



May 11, 2020

Dear Eatonbrook Lake Association Members,

As we (finally) approach summer and warm weather it is once again time for our annual spring Lake Association meeting. However, this year because of the Coronavirus pandemic, we are cancelling our spring meeting. Large gatherings at this time are not safe. Instead, we as a Board intend this letter, along with the attached reports, to bring you up to date on what we have been working on over the fall and winter months.

First, organizational changes: Colleen McSweeney, our vice president, has been acting President since Roz resigned last fall as President. Paula Sievers elected to step down as Secretary due to time commitments and we would like to thank her for all of her efforts on behalf of the Association. Sarah Steele has been working with the rest of the Board throughout the fall and winter seasons in the role of secretary.

The DEC released 1 million walleye fry into the lake at the end of April. Donations continue to come in for projects that will keep our lake healthy. We are very grateful for everyone's support of our lake!

The Watershed Management project team has been meeting on a regular basis and representatives from both Eatonbrook Lake Association and Tuscarora Lake Association met with the town board over the winter months. With a huge thanks for the leadership of Jim Cunningham, Town Supervisor, the Town of Nelson has formed a formal Watershed Management Committee. A [summary of the objectives and membership of this committee](#) is attached. Donna Isbell and Randy Fuller are representing our lake association on that committee.

The research study done by the ESF students on nutrient loading/sedimentation has been completed. The students visited the lake late last fall and were able to complete their study remotely. The results of this study will be shared later this summer along with a summary of the results of the 2019 CSLAP (Citizen's Statewide Lake Assessment Program) report recently received.

For your review, attached are [copies of the minutes](#) from last fall's meeting and a [current Treasurer's report](#). Please take a moment to [click here](#) to provide feedback on the information provided as well as to provide input on other lake initiatives.

This summer we will plan on going ahead with the 4th of July Boat Parade given the very nature of the parade ensures social distancing. Since we do not know what the status of the Coronavirus will be in the upcoming months, we are postponing the picnic until next summer as well as the Labor Day Weekend Raft Off. A decision regarding the fall Association meeting will be made later this summer.

This is a difficult time in our history and we all have had to make quite a few changes in our daily lives. The uncertainty of not knowing when we will be able to get back to our daily routine is difficult. Jim and I have been working remotely, me from home and Jim from his office since this began. I know we are ready to get back to seeing our patients in person! The changes in all of our routines can be exhausting.

So, be extra kind and patient with yourselves and your families. Hopefully, we will all soon be back to being social once again. Stay healthy and safe during this time of Corona. We look forward to seeing you on the lake soon!

Colleen McSweeney
Eatonbrook Lake Association, Acting President

ATTACHMENT 1

Town of Nelson Watershed Management Committee Formed

The Town of Nelson officially formed a Watershed Management Committee on March 12th, 2020. The WMC Committee will serve to improve water quality and watershed conditions in the Eatonbrook and Tuscarora lake basins through education, coordination, consultation, and cooperation among all interest, using the collective wisdom and voluntary action of our community members. Consistent with the current Town of Nelson Comprehensive Plan the WMC will promote the health of the watershed and by communication of the social and economic benefits. Each lake association will elect two committee members to serve three-year terms. One non-waterfront upland property owner residing within the watershed(s). The Town will appoint a WMC chairperson; standing members will be the Town Supervisor, ex-officio, and one Town Board member, Ex-officio. All meetings are subject to NYS open meeting laws, minutes are available to the public.

ATTACHMENT 2

DRAFT ONLY – Subject to approval by Association members

Eatonbrook Lake Association
Meeting of August 24, 2019
At Erieville Fire Department

The meeting was called to order at 9:00 AM by Rosalyn Bandy, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

Announcements: Roz asked if any new members were present and introduce themselves. We had one new member.

Roz congratulated Karlee Burmaster for 3rd place win at the Water Ski Nationals in Florida for her age group in Women's 2 Slalom. ELA is very excited and congratulations to her for her hard work and win.

Review of Minutes: The Minutes of June 1, 2019 meeting were read and approved. Motion to accept Minutes made by Donna Isbell and seconded by Linda Sniper.

Guest Speaker:

Roz Bandy introduced our guest: Dave Rezak, President of the Tuscarora Lake Association. Dave announced the public discussion coming forth on August 26th with TLA and ELA and the Town of Nelson Board in regards to the Comprehensive Plan, which is central to the Watershed Management Plan. This in all is not a small undertaking and will need much research. We hope that we have a good turnout with both Associations in regards to discussion about the planned proposals and our concerns such as: flood control, ditch management, sediment management which has risk for phosphorous in the lake, all these and more are indicated as a major concern for our lakes and as lake property owners we are a large portion of the Town's tax base and there are an increasing number of voter's living around the lake now that could make a difference. (Form was passed out to members at the meeting for their comments that will be taken to the meeting for those that cannot attend or do not wish to speak at the meeting)

Dave also presented an overview of what the Tuscarora Lake Association does during the year:

- Ice Fishing Derby
- Spring Meeting
- Boat Parade
- Ring of Fire on the water (this year they did away with flares and went to LED fares as being environmentally safe)
- Ladies of Lake Luncheon
- Lake Concert
- Ice Cream social (for the kids)
- Annual Meeting

Dave also discussed that TLA receives much of their funds from the Ice Fishing Derby, which they use those funds to stock the lake in addition to merchandise sales that are currently sold at Kay's Store in Erieville. They have a committee structure where they work in full summer-mode and a dedicated board that monitors the conditions, lake level and watershed changes. Some of the committees include: Clean Water Committee, Nomination Committee and Merchandise Committee. He mentioned that he is thankful for all the members and all the hours they put to volunteer and make TLA a success. TLA also has a DEC permit to oil goose eggs, by the Goose Management Committee which has brought the number of geese down on the lake.

Treasurer's report: by Amy Coulter

The beginning balance as of the June 1, 2019 meeting was \$15,322.35

Deposits resulting from income received: \$2,002.50.

Expenditures incurred since June 1, 2019 = \$1945.53; the balance as of August 24, 2019 meeting was 15,379.32.

Fish Fund Total = \$621.00 for June through August 2019

Motion to accept Treasurer's report made by Sandy Justice and seconded by Andy Sapoznikov.

NEW BUSINESS:

CSLAP program

Mike Gleason has decided to retire his time in the CSLAP program and at this time we are asking for a volunteer to take on this very important program. The CSLAP (Citizen's Statewide Lake Assessment Program) consists of testing for 15 weeks where you would take water samples every other week, and send to lab for analysis. The lake data collected by CSLAP educates lakefront property owners, lake users and citizens, adds to the statewide lake database to contribute to water quality management plans and support many DEC programs. At this time Roz, opened up to all members asking for someone to take over the program. Jim Crawford graciously accepted this position and we will send him the necessary information to be trained in the program. Mike Gleason will help him with the transition. The Association thanked Mike Gleason for all the years doing the SCLAP program.

Water Chestnuts:

Roz reported that we have had a recently found water chestnuts in our upper pond, and J. Cunningham and PJ Will have been working to remove the plant which has a submerged stem 12-15 feet long that has fine roots that anchor to the soil. The floating leaves are triangular in shape with saw-toothed edges and hollow air-filled stems. Leaves form a rosette around a central point.

Merchandise

Roz reported that with new merchandise and spending of funds we should start to come up with ideas and suggestions on what we want to sell so we do not overly spend on merchandise. Submission of new logos to be submitted by October 1, 2019 and we will take a vote by members of ELA on submitted Logos. Committee agreed to hold off on purchasing anything new at this time and committee members can decide on what to sell and costs. We hope to have this in place for our 1st meeting in 2020.

Boating Safety Course- Brianna's Law

Roz announced that New York State has passed into law that requires all operators of motorized vessels hold a boating safety certificate. The law goes into effect on January 1, 2020, and the requirements will be phased in over six years.

- ▶ January 1, 2020: Persons 27 years of age or younger
- ▶ January 1, 2021: Persons 28 years of age or younger
- ▶ January 1, 2022: Persons 34 years of age or younger
- ▶ January 1, 2023: Persons 40 years of age or younger
- ▶ January 1, 2024: Persons 46 years of age or younger
- ▶ January 1, 2025: All persons regardless of age

Get a boaters certificate at www.boat-ed.com

50/50 Drawing

At this time we drew the winner of the 50/50 with the total of \$190.00 collected and winner to receive \$95.00. The winner of the 50/50 was Sue Gucwa and Sue graciously returned her winnings back to the ELA.

New Committees

Roz reported that she would like to set up various committees in order to further engage the membership around tasks and ensure that things get done. She is asking that we form a

1. *Nominating Committee* – this committee would search for trustees and officers who can fulfill the described duties in the by-laws. The committee connects with potential nominees and provide nominations to the Board.
2. *Fundraising Committee* - this committee would seek donations for prizes and manages the raffle ticket sales for meeting and for the picnic and any other events.
3. *Merchandising Committee* - For future as we discussed previously, that our ELA stock is managed properly with stocking and sale of merchandise.

Roz placed sign-up sheets for those that would be interested in any of the committees.

OLD BUSINESS

FISH

Roz reported that there have been mixed reactions about the Walleye and our spending of stocking fish. It was reported that the bass fish were stocked last year as a recommendation by the board as bass would have a better survival rate than the walleye. It was reported by studies that 5" fall fingerling of walleye is not very effective. It did contribute some fish to the adult stock, but not a large enough number to have an impact on panfish populations. The main idea is to increase predators so from this perspective it does not matter much if they are walleye or bass. As some studies have shown in recent that the walleye population is not significant. In 2017, we stocked a few thousand walleye fingerlings, and in 2018 we did not. Should we continue with Bass? Or Walleye? Committee member expressed that the weeds have decreased and they would like to continue to stock with the Walleye. Vote went out to the members present and it was unanimous vote that we stock with the Walleye fingerlings. We will research fisheries that can provide us with Walleyes. Forest Fisheries last year were unable as DEC found they were not appropriate size for stocking.

Donation Form

At last meeting it was voted to remove the *Additional donation for Fish only* and keep it at Donation (\$25.00 suggested). Forms will be revised and sent out in the spring of 2020, so anyone can donate any amount they choose.

Communication

Members expressed that they would like communications, this is the key of how we know how ELA's money spent, rather than after the fact. Roz reported that she will keep members abreast of what is taking place in regards to any money being spent, she will post on the website and upcoming happenings as well as on Facebook page.

BYLAWS

The Bylaws were sent out by e-mail and posted on the Website (www.eatonbrooklakeassociation.com). We did have some feedback on the Bylaws and a meeting was held with Board Members to review feedback and make changes. The changes are primarily the members of how we state the ownership of a deeded property of those that have lake access would be automatically a member, (one vote per regular membership, whether it is an individual, family, group, or Association) and anyone that would like to join that does not have lake property but have an interest in the organization may join as an Associate Member, but they would not have a vote.

The By-laws are fairly flexible and we are trying to keep with the ELA history and interest of the most active members. Other items were term limitations as Trustee for 3 year term, officers will be 1 year and no more than a 5 year term.

Meetings will be flexible determining the dates the first meeting will take place within the first two weeks of June and the second meeting will take place on the weekend before Labor Day weekend, or within the last week of August.

New trustees will need to be appointed as terms are approaching the end for Ben Rogge and Donna Isabell. Roz asked officers if they are in favor of continuing through the respective term all were in agreement at the meeting.

Following the meeting, Jim Cunningham presented a slide presentation on the invasive species Water Chestnuts that were found in the pond and how to identify and remove them safely. He will also have the plant available for all to view. The Water chestnut is a rooted submerged aquatic plant that quickly forms dense floating mats and outcompetes native plant communities. If you see any of these plants please let Jim Cunningham know so we can safely remove them from the water.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:32 AM

Respectfully submitted,

Paula Sievers
Recording Secretary of ELA

ATTACHMENT 3

Eatonbrook Lake Association

Treasurer's Report

May 7, 2020

The balance as of Aug 24, 2019 meeting was \$15,379.32

Deposits resulting from income received at and since August 24, 2019 meeting

	\$2675.00	Donations
	\$2000.00	Fish
	\$190.00	50/50
Total Deposits since 8/25/2019	\$4865.00	

Expenditures incurred since the Aug 24, 2019 meeting (thru May 7, 2020)

1132	\$250.00	Erieville Fire Dept
1133	\$108.00	Rentals to Go
1134	\$16.20	Roz (office supplies)
1135	\$48.60	HR Refuse
1136	\$108.00	Rentals to Go
1137	\$108.00	Rentals to go
1138	\$48.76	Roz (office supplies)
1139	\$104.50	Sarah (office supplies)
1140	\$6000.00	Hickling's Fish Farms
1141	\$11.66	Sarah (office supplies)
1142	\$100.00	NYSFOLA
1143	\$203.40	Sarah (office supplies)
1144	\$25.27	Sarah (office supplies)
1146	\$48.60	HR Refuse
1147	\$48.60	HR Refuse
Total Expenditures Since 8/25/2019	\$7229.59	
Check book Bal	\$13014.73	May 7, 2020
Fish Only Total	\$2000.00	Jan 2020-May 7 2020

Prepared by Amy Coulter, ELA Treasurer