

## **OLA Membership Meeting Minutes August 31, 2013**

The meeting was called to order at 10:02 a.m. by President Mona Lincoln. VP Hubert Velepec led the members in the Pledge of Allegiance to the flag.

The Secretary read her report and explained expenditures and other items. Her report was approved as read.

Education Committee: Gabby named the four scholarship winners for this year: Trevor Tighe, Caroline Arancio, Celleen Kearey, and Casey Kohler. Each recipient received \$250.00. Loretta Kaye suggested announcing the winners in the local weekly papers.

Gabby advised that she has requested environmentalist Nina Schoch, who recently was a speaker at the View, to speak at a 2014 OLA meeting. Joan Trask stated that she and Ellie Connick have been doing an annual survey of the numbers of loons on Otter lake.

Fundraising Committee: Rob reported on the successful Meet and Greet held at the Otter Lake Station in July. He also suggested having a cardboard boat race in 2014, but there was no discussion from the members. He also asked for donations of more raffle baskets and prizes for the 2014 Meet and Greet, for which no date has been set.

Grounds Committee: Gene Trimble reported that the area around the two Otter Lake signs has been improved and advised of new no parking signs at the boat launch. He announced that a survey will be done at the area, after which the OLA plans a beautification project. He also asked members to volunteer equipment for the maintenance of the Otter Lake flags in the 2014 season.

Membership Committee: Gabby advised that she has used the postcards left from last year to do another mailing requesting more residents to become members. She noted that the paid memberships are down from previous years.

Forestport Master Plan Committee: Gene Trimble is the OLA liaison. There have been no meetings this year.

Forestport Town Board meetings: Mona said that the main issue discussed at the meeting was the new bridge.

Old Business: Hubert passed out ballots and explained that only paid members may vote, one vote per household. He introduced Wendy Eden, who has volunteered to run for Secretary, to replace Sharon Engle, who will retire when her term ends this year. There were no nominations, so the Secretary stipulated her vote for Wendy Eden. Two Board members' terms will end this year: Gabby Lodder and Gene Trimble. There were no nominations to replace the incumbents, so Secretary stipulated her vote for Gabby, and Gene to continue as Board Members for another two years. Mona replaced Board Member Dave Dylis, who has chosen to resign and whose term ends August 31, 2014, with Jim LaFountain, who offered to serve on the Board. Dave Dylis will continue to maintain the OLA website.

Audrey Velepec made a motion, seconded by Jim Kreutzer, to close the polls, and Loretta Kaye made a motion, seconded by Kathy Boughton, to allow the Secretary to stipulate her vote. All unanimously approved both motions.

Liability insurance: Hubert announced that the Board has agreed to table this discussion.

There were no reports on the online membership app on the website and no results yet on the DEC Electroshock survey.

Mona advised members that septic dye test strips are available.

The 2013 Holiday Raffle will offer the winner a choice of a paddle board, left from the 2012 raffle, and a kayak with paddle as prizes. The tickets will be mailed to all residents soon, and the drawing will be held on December 1. The proceeds from the raffle help to defray the Bti expense. Mona noted that the raffle revenue has paid for nearly one half of our Bti bill since the inception of the raffle.

Discussion: Loretta Kaye has asked the Oneida County Sheriff for more police presence in the area, advising them of increased traffic, renters, camps for sale, etc. They agreed to her request. She also noted that the Sheriff was on the lake twice this summer. Mona asked Loretta if she has any information about the culvert problem at Lakeview Road. Ellie Connick responded that it is being replaced, and a short discussion followed on the subject of drainage problems. Loretta also notified members of a problem with small bug worms which ate needles on lower part of trees. She will report to DEC and try to get any info. Another discussion followed on bobcats in area, bears seen, etc. Ellie Connick thanked the Kayes and Crupes for planting and maintaining flower beds by the pillars on Norton/Lakeview Road. Ivan Kaye noted that Jim and Agnes Reynolds began this tradition many years ago.

Hubert stated that we are all present because we love Otter Lake and he thanked all the Officers, Board members, Committee members, and all the volunteers who helped the Association achieve their goals throughout the years. He also thanked the Secretary who is retiring for her many years of service to the Association, and she thanked him and responded that the book "Otter Lake Memories" was her most beloved project and a labor of love. Hubert also thanked Mona for being our "best president" and all applauded.

The 50/50 raffle was won by Connie Hurd, who donated back \$62 back to the Association.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:52 a.m.

Respectfully submitted/Sharon Engle