

KEZAR LAKE PROTECTIVE ASSOCIATION
ANNUAL MEETING
July 15, 2023, 9:00 a.m.
First Free Will Baptist Church, North Sutton, NH

Welcome: Lynn Wittman, KLPA President, welcomed members, and guests; Douglas Darling, Joe Schmidl, Wayne Ives, and Nisa Marks.

Review of 2022 minutes: Motion to approve, accepted without reading.

1. Douglas Darling, a NH Lakes advocate for Tucker Pond presented a PowerPoint explaining cyanobacteria blooms on NH lakes. Doug explained how important it is to identify a cyanobacteria bloom on the lake and report it to NHDES. Cyanobacteria is a photosynthetic bacteria that is seen all over the world. The causes of a cyanobacteria bloom are an increase in phosphorus and nitrogen from detritus (erosion and decomposition of matter). However, of the two, an increase in phosphorus seems to be the main culprit. The cyanobacteria feed on the phosphorus and increase its population on the lake to the point it can present danger to wildlife, pets, and humans. It releases toxins that could affect a human's liver, brain, and GI. The toxins can also kill livestock, pets, and wildlife living near or in the lake. Cyanobacteria blooms disrupt water supplies, and recreational activities, and can decrease property values by up to 25%. These blooms have not only increased throughout the world but the duration of the blooms have also increased.

Because a cyanobacteria bloom is an active threat to lakes and ponds the best way to prevent it is to get ahead of the bloom and develop a watershed management plan to monitor your waterbody. For example, Tucker Pond hired Dan Kretchmer to identify where the increased phosphorus was coming from. The major sources of phosphorus in lakes tend to come from storm runoff, septic systems, waterfowl, internal loading, and the atmosphere. For Tucker Pond, it was mainly from septic systems and runoff.

Because of the increased future threats of cyanobacteria blooms on NH lakes. The NHDES produced two bills to help prevent cyanobacteria blooms, HB1066 and HB276. HB1066 requires the commissioner of NHDES to prepare a plan relative to cyanobacteria blooms. HB 276 is the bill to establish the cyanobacteria mitigation loan and grant fund.

Jo Ann Sigua was appointed the Kezar Lake Advocate.

2. Joseph Schmidl, as well as, Wayne Ives, and Nisa Marks were present to explain the New Hampshire Instream Flow Program and how it will affect Kezar Lake. Kezar Lake is one of the lakes that is part of the Warner River watershed. The Instream Flow Program looks for sources of water to increase the Warner River flow to balance the water needs of the Warner River in times of drought. They are doing a flow variability study of Kezar Lake and how it affects the flow of water on the Warner River. They will be removing water from the lake by means of releasing water from the dam and evaluating water level fluctuations with natural water flow fluctuations. They will track and log the water flow data to develop a water management plan. For information contact Wayne Ives, Instream Flow Program Coordinator (603) 271-3548 or Wayne.Ives@des.nh.gov if you have concerns or the plan and they were not addressed contact Nisa Marks, Watershed Coordinator, at (603) 271-8811 or nisa.m.marks@des.nh.gov.
3. Clean Water State Revolving Fund: KLPA is seeking to make a \$100,000.00 forgivable loan from the state or fed to help manage the lake watershed plan. In order to get this loan the town of Sutton has to approve a warrant to make a loan in a town meeting, as well as, the town of Sutton has to apply for the loan. To be approved by the state or fed there needs to be a business plan in place.
4. KLPA is trying to propose a deal for discounts in septic pumping and inspections with Biron Septic.
5. The KLPA is joining a water depth research project, where satellites are used to monitor the depth of the lake. There will be a depth monitor placed by the dam that will be monitored by volunteers.
6. The new garden by Horse Beach was planted and donated by the Running Club. KLPA thanked Sondra Brake, Ernie Brake, and Henry Harold for their help and contributions to the project.
7. The July 4th Boat Parade: The Del Vecchio's were presented with an oar in honor of being the best-decorated boat for the July 4th boat parade.
8. The KLPA will continue to pursue a means to help improve the parking lot at Horse Beach.

9. The financial report was presented by Pat Tivnan. The net assets total was \$74,364.00 (currently around \$80,000.00), the net income was \$23,823.00, the net spending was \$13,364.00, and the net revenue for 2022 was \$10,459.00. The reason the net revenue was high was because the KLPA increased the coverage of days with lakehosting. KLPA decided it had to limit the amount of days covered with lake hosting, as well as, increase the number of volunteer hours to help monitor the lake.

The KLPA increased its membership by 13% and increased its donations by 27%. The investments were up \$5000.00 and have increased the sales of hats and t-shirts.

10. Lisa Lopez presented the status of the swimming program. She emphasized its importance as a life skill, educational, and community service for children ages 3-13 years old. The sessions are for 2 weeks, each class is half an hour. 31 children have participated this year and 26% of the students have financial assistance. Last year 13% requested financial assistance. Possibly because the program increased its price to \$85.00. The previous year it was \$65.00.

The program is in jeopardy of being discontinued because Wadleigh State Park is charging a fee for parking. \$4.00 for adults and \$2.00 for children. A motion to waive fees was enacted by the members. The motion was approved.

A reminder to the members was stated that if you are a resident of Sutton, owner of the property, or a renter parking is free. Evidence of residency, owner, or renter has to be shown with a license, property card, or utility bills.

11. Nominating Committee, John Herbert and Janie Snowden: Jenny Menning stepped down from the nominating committee and was replaced by Janie Snowden. Jo Ann Sigua will leave her position as secretary, to be replaced by Michelle Ritz. Pat Tivnan will leave her position as treasurer, to be replaced by Jeff Hopkins. The board for 2023-2024 is:

Lynn Wittman, President

Jeff Hopkins, Treasurer

Michelle Ritz, Secretary

Denis Swords, Director: 2023-2026

Sondra Brake, Director: 2021-2024

Jonathan Brown, Director: 2022-2025

12. Water Quality, Jonathan Brown: Jonathan stated the water quality has remained the same. However, there is a concern about the chloride levels of the lake. It is possible the New London salt shed is leaching salt into Lyon's Brook which is part of Kezar Lake's watershed. He stated DES recently did a full water quality test on July 13th. The concern is if the chloride and phosphorus levels increase in the lake so will the cyanobacteria. So it is instrumental to make a water management plan.

Jonathan will be having a Kezar Lake watershed tour at 10:00 a.m. on August 20th. People should meet at Horse Beach if they are interested.

He also stated with the recent storms and floods we had, he approximated that 2 feet of water were added to the lake.

13. New Business, Lynn Wittman: The third annual picnic and silent auction will be held July 27th at Wadleigh State Park. Donations for the silent auction are needed.

14. Loon Report, Sue Esposito: one chick was born this year. She named it Lucky because the parents have been acting strangely with the protection of the chick. So it is lucky it is still thriving. The female parent seems to be the same Loon as last year. She thinks the chick hatched around June 19th.

There was a discussion that other loons may have been seen in the area and it was possible that the loon parents were stashing their chick for its protection.

15. Eileen Sibert made a recommendation to make sure, in future annual KLPA meetings, that all meetings begin with introductions of the members present. Introductions ensued after this recommendation.

16. The motion to adjourn the meeting was announced and approved.

The meeting adjourned at 11:00 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Jo Ann Sigua