

Minutes
LMPA Annual Meeting
Saturday, July 11, 2020

The 114th annual meeting of the LMPA was held virtually (by Zoom) due to COVID-19 on Saturday, July 11, 2020. President Laura Tucker called the meeting to order at 4:02 PM. She welcomed the group.

Member Introductions

- Member introductions were waived this year due to holding the meeting virtually. A total of 54 members signed on to the meeting. After a few minutes, the meeting was Zoom-bombed; we reconnected with a secure link. The meeting resumed at 4:23 with up to 54 participants.

Moment of Silence for Passed Members

- Since the last meeting, news of the passing of several members and friends has been received. A moment of silence was observed for Shirley Godfrey, Barry Hanshaw, Dr. Albert Romano, M. Christine Hanshaw, Elizabeth Mahaffey, and Bert Hylander. Also noted was the passing of a member from years back – Joan Williams.

Approval of Minutes

- The minutes of the 2019 Annual Meeting have been available on the website. Approval was moved, seconded, and considered passed by a show of hands.

Update on opening the Morey Mountain trails

- Patty Armstrong and the president of the Upper Valley Land Trust (UVLT) Jeanie McIntyre, were present. Jeannie and her staff were active partners in preserving the Morey Mountain property. They have spent the past 18 months doing resource and biologic studies and completing four miles of trails, which are now open. Jeanie briefly described the UVLT, founded in 1985. She described Morey Mountain and the work that has been done there recently. The opening of the project to the public was quiet due to the pandemic. Jeanie described the experience she had hiking the trails this past week. More info about the UVLT is available on the group's website. Patty thanked everyone who has been instrumental in making the trails open and usable.

President's Report/LMPA Activities/Update in light of COVID-19

- Laura has been working on road safety around the lake. There is less traffic with the camps closed.
- She noted that there is a move to more electronic communication. Members are urged to complete a survey asking their opinion about this.

Treasurer's Report

- Bill noted that the LMPA is in good financial shape. The biggest budget variable depends on grant money from the State.
- Bill elaborated on several items including the activities sponsored by the LMPA this year. The Summer Reading Program is on hiatus due to the pandemic.. The ice cream social will be August 8.
- A musical performance on a boat is likely to happen later this summer (perhaps on August 8). This will be a fund raiser for Help@Fairlee. Use of a pontoon boat would be appreciated.
- A number of community donations were made this year.
- A question about assets was asked. Bill noted that between our Vanguard fund and cash on hand, we have about \$71,000.

Secretary's Report and Membership Update

- Ginny Reed noted that as of this week, we have received 186 paid memberships. .The number last year at this time was 196.

Water Quality Report

- Input stream and lake waterbody chemical issues (Greg Allen)

In 2018 there was an increase in the amount of phosphorous in the lake. Five streams were studied last year through a grant. Total phosphorous coming into the lake and streams was found to be low and not a concern at this point. Continuing stream sampling will be done four times over the course of the summer.

- Biological matters (Mark Richardson)

There were no issues with blue/green algae in 2019. This year seems to be in good shape so far.

Water clarity has been outstanding. The chlorophyll level has been good. Phosphorous has been more problematic since this can prompt cyanobacteria blooms. The sources of phosphorous in the lake can be controlled by good lakeshore management, ie keeping fertilizer out of the lake. Creating barriers and water diversion are things we can do to keep the lake healthy. Monitoring will continue.

- Milfoil control (Don Weaver)

A perch kill was noted in the lake earlier this year. VT Fish and Wildlife evaluated the situation.

Chemical treatment last year has proved to be extraordinarily effective. The end of summer dive crew found only 11 plants (at the north end). Going forward, we will use divers and the Adopt-A-Lake Program supported by the Greeter Program.

Getting divers from Aquatic Endeavors has been challenging this year.. There is a possibility of using even more local residents (Don and Greg) to monitor the north end of the lake.

Funding for this year's program has been restored by the State.

A question was asked about the possibility of a spot application rather than a broader chemical application. Don and Greg noted that spot treating would be desirable but that the application process is very laborious and stringent and relies a lot on input from the State.

Greeter Program (Peggie Bissell)

- The program got off to a rough start this year due to the pandemic. Peggie thanked a number of folks, as well as the Fairlee Volunteers who helped. This year's team has a number of returning greeters.
- Peggie noted that inspections have been up every year since 2018. The Agency for Natural Resources noted that preventing invasive species will take a back seat this year to controlling the pandemic.

Adopt-A-Lake program (Sue Minard)

- The program will function this year as it has in the past. Searching for and pulling milfoil are important. The completed forms are due Sept. 15. VT Invasive Species has a good website with info on identification. Sue thanked all for their assistance.

Fairlee Selectboard Report (Peter Berger)

- Peter thanked the LMPA, the LMF, and the LMC for all their work. Water mains will be replaced on the east side of Lake Morey Rd. soon, followed by re-paving. Work on culverts will take place in September.
- The Better Connections grant will support work in the Main Street to Morey program. Some of these activities will be happening this next week.

Help@Fairlee Committee (Cathy McGrath)

- This group consists of about 25 active participants, including many LMPA members. The group has provided information to local businesses as well as assistance to individuals. Ensuring social distancing at the transfer station, providing masks and hand sanitizer, and distributing and delivering food are just a few examples of the work being done by the group. Support from local groups – including the LMPA – as well as from the Town – makes the work possible.

Nominating Committee Report (Debbie Baker)

- Debbie Baker announced that Arnie Arnesen has been nominated to the Board of Directors. In light of no voiced objections, the Board considered him elected.

Results of the Golf Tournament (Vince Pisegna)

- Sixteen golfers turned out today for the tournament. The winning pair were Parker Thurston and Chris Lee. A virtual trophy was awarded☺

Webpage/Member's Only section/Directory 2021 (Denise Drouin)

- Denise thanked folks for completing the survey about this. Ninety individuals participated.

Results:

80% would use the directory online

88.9% of individuals would update their own information

2/3 of individuals said they would prefer a paper directory.

65% prefer e-mail dues notices. Smaller percentages preferred snail mail or both.

- Bill noted that paying dues online will be an option next year.
- At the moment, a static copy of the directory is available online with a log-in required.
- Denise noted that the LMPA is on Facebook and Instagram.

Other New Business

- Bob Wertheimer noted that the regatta was a casualty of the pandemic. It will return next year.
- Nanci Carstens found a cat today. She will post this on the Fairlee List Serv.
- Cheryl Lee suggested that people report pick up trucks racing around the lake to the State Police. An increase in teenagers at the boat launch after hours has been noticed and should also be reported

Call to adjourn

The meeting was adjourned at 5:33 PM.

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The Board convened briefly to elect officers. A quorum was present. Peggie Bissell was thanked for her years of service on the Board. The following officers were elected for the 2020-2021 year.

President: Laura Tucker

VP: Smith Reed

Secretary: Ginny Reed

Treasurer: Bill Minard