Lake Onderdonk Improvement Association – Early Spring Meeting

5-23-26 10:00am

Present: Chris D'Alessandro, Vice President; Joe McFadden, Treasurer; Karen Edwards-D'Alessandro, Secretary; Maynard Porter, BOD; Barb Porter, BOD; Randy Coon, BOD, John Merrill, BOD; Penny Stoever, BOD; Judy Converse; Marlene Snyder; Maureen Hartmann; Michael Hartmann; Lee Warren; Danielle Lee; Don Lee; Mike Cady; Joe Graf; Rose Dewey; Rich Coon; Michelle Coon; Cate Oranchak; Sean Mullahy; Helen Crane.

Absent: Steve Converse, President

1. Welcome and call to order: Chris introduced himself and explained that Steve was unable to attend as he was caring for his father in St. Louis. The meeting was called to order at 10:00am.

2. Secretary's report, review/approval of 8/23/25 meeting minutes: Karen e-mailed the minutes to all present at August's meeting. There were no edits suggested. Barb motioned to accept the minutes and it was seconded by John. They will be posted on the LOIA Website where 2024 and 2026 meeting minutes are available. Many thanks to Curtis Canham for maintaining the Website.

3. Treasurer's report: Joe McFadden reported that we currently have a balance of approximately $8,000 after paying Little Bear $15,000 for this year's Clearcast application. He stated there are several other dues and frontage assessment payments that may be coming in from those who typically pay. The participation in dues and assessments has improved considerably since he and Steve cleaned up the mailing list a few years ago. Steve indicated to Board members via e-mail the he intends to follow-up with those currently owing for 2026. Lee inquired about results of the outreach on cash inflows. Joe reported that it marginally improved the cash inflow.
   Joe also reported that this year's application was completed on 5/12/26, the perfect application time to target the curly leaf. The water will be tested after about a month of application. That report will be given to Steve and the DEC as required by our permit and the information will be presented at June's meeting and posted on the website minutes as it had been last year. The signs will be removed after the testing. Penny wondered if the water was safe for swimming. Joe reported that the water is safe after 24 hours for swimming.

4. 300 Club Raffle: Randy gave a brief overview of the 300 Club Raffle as there were several new members present. The raffle was started many years ago as a fund raiser to supplement the voluntary assessment and dues income in order to have sufficient funding for weed control. It also serves as a fun way to connect the lake community. Tickets are $25 and only 300 tickets are sold. There are weekly drawings from Memorial Day through Labor Day. There are fifteen $25 weekly drawings, two $100 drawings, one $250 drawing and one final drawing of $500. Winners pulled are put back in the drawing bag for all subsequent drawings. Karen reported that this year, all tickets were distributed to prior purchasers to minimize waste and hopefully sell all 300 tickets. Last year 245 tickets were sold not counting the 7 bonus ticket awarded to those selling greater than 10 tickets. Only 204 tickets have been returned thus far and the checks have been deposited. At the meeting, several more members turned in their tickets, checks and cash and new members purchased so it appears we will have sold at least as many as last year's total. There will be an update at the June meeting.

5. Water Quality Committee:
   A. Clearcast: as previously reported by Joe.
   B. Citizen's Statewide Lake Assessment Program (CSLAP). Penny and Chris briefly reported on our

participation in the program. Last year, NYS funded training for volunteers and 4 rounds of testing with all needed equipment for all NYSFOLA member Lakes interested. LOIA continues in its second year of membership to NYSFOLA. The data from the sampling done last year is posted on the CSLAP website Dashboard. It is rather cumbersome to locate and can be a challenging read for a non-scientist, but members are encouraged to check it out. Google CSLAP, locate our lake by selecting the circle on the NYS map on the Dashboard. Penny plans on presenting a report on the findings next month. Additionally, she would like to discuss options she has researched regarding eradicating so much muck from the lake. Briefly, she introduced that while our change to Clearcast is an improved lake management plan, it would be ideal to target the source of the problem- the muck.
C. Winter-Kill: All present were aware of the winter-kill on the lake. Karen provided a bit of the information provided by the DEC. Due to the drought, extreme temperatures and snow and ice coverage of the lake from November through March, the fish were oxygen deprived and died off in large numbers in over 20 New York Lakes with our profile. Several DEC staffers and our partners with NYSFOLA and CSLAP were of great assistance as we processed our loss of so many fish. We are grateful to our adult eagles and juveniles (over 12 at one point scooping and munching), mergansers (dozens happily diving down for breakfast and supper) and other wildlife that received strengthened life from this event. It truly reinvigorates our passion to protect this beautiful lake.

6. Clubhouse and Grounds: Randy reported on the final work of the season last year, the tearing down of the old bathroom which was an unsafe structure. Many thanks to volunteers Steve Converse, Chris Pullmain, Randy Coon, Chris D'Alessandro and John Merrill for their time, equipment and talent. It was reported that the existing septic is quite viable. Randy presented his ideas for LOIA possible projects for 2026: 1. New tables to replace the current heavy, old and worn tables. 2. Floor repair: One area of subfloor needs replacement currently as a priority with additional flooring and joist work to be considered in the future. 3. New Bathroom which will need water and electric. 4. Development of the Lake front to include placing blocks and bringing in fill to reduce the steep angle. Installation of a dock and eventually kayak rack rentals. This upgrade will require approval from DEC following submission of the required paperwork.
   Chris reported that Steve will present the data on the membership priorities as obtained in the survey sent out with the dues and assessments in January. There will be more discussion of the projects Randy listed in June's meeting. Joe mentioned that all projects have been completed with volunteer time and talent and encouraged all new members to become involved in any way that suits them.

7. Introduction of membership: Since we had so many new members, Chris had all introduce themselves. Helen and Mike Cady introduced themselves as new owners on the lake. Mike gave some detail to all involved in his acquisition of 243 Lake Road. Not as planed, the existing structure will need to come down due to structural issues. Mike informed all that the dam, of which he is part owner, is listed as in poor condition by the DEC. This led to a brief discussion of insurance and the state of LOIA insurance. We continue without insurance at this time, at least one quote was obtained last year.
   Chris reported that all active members are eligible for any open Board seats. Steve will review the Board seats and current terms in June's meeting as well as committee participation opportunities.

8. Social Committee: Chris introduced Judy, "the First Lady of LOIA". Judy briefly reviewed the committee. Today's Welcome Breakfast kicks off the committee's events. In the past there have been potlucks and a tag sale. Ideas for the future include a kayak/vessel parade and a fishing contest. Ideas and members are welcome.

9. New Business: None Presented.
10. Raffle drawings: Chris D'Alessandro was drawn as the first winner. He purchased an additional raffle ticket which will bring current sales to 205!
11. The meeting was adjourned @10:30 and all were invited to enjoy the welcome breakfast.