

Canaan Lake Association

Annual Meeting

Canaan Meeting House

July 4, 2013

1. The President, Jan Forbush, called the meeting to order at 10:30am. Thirty six members were in attendance.
2. The President asked members to remember James Miller and Fred Majewski who had died in the last Month.
3. The president welcomed Tom O'Brien, President of the New Hampshire Lakes Association.
4. The minutes of the last annual meeting (July 22, 2012) having been previously circulated were accepted without dissent.

5. **Reports**

a. Audit.

On May 21, 2013 the auditor, Joe McHugh, reported that he had reviewed the financial records of the Canaan Lake Association and found them correct. The Association's total bank balances stood at \$10,997.32 at the beginning of 2012 and at \$9,822.20 on December 31, 2012

b. Treasurer.

The 2012 budget and outcome together with the 2013 budget are attached as an Annex to these minutes. A conservative budget was established for 2013 which shows a projected deficit of \$120.00. After Board discussion it has been decided to change our accounting year to the Calendar Year. In the main accounts for 2012 the proposed Budget with one major exception:  
We made a \$2000.00 contribution to the Canaan Meeting House Restoration fund. Last year we used the Meeting House on two occasions and that would have resulted in the usual \$200.00 contribution. On 21 Dec the Town made a contribution of \$1800.00 to the Association. The Board decided to forego the 2012 Town contribution and add the \$200.00 to make an overall contribution of \$2000.00. We have been assured that we **will** receive a 2013 contribution from the town. We have a CD with Mascoma Savings Bank that at 31 Dec contained \$3346.00 and produced an income of about \$1.40 per month. We will terminate this in December when it comes due and add the amount to the Milfoil Account. We will reconsider a CD if and when interest rates improve, but do not wish to be locked into the present rate.

- c. Lake Host Program. Presentation by Lola Baldwin, Lake Host Program organizer: There have now been over 500,000 boat inspections to look for exotic weeds in NH! The New Hampshire Lakes association has established an outstanding program and today there are more than 100 ramps where inspections are made. There have been 40 saves already this year, 3 at previously non-infested water bodies. We are fortunate that they do the administrative work for our lake. We in Canaan were rewarded an extra \$300 because of the high degree of volunteer participation in relation to the original \$1000 we were given.

Our volunteers are numerous:

Jeanie Ritchie, Rick, Roesch, Jim Adler, Kim Franks, Brett Schmidt, Elizabeth Jutila, Marty Pusey, Mike Paine, Bob Terhune, Keith Roy, Audrey McLane, Jan Forbush, Carol Williams, and 3 new ones: Ann And Scott Berry and Barbara Berger.

We have two returning paid lake hosts, Emma Freese and Briana Furman and one new one Sheri Tolkeiwitz.

We are particularly appreciative of the town of Canaan's support for this program to keep exotic weeds and now animals from our lake. We have received \$1800 in each of the last 2 years.

The Lead Out is a theme and we are now willing to replace fishermen's lead sinkers etc. with ecologically safe ones which will not harm and/or kill the loons. The lake hosts have a supply of the safe ones in their materials provided by the Lake Association.

We must keep in mind that Lake Hosts, meet, greet, inspect boats if we can, and do lots of paper work. We are not enforcement personnel.

- d. Weed Watchers

The President announced that Joe Frazier had resigned as our Weed Watcher coordinator. She expressed our thanks to Joe for his many years of service. Kris Burnett volunteered to fill this post, for which the Board is thankful.

The Weed Watcher Team consists of:

Jan Forbush, Skip Pendleton, Dudley and Julie Smith, Rick Roesch and Dan Fleetham.

A training session was conducted by Amy Smagula from the NH Department of Environmental Services on July 21 for all weed watchers and other interested persons

- e. Water Quality [Report presented by M Paine from notes prepared by John Bergeron.] The water quality of the lake continues to be good and stable. Our most serious threat to water quality is phosphorus which averaged 6 ug/l in 2012. Phosphorous (phosphate) has now been banned in NH & VT from all residential soaps & detergents including dishwashing detergent. This year Scotts has dropped phosphorous from their residential lawn products. Gradually sources of phosphorous are being reduced, but many remain. Please request

that your lawn care professionals use zero phosphorus lawn fertilizers, and use no fertilizer within 25 feet of high water. Human, animal, and plant waste will still contribute phosphorus to the lake. Planting a row of shrubs between the lake and your lawn will absorb some phosphorus before it reaches the lake, and will also discourage geese from entering your lawn. Storm water is the vehicle that brings most phosphorus to the lake, so please consider adding rain gardens, roofline drip trenches, rain barrels, infiltration trenches, water bars, and other methods to reduce storm water flowing towards the lake. Long term accumulation of phosphorus will encourage plant growth, eventually decreasing clarity and clogging shorelines with weeds. Several other parameters were monitored and all appear to be within acceptable ranges.

6. Charitable Status.

Laws were presented and accepted at last year's meeting. One last piece in this process was to find the original IRS document granting the Association Exempt status. After considerable delay the IRS replied in October 2012 stating that we were recognized September 1942, Under section 401(C)(4). Thus, with regret, your Dues and contributions are not tax deductible. However, we completed the myriad of documents that AG required, filled out the requisite form, paid of \$25 fee and awaited the result. Quick as a flash, while pocketing our \$25, they replied: that as a 401 (C)4 we were not required to register and with grateful relief we left the subject alone.

7. Website.

Our previous website became inactive during the early part of 2013 and we lost our original domain name. We have established a new website which is now active at:

[www.Canaanlakenh.org](http://www.Canaanlakenh.org)

The website is hosted on the Town of Canaan server for which we offer the Town our profound thanks. Questions were raised as to whether the Association was on Facebook. There is an inactive Facebook page and we will place a link to our website on that page. This site has multiple pages one of which will allow members to post pictures of the lake and lake activities. Members are encouraged to visit the site and make suggestions for improvements.

8. Loon Report.

The report, in photographic form, is at an annex to this report.

9. August 4<sup>th</sup> Beach Party.

August 4<sup>th</sup>, a hot and sunny day, was the day of the CLA beach party. The annual feast of hot dogs and hamburger was provided by Cardigan Mountain School with the assistance of Ben and Hannah Auerbach. An additional activity this year was the boat parade organized by Elizabeth and John Jutilla and headed by David Zani. Attendance was small

but with more publicity we hope this event will generate more interest at our 2013 party.

10. Presentation by Tom O'Brien, President of NH lakes.

The President introduced Tom O'Brien saying that Tom has been the President of NH LAKES since 2011, returning to his native New England from the Pacific Northwest. Tom's professional experience includes leading the Network of Oregon Watershed Councils; six years as the Executive Director of the Watershed Agricultural Council in the New York City water supply watersheds; and 20 years of watershed and park management public service for the Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

Tom O'Brien spoke of the need for volunteers at all levels of the community and for the need to have local involvement of the community in the association and *vice versa*. He noted with approval the up-coming beach party organized by the association in conjunction with Cardigan Mountain School.

He spoke of the importance of the Lake Host program and its success in impeding the spread of invasive exotic plants. He noted that we now had to add invasive fauna – zebra mussels and Asiatic clams.

He gave an oversight of NH Lakes activities with the NH legislature and the recent success in banning lead fishing tackle in the future. He noted that our Lake Hosts were already running an exchange program.

11. David Auerbach gave a presentation of Cardigan Mountain School's turtle survey. It is considered when sufficient data has been accrued the health of the turtle population will be an indicator for the health of the lake.

12. Next Annual Meeting. Friday July 4. 2014.

13. Adjournment. The meeting was adjourned at 11:30 AM.