

Eagle Lake Property Owners, Inc. Annual Meeting Minutes

Celebrating 100 Years of Responsible Lake Stewardship 1907-2007

❖ July 7th, 2007 ❖

CALL TO ORDER: The annual meeting of Eagle Lake Property Owners, Inc., held outside under the tents at the Chilson Community Center, was called to order at 10:12 AM by President Jere Paddack with 29 people in attendance.

PRESIDENT'S ADDRESS: President Jere Paddack welcomed everyone to the meeting by announcing that it was ELPOI's Centennial in 2007 and by chance the meeting was being held on 7/7/07. He pointed out a table with numerous handouts and a sign-in sheet. Also, in commemoration of the ELPOI Centennial, Board member Jim Shultz was manning a table where Eagle Lake postcards and mugs could be purchased as part of a new fund-raiser. Earlier before the meeting, Jere noted that a group photo had been taken of 7 Presidents from throughout ELPOI's history. In the photo were: Bill Knauss, Bill Allen, John DiPofi, Rin Fraize, Sue Barwig, Jere Paddack, and Rolf Tiedemann. At this point, Jere thought it appropriate to lead the membership in singing "Happy Birthday".

AGENDA: Jere announced what the agenda of the meeting would include: roll call/membership report, general announcements, 2006 annual meeting minutes approval, old business, treasurer's report, committee reports, nominations and elections, and new business.

ROLL CALL: Rin Fraize, treasurer, explained that membership is established by paying dues prior to the annual meeting. Each property having one vote. Several people paid at that time.

GENERAL ANNOUNCEMENTS: Ted Runge announced that he had given the Ticonderoga Historical Society a few years back, the original ELPOI meeting minutes from its first 30 years. The Board will pursue trying to get these records back in our possession. Congratulations were extended to Scott Davis, son of Jim and Wendy Davis, on his graduation from Clarkson with an engineering degree. And to Connie Belkevich, daughter of Andy and Robin Belkevich, who graduated from Ticonderoga High School. She will be starting college at Oneonta State this fall. Michael Tiedemann announced that he is looking for Harris family history for the ELPOI website. Also, he has put a brief video clip on the website showing milfoil under water using the ELPOI camera. Jim Davis, in his role as a Chilson Volunteer Fire Department representative, thanked ELPOI for their continued support. And a general thanks was made to Carlos Alden, not in attendance, who is the sponsor of the ELPOI website.

2006 ANNUAL MEETING MINUTES: This year, instead of having the Secretary read the lengthy minutes aloud before approval, everyone was provided with a personal copy. Board member Andy Belkevich made a motion to approve the minutes without any additions or corrections. Leland Loose seconded the motion. Motion approved.

OLD BUSINESS: none

MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE: Chryl Pynn noted that in 2006, 61 members had paid their dues out of a possible 86. As of this meeting, only 34 members and 4 associate members had paid their dues. A follow-up membership appeal letter will go out to those unpaid properties.

TREASURER'S REPORT: Copies of ELPOI's current year spending budget were handed out to the membership. Rin, Treasurer, explained income and expenditures. He also informed the membership that all checks written require two signatures for security purposes. Ted Runge made a motion to accept the current financial statements. Sharon Zankel seconded, and the motion was approved. Rin reviewed the proposed budget for the coming year, noting that the fiscal year started on July 1. Each year, ELPOI contributes donations to worthy local organizations that are seen to benefit our membership. It was decided at the last regular board meeting to remove Moses-Ludington Hospital as a recipient of \$200, as an economy move looking at needed Milfoil funds. Paul Burroughs voiced his opinion that it was a bad idea, since MLH is the only local hospital, and has a real need for the donation. He made a motion to restore the donation to MLH at \$200. Chryl Pynn seconded the motion. Motion approved. Rin will make the adjustment to the budget. Carolyn Baldwin made a motion to accept the proposed budget with the one amendment. Bill Knauss seconded the motion. Motion approved. Rin thanked Todd Condon and International Paper for their donation of paper and copying services for all the handouts at this meeting and throughout the year.

ADOPT-A-HIGHWAY COMMITTEE: Committee Chair Tonya Condon reported that to date, 200 pounds of trash has been collected from Route 74 in Eagle Lake (about 4 miles). 6 major clean-ups have been held so far, along with weekly spot checks. Eagle Lake residents were asked to volunteer to pick-up trash whenever and wherever they can. Garbage bags are available from Todd and Tonya Condon, and Paul and Lloyd Burroughs will accept your full bags for transport to the DOT. Rolf Tiedemann also noted that Todd and Tonya requested two new larger Eagle Lake Property Owner signs from the DOT this spring. They were installed a few months ago, and are located at the east and west ends of Route 74 in Eagle Lake.

FISH STOCKING COMMITTEE: Andy Belkevich, Committee Chair, told the membership that the lake was stocked twice this spring with 900 Brown Trout running from 15"-18". All fish populations seem healthy, including native bass, pike and pan fish. Rin reported that Andy catches his fair share of trout and his share too.

WATER QUALITY COMMITTEE: Paul and Lloyd Burroughs reported that the lake continues to have very good water quality with high clarity. Paul and Lloyd conduct CSLAP testing (Citizens Statewide Lake Assessment Program) every 2 weeks during the summer. Secchi disk transparency readings taken by the Burroughs, measure visible distance. This year, clarity measured near 6 ½ meters. This national program out of Ohio compares data from lakes throughout the country. Eagle Lake rates very well in all categories. Dianne Tiedemann asked if any significant changes have occurred. The response was none. Labor Day is an ideal time for testing, but no increases in fecal coliform levels were detected. Any winter testing, not currently done, would not provide a good picture of lake use and activity. Paul reported no beaver activity at the dam during the past year, but several logs have been spotted on the lake that could potentially get stuck in the dam. Paul will recruit volunteers for removal if needed. The water level is good right now according to state standards. Calcium content is low, which is good in keeping Zebra Mussels out of the lake. Rolf Tiedemann interjected the need by everyone to be responsible and keep your boats and PWC's clean so as not to spread invasive species. Rolf, who heads the ELPOI Milfoil Eradication Program, elected to speak under new business regarding this matter and a recent grant submission.

NOMINATIONS AND ELECTIONS: Two Board Member terms are up this year. Lew Zankel said he would run for re-election. John (Jack) Devaney, not present, had offered to run. From the floor, Lloyd Burroughs made a motion to nominate Chryl Pynn. John Pynn seconded the motion. Motion approved. Since there were three people willing to run for two positions, a vote of the membership by ballot was held. Wendy Davis and Ted Runge counted the ballots. Jack Devaney and Chryl Pynn were elected. Following is the new ELPOI Board of Directors: Jere Paddack, President;

Rolf Tiedemann, Vice-President; Tonya Condon, Secretary (replaces Todd Condon who resigned); Rin Fraize, Treasurer; Jim Shultz, Lloyd Burroughs, Andy Belkevich, Chryl Pynn, and Jack Devaney. Bill Knauss made a motion to accept this Board. Sharon Zankel seconded the motion. Motion approved. Jere thanked Lou and John for their years of service.

NEW BUSINESS: Rolf Tiedemann reported that ELPOI had secured a \$10,000 NYS Senate Initiative for the Towns of Crown Point and Ticonderoga this past spring to be used towards costs in obtaining permits for applying for herbicide Milfoil treatment (Renovate). Also, Rolf just completed and the Towns have submitted a request for a \$110,000 grant to the NYS DEC Aquatic ISEG Program for the Eagle Lake Eurasian Water Milfoil Eradication Project. The membership applauded Rolf's efforts. It was noted that last year's grant was denied due to the amount the project relied upon use of an herbicide. This year's grant stressed hand harvesting using divers as the primary removal method, and the application of an herbicide secondarily. \$70,000 would be used for the hand harvesting and \$40,000 for an herbicide. The herbicide SONAR is no longer being considered due to its controversy. Renovate, a more selective herbicide in solid, granular form, with a shorter half-life is being pursued. Leland Loose agreed to review available information on safety of this chemical. Wendy Davis was also aware of this product by another name. An Environmental Impact Study for its final registration by the state should be concluded by the end of the year. Rin Fraize pointed out that members of the Board met with Senator Betty Little, two representatives from the NYS DEC and Brian Houseal of the Adirondack Council in August 2006 and received their support for our efforts to get Renovate approved for use inside the blue line. Rolf offered CD's containing the grant application to those who were interested. Hard copies were passed around for review, but not to be taken. Rolf explained that this was a matching grant, of which \$55,000 would come from the state if the rest could be secured for the Towns by ELPOI. It was noted that \$5,000 in cash donations are still needed, as are people to volunteer time to the project, which is calculated as \$7.15 an hour towards the matching. Currently, \$39,000 in cash and equipment is identified for the Towns' matching funds. Rolf explained that the grant will be announced in August or September at best, and no real work could be done before then because it would not count towards our match. Rolf thanked International Paper for continuing to donate mill wire, which will be used for matting thick patches of milfoil. A thank you letter will be sent. Frames will need to be constructed using rebar. Depending on whether we get the grant this year, there still may be time to do a small demonstration project to show property owners that we are indeed doing something about the milfoil.

Rolf also showed the membership one of 10 new lighted buoys that will mark problem milfoil patches on the lake that are to be avoided. They are solar powered and will be installed next week.

ADJOURNMENT: Andy Belkevich made a motion to adjourn the meeting. It was seconded and approved. Meeting adjourned at 11:45 AM. The annual picnic followed. Jere took the opportunity to thank the picnic committee for their hard work: Birgitta Paddack, Carol Fraize and Sue Barwig were in charge of procurement and setup, while Lou Zankel and Jim Shultz manned the grill.

2008 ANNUAL MEETING/PICNIC: Next year's meeting will be held on Saturday, July 12th, 2008 at 10:00 AM at the Chilson Community Center with a picnic to follow around noon.