

**Otter Lake Association General Meeting
New Firehouse Community Room
July 26, 2014**

Mona greeted everyone and invited them to have refreshments while we waited a few extra minutes due to change of venue. President, Mona Lincoln called the meeting to order at 10:15.

Hubert Velepec lead us in the pledge, and again reiterated the correct way to say the pledge, and asked veterans to salute the flag as they had done while serving in the military.

Secretary, Wendy Eden read the minutes from the June 28, 2014 meeting. George Haskell made a motion to accept the minutes as presented, Rob Reiley seconded it, and it was passed unanimously.

Treasurer, June Wellman read the treasurer's report. Jim LaFountain made a motion to accept the report as presented, it was seconded by Rob Reiley, and passed unanimously.

Committee and liaison reports:

Education committee: Mona Lincoln reported that there will be a boaters safety course in Old Forge starting July 31. We haven't done one in a few years, possibly we will do one next year. We had a speaker previously on invasive species, but since water chestnuts are becoming an issue in the southern region, we may want to have a speaker come to discuss this topic.

Fundraising Committee: Rob Reiley reported that the Meet and Greet will be at Drake's Otter Lake Station on Saturday, August 9 from 4:30 - 7 PM. There are many wonderful raffle baskets and gift certificates this year so it is hoped everyone will come and enjoy the evening!

Grounds Committee: Gene Trimble reported that the committee and interested board members met at boat launch for a meeting on July 12 to discuss several issues with the boat launch property. Currently there are no trailers parked there now and we are appreciative that people have moved them elsewhere. The committee looked at the property boundaries based on the survey done, and have determined where additional parking can be developed. Placement for a shed was determined which will accommodate a lawn mower, weed whacker (yet to to be purchased), and benches. The committee also looked at drainage and made plans to redirect the water by installing pipes. We have 12 new banners, but they haven't been put up yet. Plans are being established to hopefully do that soon. We are getting an estimate from Morin Sign to redo large boat launch sign. A fish line box has been installed at the boat launch and another will be installed this weekend at the dam. Jim LaFountain has agreed to co-chair.

Membership Committee: June Wellman reported that a postcard mailing will be done again to get new members.

Forestport Master Plan: No report

Forestport Town Board Meeting:

* Mona Lincoln reported that there was a speaker from Paul Smiths doing a program on water chestnuts. They have people that will come to lakes and stay for weekend to check boats and discuss invasive species issues with people coming in. All boats should be inspected for invasive species before launching. DEC is putting up some signs to warn boaters. Eventually all Adirondack lakes may need to have an inspector at boat launches. We're not sure if we will be exempt because Otter Lake is so small.

* Marleau property finally cleaned up by the owner. A member raised the question regarding the burned out van across the street. It was suggested that they call the Town of Forestport to inquire.

* A new regulation is being recommended regarding 3 story structures - they must now have a sprinkler system.

Other Business:

The dam loan is finally paid in full - refreshments after the meeting to celebrate!!!!

\$1360 was raised for this year's scholarship fund. Scholarships of \$340 will be awarded to the following students: Danielle Commissa, William Johnson, Colleen Kearney, and Emma Kohler.

Correspondence:

* A thank you was received from Cap 21 for our donation (membership dues).

New Business:

Dates to Remember:

* Boater Safety Course in Old Forge starting July 31

* Meet & Greet Drake's Otter Lake Station, August 9, 4:30 - 7 PM

* Steak Bake Otter Lake New Firehouse, August 31 starting at 4 PM

Board Nominations: Board members Jim Kreutzer and Jim LaFountain terms will expire in August. Rob Reiley will take nominations and run election. Please give nominations to Rob.

No 50/50 raffle today - raffle tickets did not make it to the new building.

An inquiry was made regarding the carp program. Since the carp are now dying off - what are we doing for the future regarding invasive plant species? Mona Lincoln responded that she was told that the invasive species must be reintroduced into the lake for there to be a problem. Someone mentioned spotting bladderwort on the lake, but this may be the tail end of that we had from before. There are still carp in the lake and they may take care of what is left. Someone asked if we could develop a maintenance program, but it was mentioned that if we put more carp in, they have to have something to eat. If there is little or no bladderwort, they will need something else to eat. An inquiry was made regarding what the model is for future maintenance, since it took 7 years to get the DEC to listen to us the first time.

Jim Kreutzer made a motion to adjourn the meeting, Rob Reiley seconded the motion and it was passed unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 10:40 AM. Members enjoyed refreshments after the meeting to celebrate the end of our DAM loan!

Respectfully submitted,

Wendy Eden