

**Gregg Lake Association
Annual Meeting Minutes
August 28, 2021**

Held at Antrim Town Beach

Attendees:

Denise & Paul Scott, Ruth Benedict, Ken Akins, George & Michelle Caughey, Allen Sawyer, Helen Perivier, Ulf Perivier, Jacques Perivier, Ursula Perivier, Bob & Linda Southall, Betsy & Gary Landis, Steve & Marcia Ullman, Steve & Linda Noone, Marlene & Jerry Schultz, Martha & David Osler, Linda Morehouse, Jeanne & Earle Shumway, Jeanne Baker, Carol Carnes, John Reinstein, Nancy Gertner, Jan Boyle, Joan Gorga, June Kempton, Linda Gobbo

President Denise Scott called the meeting to order at 12:28 PM

Welcome

Recording Secretary: George Caughey summarized the May 29, 2021 Spring meeting minutes, copies of which had been emailed to GLA members. The minutes were approved.

Treasurer's report: Ken Akins summarized Association finances since the August 2020 GLA Meeting. The balance then was \$1849.46. Expenses since then included GLA Web page hosting fees (\$178), State of NH water testing charges (\$180 x2 = \$360) and payment to Premier Printing and Embroidery to print an informational brochure (\$57.11), as authorized at the Spring Meeting 2021. GLA membership dues were received by check and via the GLA Web Page. Deposits by these mechanisms totaled \$1325.23. The current bottom line is a positive balance of \$1404.97.

Corresponding Secretary: New Secretary Ruth Benedict, replacing Charlene Stephens who has moved to Tennessee, reported that the GLA website, although unmaintained and somewhat out of date, remains active and that annual GLA dues of \$25 per household can be paid online at http://www.gregglakeassociation.com/store/p5/Pay_your_dues%21.html.

Old Business

Police monitoring of vacant homes at Gregg Lake: In follow-up of this agenda item from the Spring GLA meeting, Denise Scott met with new Antrim Police Chief Brian Lord, who said that he has sufficient personnel to satisfy the current number of requests to monitor unoccupied properties. The service provided is inspection of properties visible from public roads and closer inspection if damage or suspicious activity is noted. In light of recent suspected thefts and vandalism of Gregg Lake properties during the winter, as well as the potential for storm damage, Denise encourages GLA members to complete the police department's Vacant Property form. From contact information provided on the form, Chief Lord stated that the homeowner would be notified by phone or email if a problem is identified. Some homeowners may wish to consider using a private security service, such as that offered by ex-Antrim Police Chief Scott Lester at HomeStead Property Watch and Management LLC.

Soak Up the Rain: The NH Dept of Environmental Services program Soak up the Rain gave a presentation June 8th at Antrim Town Hall (relocated from Town Beach due to rain) on how to manage storm runoff, such as by riprapping roadside borders and constructing dry wells, vegetated swales, and rain gardens on personal property. This was followed up Aug 10th by a daylong schedule of personal site visits to the properties of interested individuals living on the Lake or in its watershed. Soak up the Rain personnel Lisa Loosigian and Rob Livingston were accompanied on the visits by Antrim “peers” Peter Beblowski (Chair, Conservation Commission), Joan Gorga (Chair, Gregg Lake Watershed Management Plan Commission) and Kathi Wasserloos (trained in landscape design). Multiple GLA members participated and reported that the presentation and site visits were informative and useful. The on-site assessments, which were low-key and non-punitive, yielded practical suggestions for minimizing effects of storm runoff on lake water quality. The hope now is to move to peer-to-peer advising on stormwater management. Those interested in on-site assessment should contact Peter Beblowski, Joan Gorga or Kathi Wasserloos.

Recreation Department updates:

Kayak rack: Joan Gorga reported that Antrim’s new kayak rack at the town beach was nearly completely subscribed with rack space renters for the season (May 1st to Oct 31st). There was little demand for shorter term rentals. Presently the rental opportunity is not restricted to Antrim residents or property owners. Joan reported that the town can building additional racks if demand warrants. Fees go to support town beach staff and programs.

Lake Hosting: The Paid + Volunteer Lake Host Program continued over the summer. Additional Lake Host volunteers are needed to help protect Gregg Lake from Eurasian Milfoil and other invasive exotic aquatic plants, which are in nearby bodies of water, but have not yet been reported in Gregg Lake, thanks in part to the Lake Host Program. Lake Host volunteer schedules are coordinated by GLA member Michelle Caughey.

Infrastructure application: Joan Gorga reported that following a mid-August site visit, which was in response to a pre-application submitted in late Spring, the Recreation Department has been invited to continue an application for state/federal infrastructure funds to improve town beach rest rooms and ADA access, add playground features, plant shade trees, landscape eroded areas, install water bars, create rain gardens and perhaps stabilize boat launch ramp. They will need to obtain the services of a Landscape Designer/Architect.

Antrim Wind Energy/TransAlta: A 3-person subcommittee of the NH Site Evaluation Committee (SEC) continues to investigate complaints regarding non-compliance with agreed-upon noise limitations (especially at night) and excessive blinking of the Aircraft Detection Lighting System. Among the points of contention are noise measuring standards and methodology.

Water testing: Joan Gorga reported that testing for nutrients in the beaver swamp area during June (when drought conditions prevailed) yielded some of the highest levels of phosphorus they have detected in years of testing. Testing of the lake itself in July, in the wake of heavy rains, also yielded very high levels in upper layers of the lake compared to historical measurements, presumably washed in from the beaver swamp and other parts of the watershed. This was

somewhat unexpected in that it implies that despite rainfall more than 4 times average in July, the lake was not flushing out. Joan pointed out that conditions are ripe for another bloom of cyanobacteria (which can appear and disappear quickly) and advised lake residents to be on the lookout and to report potential sightings to allow confirmation and testing. Results of August tests of water quality were pending at the time of the August GLA meeting.

New Business

Resident loons: For the 2nd year in a row, and in the same location, a pair of Common Loons successfully nested at Gregg Lake, raising two chicks. Both boards at the dam were put up early this year, allowing the Lake level to rise to a near-constant level rather than flooding a nest they were actively building, as may have occurred in the past. Denise Scott reported incidents of loon harassment by boaters, highlighting the need for education regarding the rules and rationale for keeping a safe distance from loons. Some of these incidents appear to be from short-term visitors/renters who may lack knowledge of loon scarcity, stress signals, and legally protected status. Denise Scott contacted Caroline Hughes at the Loon Preservation Committee and she will be sending Denise informational brochures about the loons, to provide to those property owners around the lake who are renting their properties, in hopes of providing education about caring for our loons.

GLA promotional flyer: Marlene Shultz and Ruth Benedict prepared a printed brochure, the goal of which is to increase awareness of GLA and active issues at the Lake, and distributed it to new homeowners and mailboxes in and around Gregg Lake, including White Birch Point.

GLA website: Next week, Ruth Benedict will record a Zoom session with Charlene Stephens who will train Ruth, and potential alternative successors, in GLA website maintenance. Ruth and Denise Scott seek volunteers to maintain the site and also solicit input from GLA members regarding the value of the website to the Association and the advisability of continuing it.

Hybrid meetings: President Denise Scott posed the question of continuing hybrid (Zoom + in-person) for future GLA meetings. At present, Zoom is not an option at the Town Beach because of poor phone reception and lack of WiFi. However, it can be used for meetings at a private residence. Someone will need to make available a paid account, as the meeting is expected to last longer than Zoom's gratis 45 minutes. Please contact Denise with suggestions.

Next meeting: May 28th 2022 at Marcia & Steve Ullman's home (112 Gregg Lake Rd)

The meeting adjourned at 1:50 PM.

Respectfully submitted,
George Caughey
Recording Secretary