

Minutes
LMPA Annual Meeting
July 8, 2017

The annual meeting of the LMPA was held at the Lake Morey Inn on Saturday, July 8, 2017. President Peter Massicott called the meeting to order at 4:05 PM. He welcomed the group and reminded us all of the LMPA purpose.

Member Introductions

Members introduced themselves by name and cottage.

Moment of Silence for Passed Members

Since the last meeting, two members have passed. A moment of silence was observed for Wesley Higgins and Skip Martell.

President's Report

- Liability and officer's insurance has been acquired, thanks to Mark Richardson.
- Denise Drouin has created a modernized membership database. This database was used to create the directory. Denise has also updated the LMPA website.
- LMPA sponsored a boater licensing course.
- LMPA has sponsored educational sessions including a June 17 session about algae on Lake Morey. Peter reminded us that it's best to keep leaf and clipping refuse out of the lake.
- Peggie Bissell built on last year's success with the greeter program.

Treasurer's Report

- Bill Minard is happy to talk with someone who would like to take his place as treasurer.
- Checking account balance was \$7129.81. Vanguard balance was \$91,648. Ended the budget year in the black by \$15 and change.
- Thanks to all who have paid dues. If folks are still waiting to pay, their payment would be appreciated.
- The budget was developed with a heavy dependence on "marketing of the t-shirts".

Greeter Program Update (Peggie Bissell)

- The team this season consists of three greeters (Todd Driscoll, Bret Sweeney, Lars Sandvik), each of whom attended an orientation session.
- The program is funded by LMPA, LMF, and town of Fairlee.

- 48 each week are covered. The cost is \$12/hour.
- A large milfoil bed has been identified off Fernwood and another at the northeast end of the lake.
- Boaters are warned to stay away from these areas.
- A decontamination station – with free power wash via a portable station - was set up at the public access on July 4. The parking lot and both sides of the road were full – a very busy day. Feedback is that folks are less apt to stop for an inspection or conversation on the holiday.
- In 2015, the total number of inspections was 300. Last year, there was a total of 1061 inspections. This year, to date, there have been 575 inspections. Thanks to the greeters.
- Thanks to Mike Curran and Barbara Duncan who assisted on July 4.
- Anyone who would like to be a greeter, please volunteer. The lake needs as many volunteer hours as possible.

Adopt a lake program (Barbara Duncan)

- Thanks to all who helped last year.
- Thanks to the monitors.
- Searching, pulling, looking for fragments – these are all components of the program. We need to do the work and document it so that we can receive payment from the State.
- The professional team that will be pulling is coming soon.

Cyanobacteria Update (Bruce Durgin).

- LMPA sponsored an education session on June 17, attended by ~ 30 people. Cyanobacteria is naturally occurring in rivers, lakes and ponds. Some strains can become toxic. The State is monitoring and conveying warnings. A recent loom was captured and sent to the State. They sent us a report. There was one bloom last year that closed the beach for a week or so. Basically, if you see a bloom, keep pets and children away. If you are using the water for drinking or bathing, stop. Call Bruce or Peggie if you see anything. Be aware but don't be over-scared.301724

Lake Quality Plan (ongoing) (Mark Richardson)

- Mark presented a set of slides that are available on the LMPA website.
- Don Weaver is our lake monitor. He takes samples nine times a year that are tested for clarity of water (Secchi disks), chlorophyll A, and phosphorous (total). These are the factors that indicate the health of the lake.
- Data are available since 1979. Over time, the numbers have stayed good but clarity has slightly declined (higher is better); phosphorous shows a slight increasing trend over time (lower is better), and Chlorophyll A has been low and consistent.

- Stressors that promote cyanobacteria include heat, nutrients (run off, leaves in lake, silt, etc.), and calm waters (allows them to accumulate). Of these, the one that we can best influence is the nutrient load.
- The State of VT LakeWise program (<http://dec.vermont.gov/watershed/lakes-ponds/lakeshores-lake-wise/what>) is "an Agency of Natural Resources initiative that awards lake-friendly shoreland property, including that of state parks, town beaches, private homes and businesses."
- 5 point summary:
 - *The lake in good shape
 - *Cyanobacteria blooms are happening and can produce toxins
 - *Stressors that encourage bloom can be identified
 - *The nutrient load can be influenced through best practices
 - *Be aware of restrictions imposed by VT Shorelands Protection Act
- Don Weaver reported on the state of milfoil in the lake. In 2007, at the time of the first treatment, milfoil accounted for 65% of the lake vegetation. In 2015 milfoil accounted for 7% of vegetation and in 2016 it accounted for 1% of vegetation in lake. Don acknowledged and thanked all who made this happen.

Dick Allen Lifetime Stewardship Award

- Don Weaver acknowledged his mentor – Dick Allen – a ‘titan of Lake Morey’. He then noted that Greg Allen – resident biologist - worked with Dick back in early days. In 2005, the lake was in serious trouble because of milfoil. Work to clean up the lake began shortly thereafter. The LMPA Board recognized Greg’s contributions by awarding him the Dick Allen Lifetime Stewardship Award.

Other updates

- Fairlee Fun Day

Laura Byron has orchestrated this event for the last 6 years. This is Laura’s last year on the board. She was thanked for all the work she has done and was presented with a framed photo of the lake.

- Mike Curran has stepped down as secretary. He kept our old database going as long as it could last. Thanks to Mike and Barb for their service to the LMPA. Motion to membership to accept Ginny Reed as secretary. Approved.
- Golf tournament – thanks to Bill Ross at Country Club. The tie for first place (Chris Baine, Ward Naughton, Bobbi and Vince Pisegna) was finally broken by the third tie-breaker – total net score - and the winner was Ward Naughton.

- The regatta will be next weekend. Gary Brooks reported that long-time commodore Bob Wertheimer won't be able to serve this year. Gary will be taking role this year. He noted that the regatta is more fun when more folks participate. Meet at Breezy Bay at 10:00.
- The minutes of last year's Annual Meeting will be put on website. Let Peter know if there are questions.
- There are currently two openings on the board – the Nominating Committee proposes Denise Drouin and Carol Wertheimer. Motion to accept. Approved.

New Business

- Ray Clark introduced the topic of land conservation. He asked the group to imagine the next 100 years on the lake – with the hope that things will look the same as they do now. He noted that last summer there was a property for sale on east side of Morey Mountain – 148 acres – identified by state as 'hot spot' – because it is home to rare endangered species. A developer put a proposal/offer to put in 30 units. Under current zoning, protection from such development is not available. Ray noted that such development was narrowly averted. He also noted that the property will sell. A logger has expressed interest. Ray asked us to further imagine the effects of such ownership on the road, traffic, and the increase in light and noise pollution. He put forth the opportunity to come together to find someone to buy the property while we, as a group, figure out a way to raise funds. There are resources available to help conserve – Upper Valley Land Trust will partner. They are willing to be long-term owners/stewards of lands we might link together. Interested? Get in touch with Ray. A number of parcels of land are available. The Lake Morey Foundation has discussed this. A coalition – LMF and LMPA – could do this.

- Member should pick up directories.

- Chris Baine described unpleasant, chaotic boating conditions last weekend with unsafe and discourteous boaters. She wondered what could be done about this. It was noted that Fish and Game people were there, ticketing vehicles. Don Weaver suggested talking with Terry Lewis, a State Trooper who knows lake. In the past a letter has been sent asking that a patrol be present that day.

* Low wake zone bumpers appear to be closer to shore this year. A swimmer was seen amid all the boats on July 4. Concern was expressed about the placement of bumpers.

The LMPA came in 3rd at Fairlee Parade on July 4.

The meeting adjourned at 5:17.

Respectfully submitted, Ginny Reed