

**LAKE ARMINGTON ASSOCIATION  
GENERAL MEETING & PICNIC**

AT CAMP WALT WHITMAN

AUGUST 11, 2012, 1 pm

Present—35 members

At 105 pm, Polly called the meeting to order with thanks to Walt Whitman for hosting the Association. She stated clearly that this was not a habit, but Carolyn Dorfman said they are always happy to host the LAA.

GUEST SPEAKER: ROBERT GARVIN

Chief of Piermont Police, Robert Garvin addressed the group. Briefly, he said that the police are there for the residents. He is available 24/7 for loud neighbors, unattended deaths, assaults, etc. Call 911 and the Grafton County Dispatch will notify him. He listed what the residents can do to help him.

- Call him and report crimes, disruptions, etc.
- Put a number on your house.

He asked that seasonal people let him know when they will not be around. The police will watch the property. He stressed the police's readiness for Piermont residents' needs.

Bob said that the CWW boating people are fantastic. He pointed out that Piermont doesn't have a boat for rescue, but can get one. The Police can facilitate whatever is needed for an any disturbance or emergency.

He introduced Bernie Marvin, the Emergency Management Director for Piermont. Bernie talked about the Hummer rescue vehicle, the shelters at the church and at the school. It is his responsibility to make plans to deal with any eventuality. He and his peers take their job seriously. He works closely with the Selectmen, EMS, Animal control, police, fire, etc. He has established a well-supplied shelter at the church—people food, pet food, cots, water, etc. Bill Cahill is going to manage one of the shelters in town. Bernie doesn't have a specific office. He has things set up in the Old Church Building and at his house.

Carlos asked if Bernie deals with assigning 911 numbers and who is responsible for changing road signs. Grafton County has good maps and can find anyone. Code Red—Reverse 911 to be used in an emergency. He encouraged residents to sign up. In an emergency, residents receive a phone call concerning the emergency.

Polly and Alice thanked both speakers.

At 130 pm the General Meeting resumed. Polly announced that last year's GM minutes are online.

TREASURER'S REPORT: Evie Conroy

Carryover from 2012 was almost \$4000.

Received \$1640 in dues plus \$180 today.

Donations: \$10,915, \$7000 of which, from an anonymous donor, is for weed eradication.

LAA has sold some maps and been credited with a minor amount of interest.

Total income to date is \$16500

Expenses to date \$3630

Balance about \$12,863

Since dues were discussed at the last meeting, Evie did a budget projection through 2015.

Two groups of expenses:

- Operating (Lake Host, postage, etc.)
- Weed eradication (Lycott)

LAA can count on dues. Since 2011 LAA has received contributions from the Whitman Operating Company.

In 2013, LAA has one major expense: \$1800 to Lycott. That leaves LAA with \$11,000, worst-case scenario. The Whitman donation has increased substantially each year and comes in at the end of the year. IF LAA receives \$2500 from Whitman Operating this year, the balance will be \$13,500, best case scenario.

For 2014, with the same level of operating expenses (Part-time Lake Host), Lycott and consistent dues' receipts and no Whitman contribution LAA would have \$6400 and with Whitman donation, LAA would have \$11,400.

For 2015, worst case \$3000 and best \$10,500

Berk Nicol asked if Evie's projections included future possible eradication treatments. Lycott treatments will decline over next year. Evie explained that it is a three-year treatment program and that DES requires that the water be tested after all treatments are done to ensure that water is clean and clear. Alice believes the chemicals break down. There is a description on the website.

WATER TESTING: Mike Poole

Tested twice this year, June and July. Last weekend in August will be the last testing. He tests in 4 or 5 locations for E coli. Everything looks good. Water is as clear as it was in 1987. The Lake's clarity is considered exceptional by the State. There are 180 lakes in the state with volunteers doing the testing. Brad has graphed all the numbers and put it on the website.

LOGGING: Rob Sherry, from Whitman, talked to the logger, who dropped logs on the trail last fall. He doesn't appear to be active at the moment. Most of the logging impacting the trail is at the plateau on the trail. Bill Morris noted that the "Forest Legacy," part of Department of Resources and Economic Development would be interested in learning if the trail has been adversely impacted. Ken

Settel will follow up on this. Sam agreed to send Ken the Selectmen's phone number.

**LAKE HOSTS:** Wendy Cahill

CITs from Camp Walt Whitman volunteered at the launch site. Katie Davis was the paid Lake Host. Went to part-time Lake Host this year because couldn't afford last year's full-time. LAA receives \$1500 from NH Lakes that we have to match in volunteer hours. LAA contributes \$1350 to Lake Hosting for salary and the portable toilet.

This year's emphasis has been "clean, drain and dry" for boats. Weeds, invasive Asian clams, zebra muscles are clear threats. If a boat has been exposed, it is advised to go to a car wash and use hot water to clean it. If your boat dries for 5 days before entering a lake, it is safe. The threat is real for Lake Armington because these invasives could get in a house's water line. Vigilance is the key. It was stressed that people at Aldrich Landing must be especially vigilant because there is no Lake Host. Someone suggested that we ask a high school if there are kids who need volunteer service hours who would be willing to be volunteer lake hosts.

**WEED WATCHERS:** Evie Conroy

Weed watchers go around the lake looking for invasives. Some (Linda Kline) even dive to inspect. Polly emphasized what a wonderful job these volunteers are doing. It is hoped that next year the Weed Watchers will have shirts advertising what they are doing. There is lots of harmless bladderwort in the lake. Thank you to Evie and the Weed Watchers.

**ICE OUT:** Thanks to Todd, who set out the clock, and to Carlos who tallied the votes.

1. John Manrique
2. Cindy Langley
3. Charlie Davis

Polly asked that more people get involved next year.

**ARCHIVES:** Polly Tafrate

Polly, with the help of Kathy Soloway, Alice Wellington and Carlos and Barbara Manrique, got a lot done last year. She still would like help and asked for volunteers.

**FUNDRAISING:** Polly Tafrate

Some people received the spring mailing. The intent was to get donations early to cover expenses when we incurred them, to contact people whom we had not previously reached and to coincide with the introduction of the new lakearmington.org website that enables one to donate or pay dues online. This mailing was very successful. "Donations doubled the dues."

All donations are not monetary. Thanks to the Weed Watchers and Volunteer Lake Hosts. Thanks to Steve Seifert for laminating weed description charts and

maps and for agreeing to do the next directory. Thanks to Kurt Davis for weed whacking and Lake Hosting.

Thanks to Brad for the picnic table and box for pamphlets at the landing.

Thanks to Bill Cahill also for weed whacking, etc. at the landing.

#### BACK TO DUES:

The Board met yesterday and recommended that dues remain at \$20 a person and fundraising be continued.

#### NEW BOARD:

Pres: Brad Caswell (Polly Tafrate will be interim President until Brad can assume his duties)

Past President: Polly Tafrate

VP: Alice Wellington who will also manage the website

Treasurer: Evie Conroy

Recording Secretary: Sam Rounds

Corresponding Secretary: Lynn Dennison

General Board Members:

Carlos Manrique—Ice Out Tabulator

Ann Soloway

Kurt Davis

Lynn DeMerchant

Shirley Nicol

Thank you to Todd Langley who is stepping down, but will continue to do Ice Out.

Thank you to Mike Poole, also stepping down from the Board, but will continue to do water testing.

#### ANY CONCERNS:

Wendy thanked Brad for his picnic table, box and wonderful brochures.

Richard DeMerchant asked about a remediation program for weeds because there is no guarantee what is being done will work. Evie explained the total cost of the current Lycott treatments—about \$9000, \$7000 of which came from an anonymous donor.

Evie noted that the Whitman Operating Company donation is separate from the Ann Soloway initiated parent and alumni donations.

Bill Morris expressed his discomfort with fundraising because LAA has money.

Only 8% of lakes in NH have been infected with weeds. What will LAA do with the excess money? Board had agreed to fundraise.

Carlos asked how long grant for Lake Host will last. It is private so it depends on the solvency. Set aside money for that.

Bill Morris—LAA will cover it with dues.

Carlos recommends continuing fundraising to cover Lake Host, if necessary.

Polly noted that she has heard people complain that LAA is turning into a business instead of a congenial lake association.

Ann Soloway said having fundraising is insurance ready for something to happen. Sam asked if insurance against weeds existed and should the Association check it out.

Ken Settel said he was sure it existed, but at what cost?

Meeting adjourned at 2:22 pm.

Respectfully submitted,  
Sam Rounds  
Recording Secretary