

Lake Waramaug Association, Inc.

Minutes of the 101st Annual Membership Meeting
Sunday, June 10, 2018

The 101st annual Membership Meeting of the Lake Waramaug Association, Inc. ("LWA"), a non-profit organization, was held at the newly-renovated Lake Waramaug Country Club, New Preston, Connecticut, on Sunday, June 10, 2018.

Gail Berner, President, called the meeting to order at 2:37 PM

She read aloud the Statement of Purpose, which is written as follows:

The objectives of the Association are to promote the safety, health and enjoyment of the residents of the Lake Waramaug area and to preserve the natural beauty of Lake and the surrounding countryside as a desirable residential and recreational area. To this end the Association will be concerned with, among other things, all matters relating to:

- (a) the ecology of the Lake and environs, and eliminating or reducing pollution;*
- (b) the use of the Lake for such recreational purposes as boating, fishing and swimming;*
- (c) the maintenance and character of properties in the Lake area so as to preserve the values and enhance the naturalness of the area;*
- (d) the safeguarding of the property of residents in the Lake area;*
- (e) the creation and observance of zoning, health and sanitation and other standards of the towns bordering on the the Lake; and*
- (f) the conditions of the highway and traffic control around the lake.*

A moment of silence was observed in honor of Joe Rowan and Rod Funston, both of whom served as members of the LWA's Board of Directors.

Rudy Montgelas gave the Fireworks report. The ignition site will be in the same location, and the same contractor, Zambelli, will manage the show. Parking is best by the State Park. He appealed to the members to remember our tradition of lighting highway flares at 9:00 PM, a half an hour prior to the spectacle, the sale of which is also a fundraiser for our organization. The rain date is July 1. The program is self-sustaining but donations are needed to keep this tradition alive.

The Association will host a community picnic in August, the details for which are forthcoming.

Officer Kessler gave his report: The airboat rescue team has 45 hours of training. A dive team is also being assembled. Water didn't freeze as much this winter, therefore a few rescues were made over the winter. In the Fall there will be mock rescues for practice with the fire department. The regattas went off without a hitch. Paddle boards and kayaks, self-propelled boats have been out in full force so caution needs to be taken.

There has been concern about big rigs on the lake road. GPS directs them through New Preston. The State Department of Transportation needs to be contacted about that, as they are state roads. An increase in construction has increased truck traffic.

Buoys have been installed by the State Park team in the "No Wake Zone" for the season. Boating guides will be available at the boat launch or the Barracks in two weeks.

Molly Butler Hart, Chair of the Lake Waramaug Task Force, addressed the common confusion concerning the differences between our two organizations. The Task Force focuses solely on the health of the Lake and water quality.

Sean Hayden, Executive Director of the Task Force, reported on the State of the Lake. Suction harvesters have been put to use on pontoon boats with pumps. A hose runs to the bottom and sucks the curly leaf pond weed. The Task Force will continue to look for it, but needs the help of all who live on the Lake. They will host an identification workshop at Hopkins Vineyard scheduled for the 28th of June with a limnologist (Lake Scientist). We need to catch these invasive weeds early. If a weed is found, residents are asked to put it in a jar, take a photo and send to Sean for identification.

No herbicides have ever been used to combat invasive weeds in Lake Waramaug.

The Zooplankton Farm on Arrow Point is up and running. Zooplankton feed on Cyanobacteria, which clears our waters. The effectiveness of this new project is being evaluated, but clarity is excellent: up to 8 or 9 feet.

Storm water run-off is the biggest carrier of pollutants to the lake, whose #1 conduit is the catch basins, which will be mapped and ranked as to its potential to pollute the lake.

Aeration systems continue to help drop phosphorus levels in the lake.

Warren Elementary School held a Science Day of learning as part of their school community outreach program on Lake Waramaug, which was a fun success. Stations were set up around the lake, which were toured by the children, one at Arrow Point where they were shown how we feed and release zooplankton, and others were taking water samples for recording temperature and oxygen levels.

Concerning the repair of the Dam at the foot of the Lake, which is owned by the town of Washington: a bid has been awarded to New England Infrastructure of Hudson, Massachusetts. There exists the possibility of not drawing down from the lake and lowering water levels during the repair work.

Susie Payne reported that the Washington Conservation Commission working to get the invasive plants out of public spaces. They'd like to also expose the historic mill foundations along the East Aspetuck, where at one point there were 21 mills from the head of the lake to Marbledale. This will NOT be a park but it will be accessible to the public. The history is available on their website. A few years will be needed to complete the project.

The LWA Nominating Committee Report was given by Margie Field: there five board members whose terms are up were nominated for another three year term: Christine Adams Beckett, Anne Block, Susan Payne, Rudolph Montgelas, and Scott Weaver. The slate carried after unanimous approval.

Ms Berner thanked those constituents present for attending, and promoted Mary Harwood's History of Lake Waramaug books, the sale of which benefits the Association, as well as newsletters, and dues envelopes. She asked members to be as generous as possible so that we can maintain the beauty and tranquility of the lake and its surrounds.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:10 PM by Gail Berner.

Respectfully submitted,

Christine Adams Beckett, Recording Secretary