

Hitchcock Lake Improvement Association
Meeting
Monday, June 29, 2020

Type of Meeting: Board Meeting by ZOOM
Meeting Facilitator: President Kathy Mrazik

- I. Call to Order 7:02 p.m.
- II. Roll Call - Dave Judd, Cindy Cayer, Lina Marunas, Cheryl Corey, Jeremy Chicano, Ed Sullivan, Judy Miceli, Rob Browne, Kathy Mrazik, Laurie Greco
- III. Approval of minutes from May 2020 meeting that were shared by email
Judy Miceli made motion to accept the minutes. Cheryl Corey seconded. The motion passed.
- IV. Treasurer's Report
Treasurer Dave Judd presented the Treasurer's Report for May 2020.
Dave pointed out that membership dues income is slightly behind last year. He reported that HLIA received \$4,500 from the Town of Wolcott and he paid the Solitude Management bill for lake treatment.
- V. CDC (Community Development Committee)
All activities are postponed.
- VI. Environmental and Safety
 - a. Solitude will do a weed treatment July 1st. Additionally, the cove at Ledgeside Drive was treated on June 12 and is showing improvement.
Signs need to be posted for the July 1 treatment. Members asked to let Kathy know if they are willing to assist.
Kathy questioned Solitude about the treatment of Lilly Pads. They replied that this treatment is most successful if done in August.
 - b. Mattatuck Beach opening – Kathy emailed the mayor requesting the gate at Mattatuck Beach be closed for the July 1 lake treatment.
 - c. South Lake Safety Violations (6/9 and weekend of 6/20)
There was an incident involving unregistered jet skis on south lake and a report of jet ski operators harassing swans. The Wolcott Police and Animal Control are involved and are handling multiple complaints. One of the residents involved in the incident was sent a registered letter and an email from the HLIA outlining the seriousness of the offenses and requesting registration of jet skis with Association.
Residents are advised to call the police if neighbors are breaking state boating laws.

Another issue was reported concerning the swans on the south lake. A resident complained that someone tried to run over swans with a jet ski. An email citing the incident has been

sent to the individuals who were accused of the action. The complaining resident did not want to file a police report

d. North Lake Safety Violations (6/20 and 6/27)

Pontoon boat was reported driving too fast and too close to dock/shore. Boat and driver were not identified.

A resident on Pratte Lane was pulling a tube behind a boat and did not have a spotter. The individual sent a warning email and a message was left on his phone. No response received by 6/27.

People have been spotted launching a boat at the end of Midwood Drive on privately owned land. This is being done without the launch owner's permission. HLIA suggest putting a no trespassing sign and a chain across boat launch. The people launching the boat reported that they had permission from the landowner; however, the landowner could not identify the people launching the boat.

VII. Correspondence

a. Letter re: Maple Lane "right-of-way"/unbuildable lot

A landowner next to an unbuildable that is being used by many people in the Maple Lane neighborhood (with owner's permission) has complained of late, loud and lewd activity. The complainant asked the HLIA to develop guidelines for use of "right of ways" on the lake. Judy Miceli reported that there are multiple issues with people's behavior on the dock. Cindy Cayer reported that she and Kathy Mrazik met with the neighbors to try to help with the problems.

b. Letter re: right-of-way apparent trespassers

A resident next to a right-of-way on Equinox reported that people who do not have deeded rights are using it for lake access. Kathy referred the issue to Tom Tella, President of the Wolcott Conservation Land Trust. Twenty-five homes have deeded rights to that right-of-way with rights granted more than 50 years ago.

c. South Lake Sunken Boat

Mark Sussman will help to craft a letter to the homeowner where there is a sunken sailboat on South lake. The property owner has received two letters on the issue and has sent a letter to the renter. This issue is the owner's responsibility.

d. Registrations

There are 14-15 boat/jet ski owners who are in the water who have not registered with the HLIA. Cindy is in the process of contacting each of them by email. If we do not get a response, we will send a written warning. Additionally, not all lake front owners who paid last year have done so this year. They will all be sent notification. The board talked about a mailing. Laurie offered to help. Lina will produce the labels.

e. Kathy was contacted by Gary Vallencourt who has an old Hitchcock Lake warning sign. The picture will be shared with longtime lake residents to try and confirm its' age.

VIII. Old Business

a. Nominating Committee

All officers are up for re-election, and board members Cheryl Corey, Judy Miceli, and Andy Giordino.

Kathy Mrazik informed the group that if someone else on the board is interested in running for President, she will gladly set-aside.

The Nominating Committee is comprised of: President, two board members and two lake community members. Board members Jeremy Chicano and Laurie Greco volunteered to serve. The community reps will be selected at the next open meeting.

- b. Status of Dam Repair – Rob reported bids are out to companies for the engineering portion of the project. Once all proposals are received, will evaluate and hire to move forward with repairs. The Town is involved in the project and will help with the grant funds that are “leftover” from a Cedar Lake project.

IX. New Business

- a. Safety issues - Considering all the safety violations being reported, board members discussed a suggestion to hire a safety officer. Board members discussed how safety was handled in the past and the group did not move forward with the idea at this time.

X. Announcements

Kathy thanked all board members for their involvement in so many critical lake issues.

XI. Adjournment

Judy Miceli made a motion to adjourn. Laurie Greco seconded. The motion passed. The meeting adjourned at 8:17 p.m.

Minutes recorded by Cindy Cayer