

**EATONBROOK LAKE ASSOCIATION  
MEETING MINUTES  
JUNE 2, 2018  
ERIEVILLE FIRE HOUSE**

Andy Sapoznikov called the meeting to order at 9:04 a.m., followed by the pledge to the American flag. A moment of silence was observed for those members who had passed since the last meeting.

Andy recognized Joan Johnson in memorium for her love of Eatonbrook, her dedication in serving as a Trustee on the ELA Board of Directors, and for her efforts in our fundraising efforts. Andy also thanked Mike Gleason for serving as our past Vice President and for his continued service related to the lake.

The minutes from the August 26, 2017 meeting were read. One correction was noted. The requested speed limit change on **Sunrise Boulevard** should have been from 55 to 30 mph rather than 55 to 45 mph. The change was noted, and the minutes were accepted.

**Motion to Accept Minutes:** Ben Rogge

**Seconded:** Connie Moon

The Treasurer's Report was read and accepted. The beginning balance as of last fall's August 26, 2017 meeting was \$16,269.46. Deposits since the fall were \$5,189.00; expenditures were \$7,336.65; and the balance as of the June 2, 2018 meeting was \$14,121.80. Of that amount, \$4,375.00 was designated specifically to the Walleye program.

**Motion to Accept Treasurer's Report:** Tilly Coulter

**Seconded:** Sandy Justice

Andy introduced the Eatonbrook Lake Association officers who were approved at the fall meeting:

Andy Sapoznikov, President  
Roslyn Bandy, Vice President  
Judy Sutherland, Secretary  
Amy Coulter, Treasurer

Current Trustees Ben Rogge and Donna Isbell were also introduced. Colleen McSweeney, the third Trustee, was not able to attend the meeting. Andy noted that the fourth Trustee position, which had been held by Joan Johnson, will need to be filled. Although Joan was a resident of the Town of Eaton, it is not absolutely necessary that her successor be from the Town of Eaton since Colleen McSweeney is also a resident. Andy asked that recommendations be sent to him.

This year, **July 4<sup>th</sup>** falls on a Wednesday, and it has been decided to hold the July 4<sup>th</sup> activities on that date.

The **boat parade** is scheduled to start at 2:00 PM. Prizes will be provided for the best decorated boat and for the best costumes. The entire parade route around the lake must be completed in order to be considered in the judging. It is asked that everyone be mindful of safety protocol, which includes proper number of life jackets onboard, not overloading the boat with people, and keeping an eye on small children who may be on the boat.

Flares should be lit at dusk or around 9:00 PM. Ben Rogge is in charge of ordering flares and will provide flares to the designated person on each road for distribution. This year we must order flares directly from the manufacturer, so it is not yet known how much will be charged for each flare.

The annual **ELA Picnic** will be held from 1:00 PM to 4:00 PM on Saturday, August 11<sup>th</sup> at Art and Rae Burmaster's home on Eatonbrook Road. Bring a dish to pass, favorite drink, and lawn chairs. Hotdogs will be provided. Rae will make arrangements to rent a tent.

The **Labor Day Raft-Off** will be held on Sunday, September 2, 2018. Those interested should meet in the middle of the lake around 2:00 PM and bring bumpers, ties, and an hors d'oeuvre to pass. Rain date will be Monday, September 3<sup>rd</sup>.

One additional ELA trash can has been purchased, bringing the total to three. The third trash can has been located on the causeway at the northeast arm of the lake. The request to put a trash can at the boat launch was denied by the Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC), which has a "carry in/carry out" policy. A question was asked as to whether that policy is monitored. It was noted that the barnacle scraper bin at the boat launch is supposed to be used for weeds pulled off boats; however, it is being used for garbage. Andy said that if anyone has concerns about excess garbage or other boat launch-related issues, they should call the DEC number with their concerns. The DEC officer lives in Erieville and is very responsive when he is available. The Madison County Sheriff should be contacted if there is a problem regarding boater safety. It was mentioned that no swimming is allowed at the boat launch.

A question was raised regarding the small wooden structure at the intersection of Hatch Lake Road and Eatonbrook Road near the causeway. It is believed to have been put there by the Amish and is not the responsibility of the Lake Association.

Due to the petitions that were submitted to the Towns of Nelson and Eaton by Lake Association members in the fall of 2016, the speed limit on Eatonbrook Road has now been reduced from 55 mph to 40 mph from the top of the hill near Brown Road and Sunrise Boulevard in the Town of Nelson to Tuscarora Road in the Town of Eaton.

Andy presented an update regarding the status of the dam and spillway due to the concern that was raised when the boards were removed in February. Apparently, there was a miscommunication between the New York Power Authority and Howard Goebel. The boards, which now include sheer pins, have been replaced. This was done within a month of the ELA expression of concern. It was explained that if the level of the lake comes up too high, the boards will break. This will allow additional water to flow over the spillway, which will help relieve pressure on the dam. The boards and pins will then be replaced; the pins are kept at the Utica office of the Department of Transportation. Andy explained that the issue is related to the old spillway. If the water level becomes so high that it goes over the old spillway, water from the old spillway can collect and seep into the ground around the main dam structure, which could weaken the foundation of the dam. A letter was received by Andy from Howard Goebel regarding procedures and reasons.

Rosalyn Bandy has been attending the Town of Eaton meetings with regard to inspection of septic systems. The Eatonbrook Lake Association has no pro or con opinion on this subject. It is proposed that whenever there is a transfer of any property in the Town, the septic system must be inspected by a NYS licensed professional engineer. Each inspection would require cleaning out the septic tank to allow for a visual inspection. If the system is found to be faulty, the owner will be given six months to repair it and bring it up to current code. Steel tanks will automatically fail since they are candidates for holes caused by rust which can result in leakage. An ordinance similar to one for the Town of Inlet is being considered. The ordinance would not require inspection if the property transfer is within the family. The Town of Eaton has a list of qualified licensed professional engineers. The cost for the septic system inspection would be approximately \$1,000 to pump and inspect the tank. This ordinance has been spearheaded by a Hatch Lake resident. Roz has been attending the meetings in order to gather information and try to slow down the process. Once the ordinance is written, it will go to the attorneys. Nelson representatives have also been attending the Town of Eaton meetings.

Questions that should be raised include whether they are assuming that failing septic systems are causing the poor water quality of some of the lakes, and whether the poor water quality could be due to agricultural runoff, trees, road salt/tar, etc., rather than septic.

Andy mentioned an issue at Hatch Lake regarding the party pavilion that was constructed without a permit for rental purposes, such as weddings, birthday parties, etc. The use of Facebook and email resulted in 50 people attending a meeting regarding the issue, which was tabled at the Town of Eaton meeting. Andy reiterated the value of Facebook and email in communicating with ELA members.

A comment was made regarding updating the ELA directory. Andy prefers to provide a spreadsheet of information and email it to the ELA members.

A question was asked as to whether the Walleye program is helping to control the weeds and whether we should continue it for another year. Some people think that it is helping, and some think that drawing the lake down during the winter helps. It was decided to restock again in the fall. Andy will contact the fish farm and order fish for delivery in October. It was noted that 750,000 Walleye fries had been put in the lake by DEC in late May of this year. In addition, a question was raised about whether catfish eat the weeds. This should be looked into.

It was noted by a Sunrise Boulevard resident that there has been a problem with runoff on Sunrise Boulevard and that this is being addressed by the Town of Nelson.

The Oneida-Madison Electric Cooperative will be moving electric poles this summer on the east side of the lake along Eatonbrook Road in order to provide better electrical service to customers.

Judith Bailey alerted boaters that the water is very shallow along the rock wall just north of Bailey's dock at the southeast area of the lake.

A question was asked regarding the availability of TV/cable around the lake. It had been expected that Spectrum would be providing cable in most areas around the lake; however, it was noted that this has not yet happened. A suggestion was made that Dish TV or Direct TV may be an alternative.

New members Seth Goldberg and James & Kathleen Hepler introduced themselves and were welcomed to the Lake Association.

Raffle winners throughout the meeting were:

- Andy Sapoznikov – ELA T-Shirt
- Seth Goldberg's son – A hand-made bowl made by Art Burmaster
- Steve Goldberg – \$86 from 50/50 Raffle – donated to Walleye Fund

**Motion to Adjourn:** Donna Isbell

**Seconded:** Ben Rogge

Meeting adjourned at 10:00 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Judy Sutherland  
Secretary