

SHAKER PINES LAKE ASSOCIATION
06/10/2023 Annual Meeting Minutes

Meeting called to order: 2:06PM

Pledge of Allegiance

Board Members Attendance:

Leslie Cunningham, Dan Hart, Lorraine Creedon, Sharon Ledger, Linda Ostapoff, George Temple, Jeremy Stefanik, Jaime Macsata

Tax Collector: Jaime Macsata

Absent – Allison Cushing

Leslie Cunningham started off the meeting stating we need 5 nominations for new board members for the 2023-2024 year.

Leslie Cunningham (President), Dan Hart (Vice President) and Lorraine Creedon (treasurer) and Allison Cushing will not be running this time. Many thanks to you all for all your years of servicing on the SPLA board.

Leslie unlocked the ballot box – removed the prior year ballots and then relocked the ballot box. Voting is now officially open.

Article 1: To elect (5) Members of the Board of Directors for a two (2) year term:

Nominations:

- Dan Hart nominated Randy Daigle. Lorraine Creedon seconded the nomination. Randy Daigle accepted the nomination.
- Kassie Huhtanen nominated Dan Smith. George Temple seconded the nomination. Dan Smith accepted the nomination.
- Linda Ostapoff nominated Jeremy Stefanik. Jaime Macsata seconded the nomination. Jeremy Stefanik accepted the nomination.
- George Temple nominated Betsy Nourse. Dan Hart seconded the nomination. Betsy Nourse accepted the nomination.
- Travis Buck nominated Charlie Macsata. Linda Ostapoff seconded the nomination. Charlie Macsata accepted the nomination.
- George Temple nominated Jaime Macsata as Tax collector. Lorraine Creedon seconded the nomination. Jaime Macsata accepted the nomination.

Nominations are now closed.

Article 2: Report of Officers and Committee Chairpersons:

Committee Reports –

Ecology - Leslie Cunningham

Spillway Repair Project:

Wright and Pierce are currently working on the project for us. We contracted with Wright and Pierce since we had hired them previously and Stephanie Hubbard was our contact. She was wonderful so we went with them again. Stephanie since has left Wright and Pierce and moved to Maine. The new people we are dealing with are not as reliable as Stephanie.

In September 2023 Leslie and Lorraine had a meeting with DEEP. Lorraine thought there was a wetlands mitigation on file, however it was too old, therefore, a new survey is now required. At that time DEEP stated we would need an individual permit vs a general permit.

Wright and Pierce had a preliminary meeting with DEEP to see if they would accept a general permit, DEEP responded an individual permit will be required. Which we were just notified will cost an additional \$46k.

Wright and Pierce stated if we were to approve the Amendment to the Shaker Pond Dam Spillway Project, they would move forward with obtaining the permits. This would take 6-8 weeks and they would expect to hear back in 3 weeks.

Since this information was just received this week, the committee will need additional time to research this. The committee will be meeting after this meeting to discuss what action needs to be taken. Note: This increase would require a special meeting.

Last summer/fall Linda and Mike Ostapoff submitted a presentation requesting funding from the Town of Enfield. They worked with Nick Hopkins and Matt Despard who then presented to the Town Council requesting \$151,000 funding. They agreed to fund \$75,000 from ARPA funds and \$76,000 from the Town CIF fund. Thank you so much to Linda and Mike for putting this together.

Lake Treatment

We are currently contracted with Pond and Lake Management. They are very responsive, and we are very happy with them.

The treatments we are treating for weeds/algae and the treatments non-toxic. The Geese are a huge problem to our lake. PLEASE DO NOT FEED GEESE!

DEEP recommends hazing them to discourage them from being residents.

New this year DEEP requires all lake front homeowners be notified of lake treatments. Which is why we had to request email addresses to allow Pond and Lake Management to notify homeowners.

Dam Lot – Memorial Park

The board needs to watch, maintain, and repair issues are they are identified.

Currently we have muskrats there that are causing issues. People are fishing on the edge. Kids are also removing rock.

Fence – 119 Cottage Road

This issue has been amicably resolved and all parties are happy.

The is a knotweed at upper Cottage Beach is getting out of control. At the last board meeting, it was discussed that we would ask the landscaper how the knotweed should be managed.

East Longmeadow construction near Jawbrook Reservoir –

There is concern about how the proposed recycling/transfer station for processing of construction and demolition materials will directly feed our lake waters.

We hired an engineer, Victoria Houle, to complete a study, which was presented to the Town of East Longmeadow.

Lisa Lacombe, 143 Cottage Road suggested someone contact the Town of Longmeadow, Wolf Swamp conservation for their opinion on the recycling/transfer station project.

Property Committee –George Temple

Lower Cottage beach lot is very uneven. George will walk the lot with Fred from Plaza Excavating in August to determine how much topsoil would be required to level lot.

Plaza Excavating provided rock for Memorial lot and sand for lower Cottage beach.

- Dan Hart and Leslie Cunningham cleaned up the Memorial lot and distributed the rocks where needed.
- The sand will be spread out in the next couple of days.
- Ann and Wayne Buck cleaned up the upper Cottage beach.

There are picnic tables that need to be repaired.

The swimming sign with life preserver will be re-installed at upper Cottage Beach.

There is a tree growing out of the retaining wall at the upper Cottage beach that runs on SPLA property and the 119 property line. It is not in any danger of falling but should be removed soon. George received a quote of \$800-\$1,000 to have removed.

Communications- Elaine Olson

Jasmine Curry will be taking over the newsletter.

Elaine Olson - Thank you for making our newsletter awesome!

Dan Smith – Thank you for printing all the newsletters.

Website – Bob Duga was the founder of the website. A plaque will be presented to Bob, as he is not in attendance at the meeting, for his MANY years of service.

Jaime Macsata, Curtis Chase, and Jeremy Stefanik – have designed a new website – check it out. Shakerpineslake.org

Activity Committee –Linda Ostapoff

The activity committee runs fundraisers through the year to cover the cost of the activities throughout the year.

Fundraisers

Raffle Baskets at Block party, Raffle at Buona Vita, Calendar sales, Wreath sale

Events

Easter event for children, Ice cream social, 4th of July parade, Movie nights, Children's fishing derby, Block party, Halloween kids' carnival, Children's Christmas party, Lights on the Lake, Christmas Tree on Memorial,

Charity Events

Shriner's 4th of July parade

Food Drive in December

Join us Sunday, June 18th for the Ice Cream Social – 1:30 at Memorial lot.
Saturday, July 1st for the 4th of July Parade
New event Adult Holiday party – November 3rd -Save the date.

Thank you for all your support. We would love to have new members join the committee. New Idea's are always welcome.

Article 3: Finance Statement

Treasurer Report - Lorraine Creedon

Capital Account	\$ 141,852.19
Checking Account	\$ 2,121.46
Activity Account	\$ 2,698.13

2022-2023 Budget \$ remaining \$ 39,248.75
Lorraine presented the 2023-2024 proposed budget.

Article 4: Tax Collector's Report

Jaime Macsata

Total July 2022 – June 2023	\$ 34,293.63
Manual Payments	\$ 23,832.22
Online Payments	\$ 10,461.41
Total Outstanding Taxes	\$ 9,681.08

Currently open liens 51. 14 Warrants as of May 1,2023.
For 2021 we are at a 90% collection rate.

Office of the Policy Management Contacted Jaime Macsata, Tax Collector asking why we were charging a flat rate vs a mill rate for our taxes.
It was determined we using a flat rate based on the home rules established. There was difficulty finding the documentation however, it was finally discovered and there was a letter from State Representative's stating to go with Home Rule.
If anyone is interested in being a backup to the tax collector, please reach out to Jaime Macsata.

Lisa Lacombe, 143 Cottage Road suggested we archive a copy of the home rules on the website to share knowledge for the future.

Article 5: Shall we approve the 2023-2024 Budget.

Article 6: Recommendations to the Board of Directors for future consideration

Irene Percoski, 77 West Shore Drive

- While at the lower cottage beach there were kids fishing from the beach while people were swimming. She suggested a designated area for swimming and fishing.
- Wheeler drive lot – There is a no trespassing sign on lot. However, this is the designated area for Back lot owners.

- All SPLA lots have no trespassing signs – which are intended for people who are not association members and should not be there.
- Irene would like to be able to walk down to the water. However, the lot needs to be maintained. She is looking for at least a path area.
 - This lot is owned by back lot owners and cannot be maintained by SPLA. A list of all back lot owners will be provided to send all back lot owners notification they own and are responsible for maintaining the lot.
 - Irene suggested cardboard boat races as an activity.

Randy Daigle, 55 Cottage Road

- Wanted to know if there is a point of contact for unauthorized people at the beach.
 - Currently we do not have a specified individual. However, we have been advised if we see something to notify the police.
 - Randy would like to be the 1st contact.

Elaine Olson, 46 West Shore Drive

- Suggested we designate the Upper Cottage beach as a fishing area.

Lori Parker, 105 Cottage Road

- Lori presented a Save the Lakes package.

Lisa Lacombe, 143 Cottage Road

- Was questioning the Property insurance regarding unauthorized people on properties.
- We do have liability insurance and we have been advised to have no trespassing signs posted on SPLA properties.

Meeting adjourned

George Temple made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 3:26PM. Seconded by Linda Ostapoff. All in favor, Meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Sharon Ledger

Secretary, Shaker Pines Lake Association