

08/13/2016 Indian Lake Association Annual Meeting and Picnic

President Paul Coppock calls the meeting to order at 5:45 p.m., by thanking all the members and friends for being here. He also thanked Timberlock for again supplying the grills and burgers and hot dogs served tonight. Joe Hancock and Pete Sinski were thanked for doing the grill work. Board members present are Paul Coppock, Maggie Evatt, Joe Hancock, and Pete Sinski, Carmen Adler and Rich Vincelette. We have a quorum with 36 members attending and 21 Proxy votes. Paul continued the meeting following the agenda available at the meeting.

Approve Minutes of Annual Meeting, August 8, 2015

Minutes have been available on the ILA web site. Paul asked if anyone objected to his not reading the minutes and just covering the highlights. All agreed with meeting highlights, which he then summarized as follows:

- Elected Autumn Blanchard and Maggie Evatt as new board members
- Reelected Rich Vincelette and Paul Coppock to additional terms
- Total revenue yr. end June 30, 2015: \$1,940
- Total expenses: \$1,128
- Cash balance @ 8/8/15: \$3,626
- Joe Hancock reported that the water quality testing continued to show good quality water.
- Guest speaker Bryan Rudes of the ALA explained their work
- Jaime Parslow, regional supervisor for boat steward program explained steward's work.
- We presented a proposal to send a letter to Hudson River Black River Regulating District (HRBRRD) requesting a change in lake level targets. Unanimously approved. More on that later.

Motion to approve minutes. Motion made by Russ Evatt and seconded by Kevin Herlihy. All ayes.

Election of Directors: Joe Hancock has finished his last year on board. We thank Joe for 9 years of service. He will continue to take water samples and report on the findings. He will also continue manning the grill during our meetings.

Nominate Gail O'Brien:

- From Newark, New York and spent almost every summer in the ADKs
- 18 years at Timberlock in season in various roles and now assistant manager to Timberlock owners
- Other experience: retail department manager in a home center
- Bookkeeper/Paralegal/Secretary at law firm

If Bruce Catlin could have been here, he would give a ringing endorsement. No further discussion or questions. Paul Coppock made the motion to nominate Gail to board, Alison Coppock seconded. Vote unanimously approved.

We are always looking for new board members.

We have 1 opening next year; 2 in 2018. Contact a board member if you are interested. Terms expire but issues don't.

Financial Report: Rich Vincelette presented the report. ILA's beginning bank balance as of 8/7/16 is \$3,626.15. Expenses total \$1,211.83. Revenue of \$1,906.00 over the past year includes a number of the new, enhanced membership opportunities now offered. Current bank balance as of 8/13/2016 \$4,319.32. The basic dues are now \$15/yr. and \$35/ 3 years.

Membership Report: We now have 114 current memberships. Membership count is essentially flat. As of 8/12/2016, 18 members expiring in 2016 and 2015 have not renewed. 61 memberships expire in 2017 and 52 of those are 3 year memberships (do not renew annually). We need your help renewing memberships and getting new members. Speak with your neighbors please.

Newsletter: Paul reports that we printed 175 newsletters (\$169 incl. shipping). Special thanks to contributors Jon Voorhees, Jeremy Gorss, Joe Hancock, and also Bruce Catlin for doing the compiling, layout and printing, David Adler for doing the labels and mailing. Reminder to look at address labels each year for membership expiration.

Boater's Guide: Paul reported that 500 boater's guides were printed and distributed to: DEC boat launch office, Marina, Lake Store, Pines, Chamber of Commerce and we retained 50.

Indian Lake Association/ Dick Merrill Scholarship: Paul reported that our scholarship was named for Dick Merrill, a long time board member, educator, and lake advocate. It is awarded to graduates of Indian Lake High School who have exemplified good stewardship of the land and the environment. The 2016 award of \$200 was to Noah Pine. Noah will be pursuing a degree in diesel mechanics and business management at SUNY Cobleskill.

Water Quality Report: Joe Hancock reported that he and Russ Evatt took water samples three times this year. The water quality is consistent. It is more clear this year due to less run-off due to lack of rain. They are using a new reporting form which is a universal form where we can compare our information with 34,000 other watersheds. We do have some road salt. No contamination issues; not many changes due to contamination.

Lake Level: Paul reported that last August, a letter was sent to the HRBRRD requesting consideration of new targets. Slightly earlier draw down in May/June: reveal beaches earlier. Slightly slower draw down in late summer: extend boating season. In September, Jon Voorhees and Paul met with HRBRRD management. They agreed to review the feasibility of meeting targets and downstream needs. In February, the regulating district advised that it would use the proposed target levels as a trial this year.

New Targets: Faster drawn down in May/June: By June 30, 1 ft. lower than previous target.

Slower draw downs in August: By Sept. 1 lake is 1 ft. higher than previous target.

It was an acknowledged risk that an extremely dry season could result in late season levels below the target. That would be an outlier year. But we seem to be having that outlier dry season this year.

So far this season: June 1: Hit new lower target
July 1: 6 inches below new target
August 1: 14 inches below new target
August 12: 18 inches below new target & 16 inches below **old** target

The HRBRRD has held release rate between 230-240 cu.ft./sec. since mid- June, the minimum required for downstream needs. U.S. drought monitor rates Hamilton County as “abnormally dry”. Just to southwest is rated “drought”. Lack of snow pack and rain means insufficient inflow to match the 230/240 cu.ft./sec. outflow, plus evaporation from the lake. The Indian Lake watershed is a very large steep catch basin. Some steady rain could yet reverse this. For the long term, the historical precipitation patterns favor our new targets.

A question was asked regarding the brackish water concern near Poughkeepsie. Does this issue mean more water is released? Paul was not aware of this connection to our lake water levels.

The former HRBRRD executive director Michael Clark left his post in November. His successor, Robert Smullin, sends his regrets that he could not be with us today due to family obligations. He stopped by Paul’s camp for an hour long visit in July. He understands our lake level concerns. He stated that the HRBRRD priorities governing the dam operations in order of importance are:

1. Safety: flood control, water treatment
2. Hydro power generation
3. Recreation: rafting, boating, water sports

Web Site: Paul reported that the site provides a link to the HRBRRD web site – a wealth of measurement data is available there. There may be changes to the ILA web site next year as David Adler and Maggie Evatt look into improvements.

Invasive Species: Paul reported that last year, the state funded boat stewards including coverage at the Indian Lake DEC boat ramp. This year, the state offered competitive grants to fund stewards. The ILA joined a consortium of towns and other lake associations to apply for grants. Our association helped prepare a grant application in cooperation with towns of Indian Lake, Lake Pleasant, Arietta, Hamilton County, Piseco Lake Association, and the Lake Pleasant Association. A 25% local match is required. The Town of Indian Lake applied for a grant of \$11,600/year for 3 years and was denied. Lake Pleasant’s grant proposal included funding for a steward at the Indian Lake ramp for 3 years, and it was granted. Also, rollover funds from last year were made available for steward coverage at the Indian Lake DEC ramp for this one year. We have not heard what the state’s plan is for next year.

Other aspects of ILA's invasives work: The annual invasive species lake survey of Indian Lake found that it is the largest Adirondack lake with no known invasives. Once again team volunteers will inspect 39 miles of shore line. It's a big job, tackled by Jeremy Gorss, Pete and Ellen Sinski, Ellie Menz, Paul Coppock, Dave Gott, Timberlock staff, and boat steward Chris Malin in his free time. We could always use more help. Paul Smith's AWI runs half day training every June.

Jim Zullo, a fishing guide, answered a question of whether smelts as an unwanted invasive fish. He said no. Smelts are deep foraging and trout key in on smelts. That produces larger trout. He personally would like to see salmon reintroduced into lake. It's a good sport fish along with the rainbow trout, and walleyes instead of brown trout.

Incorporation of the Association: The board is moving toward incorporation of the Indian Lake Association as a New York not for profit with the assistance of lawyer Paul Kietzman who has been providing free legal services to us.

We had a delay when another Indian Lake Association in Putnam County, NY was discovered.

Consequently, we believe we will be able to incorporate under name: Indian Lake Association Adk, Inc. This would distinguish us from numerous other Indian Lake Associations around the country. The Adirondack reference gives a little more cache to our brand. This official corporation name will appear on checks, stationary, etc. We will continue to refer to "Indian Lake Association" on logo, newsletter, etc. We will continue with the same directors and officers and the same terms in office. With approval today, we will complete the formation, transfer of all operations, assets, memberships to the new corporation once it is formed.

Paul made motion to authorize this transition to the NY not for profit corporation when it is formed. Jim Healy seconded and all voted in favor. Motion passed.

Other Business: Paul asked about other business concerns. None were offered. Motion to adjourn was made by Russ Evatt and seconded by Rich Vincelette. Meeting is adjourned at 6:22 p.m.

Respectfully submitted, 08/19/2016 by Carmen Adler, Secretary to ILA.