For the record, no public comment, no email comments received.

Secretary's Report: (Debbie Curto)

Public notice published for meeting. (with time and location change)

A review of the June minutes was presented, Kathy Simmonds MADE A MOTION to accept the minutes as noted, 2nd by Karl Hardcastle, MOTION CARRIED.

Kathy Simmonds MADE A MOTION to approve Secretary's Report, 2nd by Karl Hardcastle, MOTION CARRIED.

The following documents/exhibits used at the meeting:

1. Agenda
2. Draft Minutes
3. Public Notice

Assistant Treasurer's Report: (Mike VanPatten)

Register report and statement of revenue and expenditures were distributed to Commissioners via email prior to meeting for review. Kathy Simmonds MADE A MOTION TO pay bills in the amount of \$8634.60 including two add on from Creative Advantage \$59 and \$49, 2nd by Karl Hardcastle, MOTION CARRIED. Kathy Simmonds MADE A MOTION to ACCEPT the Assistant treasurer's report 2nd by Karl Hardcastle, MOTION CARRIED.

The following documents/exhibits used at the meeting: (submitted via email prior to meeting because of COVID-19)

1. Financial Statements: Balance Sheet, Income Statement.
2. Monthly Bank Reconciliations
3. Weekly Payroll Reports
4. Monthly Vendor and Invoices

Lake Administrator / Stewardship : (Cristina Connolly)

Very few weeds were noted on the shoreline, with the exception of the north end (winds coming from the south). Residents calling saying it is the weed harvesters dropping weeds. However, harvesters were not being used yet. The Harvesters started a couple weeks later than usual because of the Pandemic. Emails received were complaints on too many docks, boats, water level, drainage pipes going into lake, etc.. all emails were answered and given to Debbie for the SLPID file.

Marine Patrol has been very busy on the lake with the amount of increased traffic. Citations are being issued for various violations. (BWI and navigation). DEC was called due to an oil discharge on the lake. (7 citations for that issue)

Fish Creek area has had an increase in usage. Marine Patrol has had several issues with jet skis on both sides of the bridge.

Town Supervisor (Stillwater) Ed Kinowski, and Mayor Meg Kelly reached out to SLPID regarding complaints of residents obtaining Swimmers Itch from swimming in the lake.

Couple calls for speeding boats.

Chazen Companies called -they are in the process of gathering data for the waterfront revitalization plan for Stillwater. Skidmore, SLA, Bleu will also be involved when a sub committee is formed.

Lake Stewards have been very busy. Between the dates of May 30, 2020 – July 7,

2020, 4982 boat inspections were completed. The Stewards average approximately 10-15 boat washes per day. Exit Survey is currently being completed for all boaters leaving the lake.

Couple calls have been received regarding closure/blocking of a city easement on Arrowhead Road.

Neighborhood watch signs were put on up. Cristina has reached out to the city for a response.

Lake Level Report: (Tom Carringi)

203.3

CSLAP Report: (Karl Hardcastle)

Visibility is at 12 feet. Reports will be submitted to put on website. E-coli tests were taken yesterday. Dean took samples on Sucker Brook and will forward the results.

Aquatic Weed Control: (Dean Long)

Hybrid Transport Barge: We have only received one bid. They were to be postmarked by Friday July 10th. \$409,257.00 from Aquarius Systems (N Prairie, Wisconsin) Alpha Bid was going to submit a bid. They have an AMEX 1000 harvesting machine with backhoe set up but not with barge was going to be a 2nd bid. We have not yet received it as of yet. Dean was hoping for bid to be \$250,000. Thoughts are to hold off on this expense and perhaps look at purchasing a third harvester. Hybrid machine approach is not panning out as we had hoped. Herbicide Applications Update: Treatment on the North end location appears to be a success. 3 Rake toss yielded not milfoil. Treatment on the South end of the lake has resulted with no curly leaf pondweed. Both considered successful treatments.

GIS Devices are operating and collecting data on the harvesters. BioBase will work with us to optimize and translate the data. The upload seems to be very slow at his residence.

Weed Harvesting Report (Lonnie VanBuren)

Diminishing weeds. There are some water chestnuts. It would be helpful if residents pulled out the water chestnuts when they see them. It would be ideal if we could educate the public on invasive water chestnuts and how to quickly can rid of them. They are invasive.

We currently harvest approximately 7-8 loads per day. 40 minutes for each truckload (each load from the harvester has 2-3 truckloads required for dumping) Current dumpsite is at Malta Ridge Farm. We would like to get some additional sites that are closer to the lake. Another dump truck in the future would be useful. Cristina Connolly stated she reached out to Skip Scirocco. He will find out if the city will take any of the weeds. SLPID weeds are considered agricultural for composting.

We've had 2 breakdowns on the equipment. First breakdown was key broke on the boat resulting in machine time loss of 5-6 hours. 2nd machine brake down was hydraulic hose. Oil did spill in the lake (it is biodegradable – vegetable oil based)

Listing of Tools – At this time a list of tools was not put together as most of their day is spent on the lake harvesting.

Communications Report: (Walter Supley)

June newsletter is complete. 107 have signed up for notifications. Training on website by Sarah Cole to teach Debbie how to upload documents to the website.

Old Business:

Review of the 2021 Budget. Resulted in change for administrative salaries to \$75,000. Change of name on line item to Outside Professional Services. Kathy Simmonds MADE A MOTION to approve the 2021 budget which will be presented to the general public at the next meeting, 2nd by Walter Supley, MOTION CARRIED.

Attorney, Michelle Anderson gave an explanation of how candidates are presented to the County Board of Supervisors. Traditionally SLPID sent recommendations to the County Board of Supervisors to be considered for appointment. Michelle stated any individual may reach out to the County Board of Supervisors to be considered. Dean questioned if any other seat was up for election this year. Currently the Commissioner At Large position is available (due to Cristina Connolly resignation). Kathy Simmonds term will expire on 12/31/2020.

Letter was sent to Town Supervisors and City Mayor announcing the vacancy for the Commissioner at Large Commissioner.

Three interested parties attended the SLPID meeting expressing an interest in becoming involved with SLPID. Secretary invited Victor Mazzotti to provide a brief introduction. He is a licensed attorney and serves as a senior partner with the Law firm of Martin Harding and Mazzotti. Currently resides at 2 Stone Creek Dr. Stillwater. Is active and serves on several boards throughout the U.S.

Secretary invited Jessica Glagov to provide a brief introduction. Jessica currently resides at 2 Aft Court, Stillwater. Jessica is a licensed pharmacist with CVS. She is interested in serving on the board.

Secretary invited Pat Tuz to provide a brief introduction. Pat currently resides on Crescent Ave. She has attended several SLPID meetings and wants to be involved. She is an avid kayaker and rower. She is active in several organizations.

All three interested parties were thanked for their interest in serving on the SLPID board.

The board then discussed all three candidates. Walter Supley stated he supports Victor Mazzotti, his brother in law, has his heart and soul in Saratoga Lake and will do a good job on getting the things done. Karl indicated he initially preferred Jessica, but after listening to Victor he prefers Victor. Kathy Simmonds preferred Pat Tuz as she has been actively attending the SLPID meetings and has time to devote to the board.

Walter Supley MADE A MOTION to select Victor Mazzotti as a recommendation by SLPID for the SLPID Commissioner at Large to be submitted to the Saratoga County Board of Supervisors, 2nd by Tom Carrangi. MOTION CARRIED.

Walter stated it would be nice to keep the enthusiasm of these volunteers, perhaps serve on committees.

Karl Hardcastle MADE A MOTION to nominate Kathy Simmonds as SLPID Chair for the remainder of 2020, 2nd by Tom Carrangi. MOTION CARRIED.

New Business:

Annual Boat Survey / Exit Survey Results – most people are out on the lake 3-4 hours, huge percentage are out fishing (76%). Few issues with weeds. Most surveyors claimed, not enough weeds in lake. There were some concerns with people not catching enough fish. Tom Carrangi stated he knows people are out fishing at 3:00 am. Karl stated it is a question of skill and time to catch the fish. Cristina did say that some people want SLPID to leave the weeds in the lake. The survey was conducted for 8 days. Tracey questioned whether we should continue with the survey. Cristina stated this takes time away from their other duties. Dean recommended doing another survey the end of August. Dean was happy with the number of people enjoying the lake and the results stating there was little or no weeds.

Tom stated there were no buoys placed by the Rowing Club (due to COVID). Cristina said yes there are, they placed differently this year.

Discussion to have at some point is should the 5 mph be extended out buoys to the channel further.

Docks at Saratoga Marina is crazy! Tom questioned if there is anything we can do. Dean took a bunch of pictures. Option for us to go to Parks and Rec and ask them to review the navigation issues. We can also ask

Parks & Recs to evaluate and prevent additional docks at the Belmonte subdivision. Walter questioned if we can prevent them from putting any additional docks in. FOIL request has been placed by Dean to review dock layout for Saratoga Marina. Cristina stated Marine Patrol did use old SLPID buoys to place in Fish Creek.

Boat count – Cristina Connolly and Tracey Clothier did a boat count and photos for navigation purposes from the bridge on Sunday, July 4th. A lot of boats were coming from Fish Creek and Lee's Camp Ground. Cristina will do a standing boat count next week which will cover the marinas in fish creek as well as all other marinas and private properties. Karl questioned whether there is a regulation for parking that relates to docking of the boats. Cristina stated there is overflow parking at SRA for Saratoga Lake Marina. Cristina will coordinate the boat count with a drone, Tracey and Karl will be doing with a drone. The drone will take photos of marina and launch and video of navigation in the channel. Cristina will reach out to the person with the drone. She will fly over the marinas with the docks. Fly along the channel, to get a good accurate boat count from the marinas. Tracey asked what time they should meet on Sunday and prefers at 1:00 pm. Cristina will confirm the time with the drone person. We need to verify and provide evidence documenting what is going on at the lake. Question also arose if we can offer up a moratorium on commercial marinas. Dean stated we have no power to do that. Dean stated there were 5 fishing tournaments this past weekend. 60% of all the fish caught are destroyed. All tournaments are suppose to be registered at the launch. Tom stated there are many people fishing on the lake without a license. With the towns closed down, as well as Walmart, it has been difficult to get a license. Cristina stated licenses are available online.

With no other business presented, Walter Supley MADE A MOTION to Adjourn, 2nd by Tom Carringi.
MOTION CARRIED.

Respectfully Submitted,
Deborah Curto
SLPID Recording Secretary