

Keoka Lake Association
Box 97
Waterford, Maine 04088

July 10, 2021 Keoka Lake Association Annual Meeting

Charlie Tarbell, President, called the meeting to order at 9:06 a.m. Due to COVID-19 protocols, the meeting was held on the lawn between the Wilkins House and the Church with no coffee nor Lake Store donuts. Thirty-six (36) members were in attendance for a wonderfully sunshine filled July morning!

After everyone introduced themselves, Charlie asked for a moment of silence for those lost since the last time KLA held an in-person meeting (2019). As an introduction for new members and a retrospective of his tenure as president of KLA, Charlie had brief comments about the structure of the KLA Board of Trustees – it is a group of volunteers; there is no ‘staff’; each board member has an area of interest and work goes on independently throughout the year. The Board gathers twice a year (spring and fall) to bring everyone up to speed on progress/concerns/issues/suggestions. He reviewed how the organization has changed in the 20 years he’s been president – more work on education, being proactive for issues that affect the quality of the lake and its watershed – but indicated, as he steps down as president, he hopes to maintain the ‘fun’ atmosphere that exists – including picnics on Stone’s Cove Beach, dock-to-dock cocktail parties, etc. in the early days of his tenure.

Secretary’s Report (minutes taken by Jo Lynne Johnson in Kim Struck’s absence) –

In that the minutes are posted on the KLA website, Jo Lynne asked for a motion to waive the reading of the 2020 (zoom) meeting. Motion by Tom Schaefer, Second by Jim Flynn. Unanimously passed.

Treasurer’s Report

Dan Treadwell summarized the one-page report that he had distributed showing two years of income and expenses. He indicated that, as is typical in a fundraising year, other ‘donations’ to KLA were down. That, combined with the lack of Point of Sale merchandising/dues paying opportunities in 2020 results in a small ‘operating loss’ for 2020. He, however, assured the membership that KLA is in good shape, as evidenced by the reserves that are currently being managed by the Maine Community Fund. David Johnson moved to accept Treasurer’s Report; JoAnne Eaton seconded. Unanimously passed.

Maine Community Fund (MCF) –

David Johnson reported that MCF (consistently in the top quartile of community foundations as ranked by Charity Navigator) is doing a good job managing the \$680 million in assets they have under management in Maine. Last year, when their long-time contact at Cambridge Associates retired, management and the MCF board opted to go with a firm that’s more focused on the non-profit sector.

MCF now works with Monticello Associates, an asset manager that specializes in managing funds for non-profits and high net worth individuals and families who are interested in putting their money to work for charitable causes. KLA’s monies are invested with an eye to asset preservation, not necessarily huge growth. The money needs to be there when/if we need to put divers in the lake to handle a milfoil/invasive situation.

Membership

Ginny Raymond reported 58 total paid memberships so far in 2021. Of the 80 properties around the lake, only 8 are not represented on the membership list – for a 90% membership rate, the highest in the LEA area. There are a total of 187 members listed in membership. This includes 8 gift memberships (2 of which are new gift memberships). The membership list includes 23 members who have not paid since 2018 and Ginny has contacted them about renewing their memberships. Membership numbers peaked in 2018 at 101; 99 members in 2019 and 93 memberships received in 2020.

Water Quality

Water Testing

Charlie reported that testing is conducted multiple times during the summer under a fee agreement with LEA. Early in the year, the Water Quality report is issued and posted to the website. Keoka's phosphorus and clarity readings show improvement at the surface, but at deep levels there is low oxygen and high phosphorus which affects the salmon and trout but not the bass. Due to KLA's efforts, the lake is stable.

Courtesy Boat Inspections (CBI)

The program is funded by appropriations from the Town of Waterford (\$3,400), a grant from Maine DEP (\$1,800) and KLA membership dues/donations. LEA functions as KLA's 'back room' by hiring, training, scheduling and handling payroll for the CBI's at the Town Beach. Because Keoka does not have 24/7 CBI coverage, part of the CBI program continues to involve education of boat owners on inspecting their own boats for potential invasives. Milfoil fragments have been discovered as close as the Town Boat Launch in Harrison.

Plant Patrollers

Arne Klepinger reported that there are now 16 plant patrollers and he is looking for more volunteers. The more eyes on the shallow areas of the lake, the better! Even if it's just inspecting the shallow areas in front of individual/neighborhood properties, additional help would be welcome.

LakeSmart

Ginger Eaton reports that she and her team (Priscilla Treadwell and Doss Hasson) inspected 5 properties during the summer of 2020 and are looking for people to sign up for inspections/re-inspections for this summer. With the re-issue of LEA's Homeowner's Guide which highlights best practices, the focus of the LakeSmart inspection is educational and collaborative if there are situations where challenges exist. As an incentive, each family signing up for an inspection during summer 2021 will be entered into a drawing for a copy of the new KLA50 Book. Priscilla Treadwell emphasized that LakeSmart is an educational effort, not an enforcement activity, and that shoreland owners do not need to be concerned about regulatory authorities being involved.

Additionally, Ginger reported that with COVID protocols during the summer of 2020, no educational programs were conducted last summer, but there may be a possible program at Keoka Beach Campground this summer.

Water Safety

Andy Tabor indicated the loon nest and buoys were deployed on May 2nd. (There are currently two loons on and off the nest, but no chick(s) yet). He thanked those who attended the 'dock putting-in party' on Memorial Day weekend. The swim lines were put in place on June 6th.

Mason Dam

KLA now owns the Mason Dam and the land it is on – but nothing much changes as KLA will continue to monitor the operation of the dam as it has done in years past. A question was asked about liability insurance on the dam. Turns out, KLA has had no insurance on the dam – but it now DOES have insurance on both the dam and the land. The homeowners near the dam will be engaging goat(s) to manage some of the foliage around the dam.

Boat Launch

Charlie reported that there was some ice damage done to some of the planks over the winter. The asphalt paving on the apron along the highway will be done by this fall.

Stream Survey

Standing in for Kim Struck, Ting Doore reported that she and Kim had surveyed all streams this spring. There was some trash in the stream near KBCG and they had an opportunity to positively engage with some kids from the campground and to educate on the importance of keeping the streams clear. Charlie indicated that KLA's focus is expanding from the lake itself to the tributaries that feed into the lake, especially as deluges like seen from Tropical Storm Elsa causes sediment to flow downstream and into the lake, affecting the water quality.

Regatta

The 9th Annual Bud Lazott Memorial Regatta will be held Saturday, July 31st, launching from the KBCG beach at 2 pm. Registration opens at 1 pm.

Communication/Outreach

Brenda Hambleton maintains the KLA website.

Claire Pendergast has been writing the website's monthly newsletters throughout the pandemic. She has volunteer writers/editors but she is looking for ideas for new postings.

Melissa Tarbell maintains KLA's social media presence. She appealed for more pictures, especially from the west, east and south sides of the lake.

Merchandise

JoAnne Eaton had set up the merchandise table with a couple of new designs. She shops all year for various items and was happy to be able to spread out her KLA merchandise.

KLA50

Jo Lynne Johnson wished everyone present a Happy 50th Anniversary and thanked Martha Eaton, one of two surviving visionaries who started KLA, for the group's foresight and dedication. Penny Carson is the other surviving founder. They will be honored at the KLA50 Anniversary Celebration Party next summer.

Jo Lynne reported that with the pandemic, some KLA50 activities continued uninterrupted while others were paused. Those activities that continued were the sale of Quilt Raffle Tickets and the publishing of "Keoka Lake - A History of Life on Our Lake". In addition, the KLA50 Capital Campaign continues - until the KLA50 Anniversary Celebration Party when the total amount raised will be 'revealed'

Planned for the summer of 2021, the Waterford Historical Society Exhibit highlighting the 50 years of history of KLA has been postponed until the summer of 2022. Additionally, due to the uncertainty of COVID infection rates, vaccination rates, potential variants, etc. at the time the decision had to be made for catering and other vendors, the KLA50 Anniversary Celebration Party Committee decided to 'pause'. The party will be held next summer – on the

afternoon of the KLA annual meeting (July 9, 2022) – same time (3-6 pm)! Same place (the Eaton Meadow). Next spring, paper invitations will be mailed to all KLA members in good standing (KLA dues paid by 12.31.2021). Jo Lynne urged everyone to bring their dues current!

LEA Homeowner's Guide

Charlie Tarbell spoke to the newly updated pamphlet from LEA. First printed 20 years ago, it contains practical ways to protect lakes and the value of shoreowner's property. Anyone who is a member of LEA will receive one in the mail, but he encouraged anyone present to take one for themselves and one to share with a neighbor as everyone works together to follow best practices to keep Keoka Lake clean, healthy and safe.

Appropriations

Charlie asked for a motion to approve the Recommended Appropriations for 2021 as follows:

<u>Organization</u>	<u>Amount</u>
Lakes Environment Association	\$2,200
Congress of Lake Associations	200
Wilkins Community House	100
Maine Lakes (VLMP)	100
Waterford Fire Department	50
Stoneham Rescue Unit	50
Total	\$2,700

Motion made by Tom Schaefer and seconded by John Pendergast. Unanimously approved.

Election of Officers and Board Members

Prior to calling for a motion to accept the new slate of officers and board members, Charlie acknowledged the efforts of Chip Mason, Treasurer Emeritus over his term on the board. He read the inscription on the plaque thanking Chip for his service. The plaque will be presented to Chip as soon as possible.

The KLA Board of Trustees Class for a term of 2021-2024 consists of:

JoAnne Eaton
Richard Orr
Ginny Raymond
Andy Tabor
Charlie Tarbell
Melissa Tarbell

Motion made by Tom Schaefer and seconded by John Pendergast to approve the Trustees for the term 2021-2024 as shown. Unanimously approved.

Charlie presented the proposed slate of officers as follows:

President: Richard Orr
Vice President: Brenda Hambleton
Treasurer: Dan Treadwell
Secretary: Jo Lynne Johnson

Tom Schaefer requested consideration of adding 'Emeritus' following Charlie Tarbell's name. Motion made by David Johnson, seconded by Tom Schaefer. Unanimously approved.

New Business:

Incoming President, Rich Orr, requested time to note that full recognition of Charlie Tarbell's tenure would come at the KLA50 Anniversary Celebration Party next summer, but with a change of Officers this year, recognition of the time, energy, commitment and leadership that Charlie has given to KLA over the past 20 years warranted acknowledgement. A standing ovation followed!

Motion to adjourn made by Rich Orr; seconded by Cindy Courtney. Meeting adjourned at 10:07 a.m.

Respectfully submitted by Jo Lynne Johnson, Acting Secretary