

PETITION TO THE SUTTON BOARD OF SELECTMEN TO INSERT A WARRANT ARTICLE

We, the undersigned registered voters of the Town of Sutton request you to insert in the warrant for the 2024 Town Meeting, the following article: *To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate \$2,000 for the Kezar Lake Protective Association to administer the Kezar Lake Host Program.*

	NAME (PLEASE PRINT)	SIGNATURE	ADDRESS
1			
2			
3			
4			
5			
6			
7			
8			
9			
10			
11			
12			
13			
14			
15			
16			
17			
18			
19			
20			
21			
22			
23			

PETITION TO THE SUTTON BOARD OF SELECTMEN TO INSERT A WARRANT ARTICLE

We, the undersigned registered voters of the Town of Sutton request you to insert in the warrant for the 2024 Town Meeting, the following article: *To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate \$2,000 for the Kezar Lake Protective Association to administer the Kezar Lake Host Program.*

24			
25			
26			
27			
28			
29			
30			
31			
32			
33			
34			
35			
36			
37			
38			
39			
40			
41			
42			
43			
44			
45			
46			
47			

PETITION TO THE SUTTON BOARD OF SELECTMEN TO INSERT A WARRANT ARTICLE

We, the undersigned registered voters of the Town of Sutton request you to insert in the warrant for the 2024 Town Meeting, the following article: *To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate \$2,000 for the Kezar Lake Protective Association to administer the Kezar Lake Host Program.*

48			
49			
50			

PETITION TO THE SUTTON BOARD OF SELECTMEN TO INSERT A WARRANT ARTICLE

We, the undersigned registered voters of the Town of Sutton request you to insert in the warrant for the 2024 Town Meeting, the following article: *To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate \$2,000 for the Kezar Lake Protective Association to administer the Kezar Lake Host Program.*

January 23, 2024

Board of Selectpersons
Town of Sutton
93 Main Street
Sutton, NH 03221

Dear Sutton Select Board,

On behalf of the Kezar Lake Protective Association, we are writing to request \$2,000 from the Town of Sutton to help fund our Lake Host Program in 2024 as part of the Town of Sutton's annual budget.

The Association has conducted the Lake Host Program for many years with support from two annual fundraising events, its principal funding source. The Program is vital to our efforts to prevent invasive plant and animal species from being introduced into Sutton's natural resource and recreation area, Kezar Lake. In protecting the Lake and its watershed from invasive species, the Program helps to preserve the beauty of our Town lake and the real estate values of the properties on and near the lake while promoting environmentally responsible recreational use of the lake by town residents and visitors.

Our lake hosts not only identify suspicious plants on watercraft being launched into the Lake but also promote awareness of the importance of the clean-drain-dry process in preventing invasions of unwanted species that would degrade our Lake and downstream waters. Our lake hosts also monitor the lake for cyanobacteria blooms and educate visitors about the lake's nesting loons. Due to these efforts, Kezar Lake remains pristine and an asset to the Town.

We continue to employ several lake hosts (at a lower rate than recommended; we pay \$13 per hour, though the NH Lakes Program recommends a rate of \$15). Each year, our lake host coordinator makes an all-out effort to enlist more volunteers to curtail the costs. Ramp usage and coverage of approximately 800 hours were met again in 2023, along with the support of the KLPA and a modest grant from NH Lakes. We hope to be awarded a grant from NH Lakes again in 2024, based on our volunteer hours last year. We have solicited and continue to receive additional assistance from our members to fund this effort. Town funding is crucial for achieving adequate funding, as we expect to meet at least or even exceed our 2023 expenditure next year.

PETITION TO THE SUTTON BOARD OF SELECTMEN TO INSERT A WARRANT ARTICLE

We, the undersigned registered voters of the Town of Sutton request you to insert in the warrant for the 2024 Town Meeting, the following article: *To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate \$2,000 for the Kezar Lake Protective Association to administer the Kezar Lake Host Program.*

The Kezar Lake Protective Association also provides portable restroom facilities at the boat ramp, a doggie waste station, a picnic table, and an umbrella. These are funded with our membership dues and contributions. Our volunteers also maintain trash cans at the ramp, mow the area, and conduct monthly seasonal inspections of the lake for early identification of invasive plants and animals so that we can mitigate permanent damage to the lake.

KLPA has been focused on obtaining a watershed plan grant this past year and encouraging our watershed neighbors to participate in the LakeSmart program. These efforts have met with so much success that the KLPA was recently awarded the first community Lake Smart award, recognizing our community dedication keeping our lake healthy today and for future generations. While only 15% participation is required to earn the award, KLPA has encouraged watershed participation, and 50% of our neighbors have participated. Also, please be aware that our volunteers are ambassadors for the Town and provide helpful information to visitors.

Again, this past summer, we were grateful to have swim lessons and the Concord YMCA, returning to Kezar Lake for a third year. Thanks to an anonymous KLPA member, we could provide swim lesson scholarships to Sutton youth. This year we also formed a Watershed Committee last year and applied for a 604(b) grant.

Kezar Lake is a town gem, a resource that raises property values in the area and makes it a desirable place to live, not just for those few who live on the lake, but for all of us who recreate around the lake - swimming, boating, fishing, ice fishing, running, walking and observing the loons, eagles, beavers and other wildlife that inhabit the area around the lake.

The Kezar Lake Association is committed to its mission to protect and preserve the high quality of our lake water for the current and future enjoyment of all who use it. The remediation would be costly if our lake becomes infested with any invasive species, as it was 50 years ago. We sincerely appreciate your consideration of our request and hope you also consider the Lake Host program as part of the Town's annual Conservation Commission or Recreation budget line.

Yours truly,

Kezar Lake Protective Association

Lynn Wittman, President

Jeff Hopkins, Treasurer

Sondra Brake, Board Member

Ernest Brake, a Friend of KLPA

Denis Swords, Board Member

Michele Ritz, Board Member

Jonathan Brown, Board Member